

NEHEMIAH'S FINAL BATTLE FOR PURIFICATION

Nehemiah 11:1 – 13:31

Key Verse 13:25

“I rebuked them and called curses down on them. I beat some of the men and pulled out their hair. I made them take an oath in God’s name and said: “You are not to give your daughters in marriage to their sons, nor are you to take their daughters in marriage for your sons or for yourselves.”

* The dedication of the city wall (11:1 - 12:47)

1. How did the Israelites settle in Jerusalem? (1-3; 7:4-5) Look at the list of God's people that settled inside and outside the city of Jerusalem. Why was this resettlement plan necessary? What can we learn from the people of God in this process?
2. What did Nehemiah prepare for the dedication of the wall of Jerusalem? What can we learn from Nehemiah in 12:1-26? How was the dedication of the city wall celebrated? (12:27-43) How great was their joy? Why did Nehemiah raise the officials to gather the portions for priests and Levites? (44-47)

* Nehemiah's final battle for purification (13:1-31)

3. Why did the Israelites cast out all foreign people? (13:1-3) What evil did Eliashib do for Tobiah, and how did Nehemiah deal with it? (4-9) Why did the singers leave Jerusalem and what did Nehemiah do about it? (10-14) How did Nehemiah fight to restore the Sabbath commandment? (15-22a; Ex 20:8-11) What do you learn from Nehemiah's spiritual battle and from his prayer? (14, 22b)
4. How did Nehemiah treat the men who married pagan women? (23-25) Why did he rebuke them so harshly? (24, 26-27) What did Nehemiah do to purify the priesthood? (28-31) How far does a spiritual leader have to fight for the awakening of his people?