

9 Now on the twenty-fourth day of this month the people of Israel were assembled with fasting and in sackcloth, and with dust on their heads.² Then those of Israelite descent separated themselves from all foreigners, and stood and confessed their sins and the iniquities of their ancestors.³ They stood up in their place and read from the book of the law of the Lord their God for a fourth part of the day, and for another fourth they made confession and worshipped the Lord their God.⁴ Then Joshua, Bani, Kadmiel, Shebaniah, Bunni, Sherebiah, Bani and Chania stood in the skirts of the Lester and cried out with a loud voice to the Lord their God.⁵ Then the Lester Joshua, Kadmiel, Bani, Hanhabneiah, Sherebiah, Hodiah, Shebaniah and Pethahiah, said, 'Stand up and bless the Lord your God from everlasting to everlasting. Blessed be your glorious name, which is exalted above all blessing and praise.'⁶

And Ezra said: You are the Lord, you alone; have made heaven, the heaven of heavens, with all their host, the earth and all that is on it, the seas and all that is in them. To all of them you give life, and the host of heaven worships you.⁷ You are the Lord, the God who chose Abram and brought him out of Ur of the Chaldeans.

and gave him the name Abraham;⁸ and you found his heart faithful before you, and made with him a covenant to give to his descendants the land of the Canaanite, the Hittite, the Amorite, the Perizzite, the Jebusite, and the Gingashite; and you have fulfilled your promise, for you are righteous.

And you saw the distress of our ancestors in Egypt and heard their cry at the Red Sea.¹⁰ You performed signs and wonders against Pharaoh and all his servants and all the people of his land, for you knew that they acted insolently against our ancestors. You made a name for yourself, which remains to this day.¹¹ And you divided the sea before them, so that they passed through the sea on dry land, but you threw their pursuers into the depths, like a

stone into mighty waters.¹² Moreover you led them by day with a pillar of cloud, and by night with a pillar of fire, to give them light on the way in which they should go. You came down upon also upon Mount Sinai, and spoke with them from heaven, and gave them right ordinances and true laws, good statutes, and commandments,¹⁴ and you made known your holy Sabbath to them and gave them commandments and statutes and a law through your servant Moses.¹⁵ For their hunger you gave them bread from heaven, and for their thirst you brought water for them out of the rock, and you told them to go in to possess the land that you swore to give them.

16 But they and our ancestors acted presumptuously and stiffened their necks and did not obey your commandments;¹⁷ they repudiated to obey, and were not mindful of the wonders that you performed among them; but they stiffened their necks and determined to return to their slavery in Egypt. But you are a God ready to forgive, gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast

love, and you did not forsake them.¹⁸ Even when they had cast an image of a calf for themselves and said, "This is your God who brought you out of Egypt," and had committed great blasphemies,¹⁹

You in your great mercy did not forsake them in the wilderness; the pillar of cloud that led them in the way did not leave them by day, nor the pillar of fire by night that gave them light on the way by which they should go.²⁰ You gave your good spirit to instruct them, and did not withhold your manna from their mouths, and gave them water for their thirst.

²¹ For forty years you sustained them in the wilderness so that they lacked nothing; their clothes did not wear out and their feet did not swell.²² And you gave them kingdoms and peoples, and allotted to them every corner, so they took possession of the land of King Sihon of Heshbon and the land of King Og of Bashan.²³ You multiplied their descendants like the stars of heaven, and brought them into the land that you had told their ancestors to enter and possess.

²⁴ So the descendants went in and possessed the land, and

you subdued before them the inhabitants of the land,
the Canaanites, and gave them into their hands, with
their kings and the peoples of the land, to do with them
as they pleased.²⁵ And they captured
fortress cities and a rich land, and
took possession of houses filled with
all sorts of goods, hewn cisterns,
vineyards, olive orchards, and fruit trees
in abundance; so they ate and were
filled and became fat, and delighted
in your great goodness.

26. Nevertheless they were disobedient
and rebelled against you and cast
your law behind their backs and
killed your prophets, who had warned
them in order to turn them back to
you, and they committed great blasphemies.

27 Therefore you gave them into the
hands of their enemies, who made them
suffer. Then in the time of their

suffering they cried out to you and you heard them from heaven, and according to your great mercies you gave them Saviours who saved them from the hands of their enemies.

28 But after they had rest, they again did evil before you, and you ~~ap~~²⁹ abandoned them to the hands of their enemies, so that they had dominion over them; yet when they turned and cried to you, you heard from heaven, and many times you rescued them according to your mercies.²⁹ And you warned them in order to turn them back to your law. Yet they acted presumptuously and did not obey your commandments, but sinned against your ordinances, by the observance of which a person shall live. They turned a stubborn shoulder and stiffened their neck and would not obey.³⁰ For many years you were patient with them, and warned them by your

spirit through your prophets; yet they would not listen. Therefore you handed them over to the peoples of the lands.³¹ Nevertheless, in your great mercies you did not make an end of them or forsake them, for you are a gracious and merciful God.

32 'Now therefore, our God - the great and mighty and awesome God, keeping covenant and steadfast love - do not treat lightly all the hardship that has come upon us, upon our kings, our officials, our priests, our prophets, our ancestors, and all your people, since the time of the kings of Assyria until today.³³ You have been just in all that has come upon us, for you have dealt faithfully and we have acted wickedly;³⁴ our kings, our officials, our priests, and our ancestors have not kept your law or heeded the commandments and the warnings that you gave them.³⁵ Even in their own kingdom, and

in the great goodness you bestowed on them,
and in the large and rich land that you set
before them, they did not serve you and did
not turn from their wicked works.³⁶ Here we
are, slaves to this day — slaves in the land
that you gave to our ancestors to enjoy its
fruit and its good gifts.³⁷ Its rich yield goes
to the kings whom you have set over us
because of our sins; they have power also
over our bodies and over our livestock at their
pleasure, and we are in great distress.'

³⁸ Because of all this we make a firm agreement in
writing, and on that sealed document are inscribed the
names of our officials, our levites, and our priests.

Nehemiah 10

Stamford and Rutland Circuit

Upon the sealed document are the names of Nehemiah the governor; son of Hacaliah and Zedekiah.

2 Seraiah, Azaniah
Jereemiah,

- 3 Pashhur, Amariah, Malchijah,
- 4 Hattush, Shebaniah, Malluch,
- 5 Harim, Meremoth, Obadiah
- 6 Daniel, Ginnethon, Baruch,
- 7 Meshullam, Abijah, Mijamin,
- 8 Maaziah, Bilgai, Shemariah; these are the priests
9. And the Levites: Joshua son of Azaniah, Binnui of the sons of Henadad, Kadmiel;
10. and their associates, Shebaniah, Hodiah, Kelita, Pelaiyah, Hanan,
11. Mica, Rehob, Mesharriaah,
12. Zaccur, Sherebiah, Shebaniah,
13. Hodiah, Bani, Benijah,

14. The leaders of the people Parosh, Pahath-Melech, Elam, Zat
Bani.
15. Bunni, Azgad, Bebai
16. Adonijah, Bigvai, Adin,
17. Ater, Hezekiah, Azzur,
18. Hodiah, Hagham, Bozrah,
19. Hariph, Anathoth, Nebai
20. Magpiash, Meshullam, Hegir
21. Meshezabel, Zadok, Jaddua
22. Petachiah, Hanan, Maiah
23. Hoshea, Hannaniah, Hasshub
24. Hallohesch, Pilha, Shobek.
25. Rehum, Hashabniah, Maaseiah.
26. Ahiah, Hanan, Anan,
27. Malluch, Harim, and Baanah.
28. The rest of the people, the priests, the Levites, the gate-keepers, the singers, the temple servants, and all who have separated themselves from the peoples of the lands to adhere to the law of God, their wives, their sons, their daughters, all who have knowledge and understanding,
29. Join with their kin, their nobles, and enter

into a curse and an oath to walk in God's law, which was given by Moses the servant of God, and to observe and do all the commandments of the LORD our Lord and his ordinances and his statutes.

- 30 We will not give our daughter to the peoples of the land, or take their daughters for our sons.
- 31 and if the peoples of the land bring in merchandise or any grain on the sabbath day to sell, we will not buy it from them on the sabbath or on a holy day; and we will forgo the crops of the seventh year and the exaction of every debt.
- 2 we also lay on ourselves the obligation to charge ourselves yearly one-third of a shekel for the service of the house of our God
3. for the rows of bread, the regular grain offering, the regular burnt offering, the sabbaths, the new moons, the appointed festivals, the sacred donations, and the sin offerings to make atonement for Israel,

and for all the work of the house of our God.

34 We have also cast lots among the priests,

the Levites, and the people, for the wood offering, to bring it into the house of our God, by ancestral houses, at appointed times, year by year, to burn on the altar of the Lord our God, as it is written in the law.

35 We obligate ourselves to bring the first fruits of our soil and the first fruits of all fruit of every tree, year by year, to the house of the Lord.

36 also to bring to the house of our God, to the priests who minister to the house of our God, the first born of our sons and of our livestock, as it is written in the law; and the firstlings of our herds and of our flocks;

37 and to bring the first of our dough, and our contributions, the fruit of every tree, the wine and the oil, to the priests, to the chambers of the house of our God; and to bring to the Levites the tithes; for it is the Levites who collect the tithes in all our rural towns.

38 And the priest, the descendant of Aaron, shall be with the Levites when the Levites receive the tithes; and the Levites shall bring up a tithe of the tithes to the house of our God, to the chambers of the storehouse.

39. For the people of Israel and the sons of Levi shall bring the contribution of grain, wine, and oil to the storerooms where the vessels of the sanctuary are, and where the priests that minister, and the gatekeepers and the singers are. We will not neglect the house of our God.

Nehemiah

Ch. Eleven.

1. Now the leaders of the people lived in Jerusalem; and the rest of the people cast lots to bring out out of ten to live in the holy city of Jerusalem, while nine-tenths remained in the other towns. 2. And the people blessed all those who willingly offered to live in Jerusalem.
3. These are the leaders of the province who lived in Jerusalem; but in the towns of Judah all lived on their property in their towns: Israel, the priests, the Levites, the temple servants, and the descendants of Solomon's servants.
4. And in Jerusalem lived some of the Judahites and the Benjaminites. Of the Judahites: Athaiah son of Uzziah son of Zechariah son of Amariah son of Shephatiah son of Mahathel, of the descendants of Perez;
5. and Maaseiah son of Baruch son of Lot-hozeh son of Haranah son of Adaiah son of Zicarib son of Zechariah son of the Shilonite.
6. All the descendants of Perez who lived in Jerusalem were four hundred sixty-eight valiant warriors.
7. And these are the Benjaminites: Sallu son of Meshullam son of

Joed son of Pedaiah son of Kolahiah son of Maaseiah son of Ithiel son of Jeshaiah.

8. And his brothers Gabbai, Sallai: nine hundred twenty-eight.

9. Joel son of Zichri was their overseer; and Judah son of Hassenuah was second in charge of the city.

10. Of the priests: Jedaiah son of Joiarib, Jachin,

11. Seraiah son of Hilkiah son of Meshullam son of Zadok son of Meraioth son of Ahitub, officer of the house of God.

12. and their associates who did the work of the house, eight hundred twenty-two; and Adaiah son of Teroham son of Pelatiah son of Amzi son of Zechariah son of Pashur son of Malchijah,

13. and his associates, heads of ancestral

houses, two hundred forty-two; and Amashsai son of Azarel son of Ahzai son of Meshillemoth son of Immer

14. and their associates, valiant warriors, one hundred twenty-eight; their overseer was Zabdiel son of Hagedolim.

15. And of the Levites: Shemaiah son of Hashub son of Azrikam son of Hashabiah son of Bunni;

16. and Shabbethai and Tzabad, of the leaders of the Levites, who were over the outside work of the house of God;

17. and Mattaniah son of Mica son of Zabdi son of Asaph, who was the leader to begin the thanksgiving in prayer, and Bakbukia the second among his associates; and Abda son of Shamma son of Galal son of Teduthun.

18. All the Levites in the holy city were two hundred eighty-four.

19. The gatekeepers, Akkub, Talmon and their associates, who kept watch at the gates, were one hundred seventy-two.

20. And the rest of Israel, and of the priests and the Levites, were in all the towns of Judah, all of them in their inheritance.

21 But the temple servants lived on Ophel; and Ziba and Gishpa were over the temple servants.²² The overseer of the Levites in Jerusalem was Uzzi son of Bani, son of Hashabiah, son of Mattaniah son of Micah, of the descendants of Asaph, the singers, in charge of the work of the house of God.²³ For there was a command from the king concerning them, and a settled provision for the singers, as was required every day.²⁴ And Pethahiah son of Meshezabel, of the descendants of Levi son of Judah, was at

the King's hand in all matters concerning the people.²⁵ And as for the villages, with their fields some of the people of Judah lived in Kiriath-arba and its villages, and in Dibon and its villages, and in Dibon and its villages, and in Tekabzeel and its villages,²⁶ and in Jeshua and in Moladah and Beth-pelet,²⁷ in Hazar-shual, in Beer-sheba and its villages,²⁸ in Ziklag, in Mecanah and its villages,²⁹ in En-rimmon, in Zorah, in Tarmuth,³⁰ Zanoah, Adullam, and their villages, Lachish and its fields, and Azekah and its villages. So they camped from Beer-sheba to the Valley of Hinnom.³¹ The people of Benjamin also lived from Geba onward, at Michmash,³² Aija, Bethel and its villages,³³ Anathoth, Nob, Ananiah,³⁴ Hazor, Ramah, Gittaim,³⁵ Hadid, Zebaim, Neballat,³⁶ Hod, and Ono, the valley of artisans.³⁶ And certain divisions of the heites in Judah were joined to Benjamin.