
BOOK OVERVIEW

Nehemiah

Author: Nehemiah

Date: about 450 B.C. (after the captivity)

Recipients: not noted

Key words: wall(s) (32 times) build (23 times)

Summary: The ups and downs of trying to rebuild Jerusalem after the 70 year Babylonian exile.

Key verses: Nehemiah 4:6, 6:15–16

Theme: The rebuilding of the walls of Jerusalem and spiritual revival.

Notes:

The book covers about 12 years, 444–432 B.C.

In the Hebrew scriptures Ezra and Nehemiah were one book.

When first mentioned in the Bible, Nehemiah is the cupbearer for king Artaxerxes. He was appointed governor of Judah, a position he held for 12 years.

The book begins 12 years after what is described in the book of Ezra.

Almost 100 years have passed since the first Jews returned from exile under the leadership of Zerubbabel. The temple has been restored but the walls to defend the city have not yet been rebuilt when Nehemiah arrives.

Chapters 8-10 shows the impact God's Word has on those who chose to obey it.

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