

# NEHEMIAH

	Cupbearer Builder to the King of the Wall		Governor of the People		
	Prayer May I? You may!	"So the wall was completed in fifty-two days." (6:15)	Scripture found (7:5) read (8:3-7) explained (8:8)	Lives changed (8:1–3, 9; 10:28–31)	Nation confronted and cleansed (13:10-30)
	CHAPTERS 1:1-2:10	CHAPTERS 2:11-6:19		CHAPTERS 7-13	
Location	Susa, Persia			Jerusalem in Judah	
Focus	Leadership of a man		Revival of a nation		
Subject	Burden	Project	S	Scriptures	Reforms
Difficulties	The King	Enemies	Tradition		Compromise
Victories	Release	Accomplishment		bedience	Changes
Theme		Nehemiah's trus	t in the covenant-l	keeping God	
Key Verses	6:15-16; 8:8-10; 9:1-38				
Christ in Nehemiah	Suggested in Nehemiah, who leaves an exalted position to identify with the plight of his people and lead them into restoration; pictured in Nehemiah's prayerful dependence on God				

#### THE RETURNS OF JEWISH EXILES TO JUDAH

THE EDICT OF CYRUS: EZRA 1:2-4; 6:1-4 see also EZRA 1:5~8:35

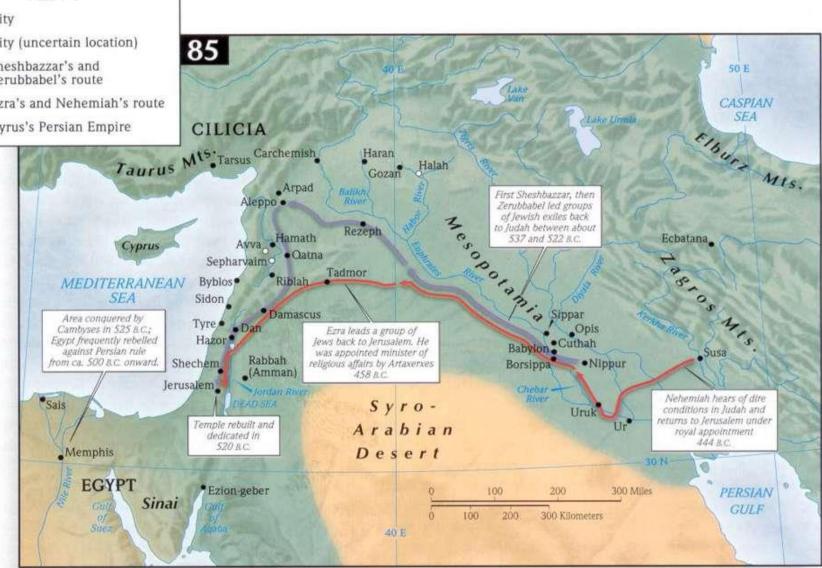
NEH. 1-3

- City
- City (uncertain location)

Sheshbazzar's and Zerubbabel's route

- Ezra's and Nehemiah's route

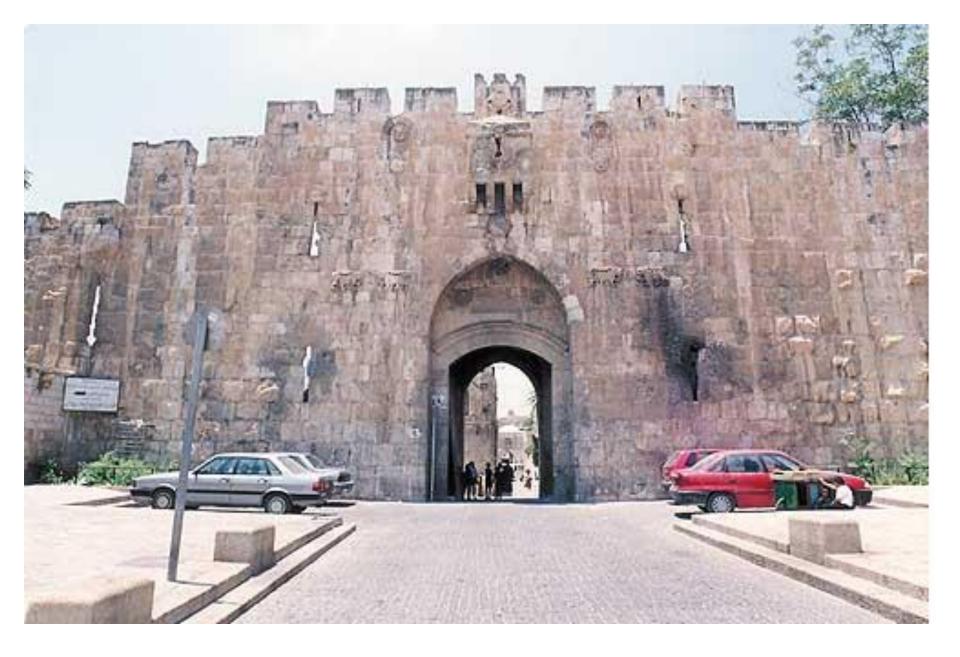
Cyrus's Persian Empire



added strength to the northern wall of the Temple Mount, which also served as the northern city wall in this area. The Temple and the altar were rebuilt soon after the return The Valley Gate (2:13, 15; 3:13), the remains from exile. The dimensions of the temple, given as 60 cubits of which were excavated in 1924, was part of Sheep Gate (90 feet/27 m) high and wide (Ezra 6:3), probably refer to (hidden from view) the western city wall. The other gates and the those of the porch. (For a cutaway illustration of the temple, Tower of the Ovens, mentioned in chs. 3 and 12, see p. 813.) are unattested to in the archaeological record, Tower of but are placed in the drawing in the order in the Hundred which Nehemiah records them. The Temple Mount was The Western Hill was not occupied at this time. However, Tower of restored by Nehemiah as part of the ruins of the Broad Wall (3:8; 12:38), the Middle Gate Gate of the Guard Hananel the fortification of Jerusalem. (cf. Jer. 39:3), and the destroyed houses remained part of Fish Gate Corner Tower the landscape of Jerusalem. This area was not rebuilt until Remains of the the middle of the second century 8.c. Gate of Yeshanah The Broad Wall Middle Gate (Old Gate) Muster Gate Gate of (hidden from view) Ephraim Horse Gate Vall of the Ophel The Buttress The Great Projecting Tower (3:25-27) was tentatively identified by Charles Warren in 1867. Hinnom Valley Remains of ancient walls used The Siloam Pool was again used as the city's to support agricultural terraces. water source. There is no mention in ch. 3 of the Gihon Spring, probably because it was no longer accessible after the Babylonians had The central section of the eastern city wall destrayed its protective towers. Dam was built higher up the hill than the wall that preceded it. The two points where the new The stairs that go wall diverted from its original course were Dung Gate down from the city each called "the buttress" (3:19, 24, 25). of David (3:15) King's Garden (3:15) The Fountain Gate (2:14; 3:15; 12:37) was located in the southern part of the eastern wall, presumably close to the Siloam Pool.

The Tower of Hananel, the Tower of the Hundred, the Sheep Gate, the Gate of the Guard, and the Corner Tower

Jerusalem (after Nehemiah rebuilt the city's walls & gates)



Lion's Gate



**Damascus Gate** 



Jaffa Gate



Zion Gate



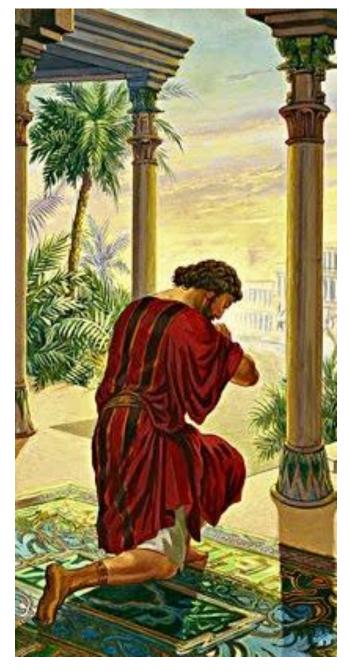
Dung Gate



Golden Gate (also called Eastern Gate or Beautiful Gate)

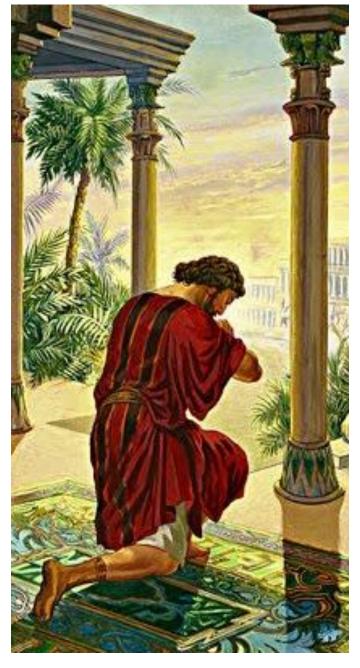


495-399BC: The Judean Elephantine Egyptian Papyrus letters to Bagohi Governor of Judea



Nehemiah prays to The Lord





Nehemiah prays to The Lord

### Nehemiah 4:14

Nehemiah encourages the people. He tells them three things:

- 1. Don't be afraid. God is with us.
- 2. Think about the LORD's character. He is great and awesome.
- 3. Fight for your families.



#### **PRINCIPLES OF LEADERSHIP – Chapter 4**

- 1. A leader never loses sight of the goal. Regardless of the circumstances. Regardless of the problems. Nehemiah is going to accomplish the goal of rebuilding the walls. And for you and I while we are here on this earth, we must not lose sight of why we are here. What is your purpose? Our goal as believers is to be conformed to the image of Jesus Christ. As we do that, we glorify God in our lives.
- 2. A leader never gets side-tracked. Nehemiah did not spend his time arguing with the enemy.
- He did what he was supposed to do. Question Are you on track? Are you doing what you are supposed to be doing?
- 3. A leader focuses on the right things. He focuses on God and his task. And not on his circumstances.

## **Application**

- 1. Let's keep on eyes on God and not our situations and problems.
- 2. Remember that God is the strength. He is the one that fights the battles. Live your life in God's power.
- 3. Be consistent in your Christian life. Be faithful. Do what you are supposed to do.