

# Nehemiah

## Chapters 1 – 4

Nehemiah was cupbearer for the king of Persia. He heard how the Jews who had returned to Jerusalem were facing many difficulties.

Nehemiah received permission from the king to go to Jerusalem and help rebuild the city.

Nehemiah then supervised the re-building of Jerusalem's wall, even though some foreigners in Jerusalem made fun of him.

When the workers were ridiculed by foreigners, Nehemiah said to the workers:

"Do not be afraid of them.  
Just keep your mind on the Lord."

Dear God, please help us to do what is right,  
even if we meet ridicule and opposition

## Chapter 5

The people were very poor and could not pay their debts. Therefore Nehemiah cancelled all debts owed by poor people.

Nehemiah was a just and kind leader. He even used his own money to pay his expenses, and never took the salary that he could have claimed.

Dear God, to reduce government corruption  
in all countries,  
please raise up more leaders like Nehemiah

## Chapter 6

As Nehemiah and the Jews rebuilt the wall  
some people continued to obstruct them.

But with God's help the wall was finished in 52 days.

Dear God, please help us do your work,  
despite difficulties

## Chapters 7 – 13

The wall of Jerusalem was finally rebuilt  
and doors were set in place in the wall.

In the seventh month of the lunar calendar  
Nehemiah assembled all the people  
and read to them the Book of the Law of Moses.

This was the first time that most of the people  
had heard the words of Moses' Book.

The people were grateful to God  
and praised him with great happiness.

The people also promised God that  
they would serve him more faithfully in the future.

But while Nehemiah was away on a visit to the king  
the people and leaders became careless about the Law.

When Nehemiah returned to Jerusalem  
he brought the people back to proper observance of the Law.

Dear God, may we find joy and strength  
in reading the Bible.

May the world have more good leaders like Nehemiah