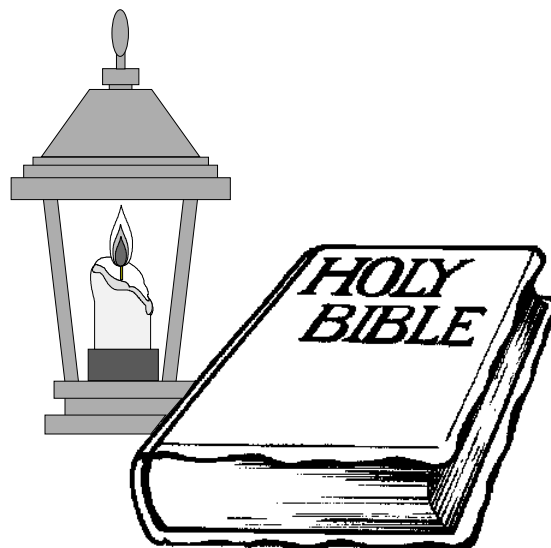


Bible Question Class Books

Bible Study Questions on **Nehemiah**

by David E. Pratte

**A workbook suitable for Bible classes,
family studies, or personal Bible study**



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Bible Study Questions on Nehemiah

Introduction:

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Questions labeled "think" are intended to encourage students to apply what they have learned.

I also **strongly** urge teachers to use other Scriptures, questions, applications, and comments to promote productive in-class discussion. Please, do **not** let the class period consist primarily of the following: "Joe, will you answer number 1?" "Sue, what about number 2?" Etc. Instead, let the questions be assigned as homework so students come to class prepared. Then let class time consist of **discussion** that focuses on the Scriptures themselves, not just reading the questions to see whether they were answered "correctly."

I also urge the class to emphasize the **Bible** teaching. Please, do not become bogged down over "What did the author mean by question #5?" My meaning is relatively unimportant. The issue is what the Bible says. Concentrate on the meaning and applications of Scripture. If a question helps promote Bible understanding, stay with it. If it becomes unproductive, move on. (Note: My abbreviation "**b/c/v**" means "book, chapter, and verse.")

Finally, I encourage plain applications of the principles studied. God's word is written so souls may please God and have eternal life. Please study it with the respect and devotion it deserves!

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Assignments on Nehemiah 1

Please read Nehemiah 1 and answer the following questions.

Note: To learn the background of Nehemiah, please review the background of Ezra.

1. Skim the book of Nehemiah and summarize its theme.

2. When and where did events in this book begin?

3. Who gave Nehemiah information about people in Jerusalem? What did he say about them?

4. **Application:** List some distresses that God's people today have faced in recent years.

5. How did Nehemiah react to this news (v4)? (Think: Why would he react this way?)

6. How did he begin his prayer to God (v5)? What can we learn about prayer from this?

7. How did he describe the conduct of the Israelites in vv 6,7? List **passages** showing that we too need to confess our sins to God.

8. What promise did Nehemiah recall in vv 8,9? Where else is this recorded?

10. **Special Assignment:** Had God kept these promises? How do you know? What can we learn about God's promises?

11. What occupation did Nehemiah have? What request did he make in his prayer?

12. **Special Assignment:** An ongoing assignment as we study this book will be to list principles of useful service to God followed by Nehemiah. List two principles you can find in this chapter.

Assignments on Nehemiah 2

Please read Nehemiah 2 and answer the following questions.

1. How did Nehemiah describe his work (v1)? What did the king observe and say to him?
2. What concern did Nehemiah express in response? What did the king ask (vv 3,4)?
3. What did Nehemiah do before answering? What response did he make to the king? (Think: What do we learn about prayer?)
4. When the king asked for details, what further request did Nehemiah make (vv 7,8)? How did the king respond?
5. What did Nehemiah do when he had arrived? Who was unhappy and why?(Think: Why would such men be disturbed?)
6. What did Nehemiah do after three days? When did he do it?
7. What did he learn about the condition of the wall? (Think: Why was this important?)
8. Whom did he tell regarding his purpose? What did he propose to do?
9. What did he say to motivate the people? How did they respond?

10. **Application:** What lessons can we learn about the church today?

11. How did the opponents attempt to hinder the work? How did Nehemiah respond?

12 **Special Assignment:** What lessons can we learn from this chapter about useful service to God?

Assignments on Nehemiah 3 & 4

Please read Nehemiah 3 and 4:1-12 and answer the following questions.

1. What information is recorded in chap. 3? What is said regarding the nobles in v5?

2. **Application:** What is the point of recording the information in this chapter? What lessons can we learn?

3. How did Sanballat react to the work on the wall?

4. What did the enemies attempt in order to discourage the work? What did Sanballat and Tobiah say?

5. **Application:** What are some things people say to discourage God's people today?

6. How did Nehemiah respond to this ridicule? What did he say?

7. What did the Jews do? What was the result? What can we learn?

8. How did the enemies react when they saw the work continuing? What did they plan next?

9. **Special Assignment:** List other Bible examples in which enemies attempted physical harm against God's people.

10. How did Nehemiah respond to this problem (v9)?

11. How did the Jews themselves express discouragement (v10)?

12. What did the enemies say to increase the Jews' fears?

Assignments on Nehemiah 4

Please read Nehemiah 4:13-23 and answer the following questions.

1. What arrangements did Nehemiah make for the defense of the people (v13)?

2. What did he say to urge the people to courage (v14)?

3. **Application:** How would these principles apply to us today?

4. What happened when the enemies learned of Nehemiah's preparations?

5. How did Nehemiah's servants work afterward (v16)?

6. How did the workers protect themselves?

7. How would the people be warned to come to the defense when the enemy attacked (vv 19,20)?

8. Where did the people spend the nights? Why?

9. How was the diligence of Nehemiah and his servants described?

10. **Case Study:** Some people say we should always be positive, so they object if we oppose other people's religious views. What application would this context have to such thinking?

11. Summarize lessons we can learn from this chapter regarding opposing error.

Assignments on Nehemiah 5

Please read Nehemiah 5 and answer the following questions.

1. What did some Jews make claim other Jews had done? What problems resulted (vv 1-5)?

2. How did Nehemiah react when he heard (v6)? (Think: Is anger always wrong? Explain.)

3. List and explain Old Testament Scriptures that these Jews violated.

4. List 4 things in vv 7-9 that Nehemiah did to deal with them.

5. Explain why these Jews' conduct was especially bad at this point in the story.

6. **Special Assignment:** List and explain *passages* showing what the New Testament church should do when members sin.

7. What example did Nehemiah set, and what did he tell the erring Jews to do (vv 10,11)?

8. **Special Assignment:** List and explain *passages* showing the need for repentance and restitution.

9. What did the people in sin agree to do, and how did Nehemiah respond (vv 12,13)?

10. What had Nehemiah done to help ease the people's burden (vv 14-17)?

11. **Application:** Explain why a good example is important for God's people.

12. Describe the daily allowance Nehemiah needed for himself and his people.

Assignments on Nehemiah 6

Please read Nehemiah 6 and answer the following questions.

1. What did the enemies propose next? What was their real intent?

2. How did Nehemiah respond? What reasons did he give? (Think: Were these men deserving of further discussion with Nehemiah? How do you know?)

3. **Special Assignment:** How can Nehemiah's conduct be harmonized with passages that say we should teach and save the lost? Under what circumstances may we refuse to discuss certain topics with certain people? Give **b/c/v**.

4. What accusation did Sanballat make the fifth time he wrote? What proof did he offer? (Think: Did Sanballat really care about the king's well-being? What was his real goal?)

5. How did Nehemiah deal with this accusation?

6. **Application:** What should God's people do when people make false accusations against us today?

7. Who then tried to influence Nehemiah? What did he say?

8. How did Nehemiah respond?

9. Why had this man given this warning? What did Nehemiah's enemies hope to accomplish?

10. What was the end result of the people's work (v15)?

11. What relationships did some Jews have with Tobiah? What problems resulted? What can we learn?

12. Summarize lessons we can learn from this chapter about how to deal with those who oppose God's work?

Assignments on Nehemiah 7

Please read Nehemiah 7 and answer the following questions.

1. What work had been accomplished at this point (v1)?
2. What two specific men were named in v2, and what positions were they given?
3. What characteristics qualified them for this work? Why would these qualities be important?
4. Describe the provisions made to guard the gates.
5. Why were these precautions needed?
6. What did Nehemiah decide to do, and what did he find when he did (v5)?
7. What is recorded in the 7:7-69? Where else was this information given?
8. Describe the financial contributions various people made to the work (vv 70-72).
9. How was the condition of the people summarized in v73? What time of year was this?

Assignments on Nehemiah 8

Please read Nehemiah 8 and answer the following questions.

1. Where did the people meet? What did Ezra bring?

2. **Case Study:** Compare v1 to v8. What can we learn regarding those who say the “Law of Moses” is a different law from the “Law of God”? Explain.

3. What did Ezra do? What did the people do? (Think: What should we do today when God’s law is read and studied?)

4. How long did this continue? What did the people say and do after hearing the law (v6)?

5. Besides reading the law, what did the teachers do (vv 7,8)?

6. **Application:** Based on vv 1-8, list at least four important lessons we can learn about teaching and studying God’s word.

7. What effect did the message have on the people? (Think: Why might they have done this?)

8. What day and month was this (v2)? Note Lev. 23:24 and tell why this day was special.

9. List other **passages** about this day and explain what was to be done on that day.

10. What did the leaders tell the people to do instead of grieving?

11. What happened on the next day? What did they learn as they studied?

12. List other **passages** about this feast, and explain its meaning.

13. What did the people do regarding this feast?

14. **Special Assignment:** Cf. Ezra 6:19-22. List again lessons we can learn from these events about restoring our service to God.

Assignments on Nehemiah 9

Please read Nehemiah 9:1-15 and answer the following questions.

1. What did the people do on the 24th day? What were some specific things they did (v1)? (Think: What is the significance of these acts?)

2. What else did they do (v2)? Explain and give other Scriptures regarding separation from foreigners?

3. What else did they do (v3)? How long did this take? (Think: What can we learn regarding willingness to worship God?)

4. Why is confession of sin important? Give other *passages*.

5. Vv 5-15 describe the praise of God, then vv 16-38 describe the people's confession of sin and God's reaction. From vv 5-15 list below at least 7 characteristics of God and 7 works of God. Choose a total of at least 5 of these and list other *passages* about them:

Characteristics of God	Other Passages
1.	
2.	
3.	
4.	
5.	
6.	
7.	

Works of God	Other Passages
1.	
2.	
3.	
4.	
5.	
6.	
7.	

Assignments on Nehemiah 9

Please read Nehemiah 9:16-38 and answer the following questions.

1. After God blessed Israel (vv 8-15), how did Israel respond (v16)? What specific examples of this rebellion are mentioned (vv 17,18)? Give **b/c/v** about these.
2. How did God deal with them in response (v19)? What specific blessings did He give (vv 20,21)?
3. What did God do when they reached Canaan (vv 22-25)? List some specific things they received.
4. Explain the connection between vv 22-25 and vv 7,8.
5. What did Israel do after God so blessed them (v26)? Give **b/c/v**.
6. Describe the punishment God gave Israel for their disobedience (vv 27-29). (Think: When did this happen?)
7. Why did God not automatically destroy Israel (v31)? What troubles of the people specifically are mentioned (v32)?
8. How did the people compare the conduct of Israel to God's conduct (vv 33-35)?
9. How did the Jews summarize their current circumstances (vv 36,27)?
10. What did they intend to do about this (v38)?

Assignments on Nehemiah 10

Please read Nehemiah 10 and answer the following questions.

1. What was done by the people named in vv 1-27? What is the significance of this act?

2. Who else joined in this commitment (vv 28,29)? What did they commit themselves to do?

3. **Application:** In what ways is this similar to our own commitment to serve God under the New Testament? Who should make this commitment?

4. What did they promise to do in v30? Where else have we studied this?

5. What promises did they make in v31? List other **passages** regarding the Sabbath day and explain what it involved.

6. Where else have we read about rules for debts? Explain the laws regarding the seventh year and exacting debts.

7. What assessment did the people agree to pay in vv 32,33? What would it be used for?

8. What arrangements were provided for in v34?

9. What ordinances were agreed upon in vv 35-37? Explain the law regarding the firstborn and explain its origin.

10. What were the tithes and why were they given?

11. Where were the gifts of v39 to be stored? (Note that this will become important later.)

Assignments on Nehemiah 11,12

Please read Nehemiah 11,12 and answer the following questions.

1. Where did the leaders of the people live? Where did the other people live?
2. How did they decide where people would live? Explain casting lots and give examples.
3. What information is given in 11:3-36?
4. What information is given in 12:1-11?
5. What information is given in 12:12-16?
6. For what purpose did people gather at Jerusalem in 12:27-29?
7. How many groups of celebrants were appointed (v31)? Where did the first group go?
8. What did the people do as they marched?
9. Which way did the second group go? Who went with them (v38)?
10. Where did the two groups meet? What did they do when they met (vv 40-43)?
11. What arrangements were made in 12:44?
12. Who was provided for in vv 45-47?

Assignments on Nehemiah 13

Please read Nehemiah 13:1-14 and answer the following questions.

1. What did the Jews learn from Moses' law? Why was this law given?

2. Tell the story of Balaam. Give **b/c/v** where it is found.

3. Who was Eliashib? Who was Tobiah? Give other **b/c/v** about them.

4. What had Eliashib done for Tobiah? Explain why this was a perversion.

5. **Application:** What lesson can we learn about the danger that enemies may influence God's people, even leaders?

6. Where was Nehemiah when this happened? What did he do when he returned?

7. What act of Jesus does this remind you of? Give **b/c/v**.

8. **Application:** What lessons can we learn about the church today from Nehemiah's act and Jesus' act?

9. What other work had been neglected (vv 10,11)? How did this relate to Tobiah's use of the storerooms?

10. Where had the people promised to do this work? What did Nehemiah do about it?

11. What else did the people do (v12)? What did Nehemiah do to facilitate this work?

Assignments on Nehemiah 13

Please read Nehemiah 13:15-31 and answer the following questions.

1. What other sin did people commit in v15? Where else have we read about this day?
2. Who else joined in this sin (v16)? What did they do?
3. What did Nehemiah say and do regarding this sin (vv 16-18)?

4. **Application:** In what ways might emphasis on material prosperity hinder worship to God today?

5. What other measures did Nehemiah take to insure that the traders did not lead the people to violate the Sabbath (vv 19-22)?

6. What other sins had some people committed (v23)? Where else have we read of this problem?

7. Describe the consequence this sin had (v24). What danger of intermarriage does this demonstrate?

8. What great king had committed this same sin? What was the consequence? Give **b/c/v**.

9. Who is named in v28 as being guilty of this sin? What sin did we earlier learn that Eliashib had committed?

10. What did Nehemiah do regarding this grandson of Eliashib?

11. **Application:** What should be done today when a member of the church is involved in an unscriptural marriage and will not repent?

12. What other good deeds did Nehemiah do to restore the people to God's service?

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