

Nehemiah 1

King James Version (KJV)

(Of the Tribe of Judah - Circa: 426BC. Nehemiah = comforted of Yah. He may have been descended from the line of King David)

(In the Manuscripts, the Books of Ezra and Nehemiah are one Book. It is unknown which book came first – maybe at the same time. This Book deals with the rebuilding of the Wall of Jerusalem)

1 The words of Nehemiah the son of Hachaliah. And it came to pass in the month Chisleu, in the twentieth year, as I was in Shushan the palace, (At this time, God was comforting and helping the people of Judah rebuild the temple and their lives in Judah)

(Chisleu is the 9th month of the year – approx late November-early December for our calendar)

(Shushan once belonged to Babylon. Daniel was taken there at one time. The king of Babylon would summer there for a few months because of the pleasant weather)

²That Hanani, one of my brethren, came, he and certain men of Judah; and I asked them concerning the Jews that had escaped, which were left of the captivity, and concerning Jerusalem. (Hanani = Hananiah) (This part may have happened before the Book of Ezra. Either way, it is irrelevant. He asked about how those who had returned to Jerusalem were doing)

³And they said unto me, the remnant that are left of the captivity there in the province are in great affliction and reproach: the wall of Jerusalem also is broken down, and the gates thereof are burned with fire. (That had been done by the army of Babylon when they took Jerusalem) (Now the city was defenseless)

⁴And it came to pass, when I heard these words, that I sat down and wept, and mourned certain days, and fasted, and prayed before the God of heaven, (He was a man who worshipped God)

⁵And said, I beseech thee, O LORD God of heaven, the great and terrible God, that keepeth covenant and mercy for them that love him and observe his commandments: (Nehemiah's prayer) (Terrible = awesome – old English translation) (He also knew and obeyed the Commandments of God)

⁶ Let thine ear now be attentive, and thine eyes open, that thou mayest hear the prayer of thy servant, which I pray before thee now, day and night, for the children of Israel thy servants, and confess the sins of the children of Israel, which we have sinned against thee: both I and my father's house have sinned. (He was asking God's help for the people of Israel)

⁷ We have dealt very corruptly against thee, and have not kept the commandments, nor the statutes, nor the judgments, which thou commandedst thy servant Moses. (The people had been sinning against God for hundreds of years)

NOTE: (commandments, nor the statutes, nor the judgments – there is a difference that many people overlook. Jesus fulfilled the blood ordinances <statutes> for all time. HE never ended the law – the Ten Commandments were and are still the law of God. So many preachers falsely teach that God ended the law – Not true)

Mathew-5 (Jesus didn't change one jot or tittle of the law, HE came to fulfill the blood ordinances – to be the sacrifice for all time)

⁸ Remember, I beseech thee, the word that thou commandedst thy servant Moses, saying, If ye transgress, I will scatter you abroad among the nations: Deuteronomy-28:64 Leviticus-26:33 (They did transgress, and God did scatter them)

⁹ But if ye turn unto me, and keep my commandments, and do them; though there were of you cast out unto the uttermost part of the heaven, yet will I gather them from thence, and will bring them unto the place that I have chosen to set my name there.
Leviticus-26:39->on, (Also in Solomon's prayer at the temple dedication – Book of kings)

¹⁰ Now these are thy servants and thy people, whom thou hast redeemed by thy great power, and by thy strong hand. (God delivered them in the past – deliver them again)

¹¹ O LORD, I beseech thee, let now thine ear be attentive to the prayer of thy servant, and to the prayer of thy servants, who desire to fear thy name: and prosper, I pray thee, thy servant this day, and grant him mercy in the sight of this man. For I was the king's cupbearer. (Have mercy on the people who wish to return to Judah and serve God) (Being the king's cup bearer – Nehemiah was very trusted by the king. He must have been a man of honor)

