



Background

The book of Nehemiah tells the story of Nehemiah, a cupbearer to the Persian king, who leads the effort to rebuild Jerusalem's walls. After praying and receiving the king's approval (chaps. 1-2), he organizes the rebuilding despite opposition (chaps 3-4). He addresses internal injustices (chap. 5) and external threats (chap. 6). Once the walls are completed, Ezra reads the Law leading to spiritual renewal (chap 7-10). In Nehemiah 11-12, the people learn what it means to be a worshipper of the true God.

Study Questions

Read Nehemiah 11:1 - 12:47

1. What do these lists of names teach us about God's character and promises?
2. What is the significance of so many priests being named as returning to Jerusalem?
3. Why did the people take the time to dedicate the walls to the Lord?
4. Why did Nehemiah provide such detailed instructions for the temple procedures?

Application Questions

1. What is worship?
2. Why is worshipping God in accordance with His word important?
3. What prevents you from worshipping God? How can we encourage one another to worship God more joyfully and fervently?
4. How has Jesus provided us a new and living way to enter into God's temple (i.e. His presence)?