- 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,
- <sup>2</sup> That **Hanani**, one of my brethren, came, he and *certain* men of **Judah**; and I asked them concerning the **Jews** that had <u>escaped</u>, which were left of the <u>captivity</u>, and concerning **Jerusalem**.
- And they said unto me, The <u>remnant</u> that are left of the <u>captivity</u> there in the <u>province</u> are in <u>great affliction</u> and <u>reproach</u>: the <u>wall</u> of <u>Jerusalem</u> also is <u>broken</u> <u>down</u>, and the <u>gates</u> thereof are <u>burned</u> with <u>fire</u>.
- <sup>4</sup> And it came to <u>pass</u>, when I heard these <u>words</u>, that I <u>sat</u> <u>down</u> and <u>wept</u>, and <u>mourned</u> <u>certain days</u>, and <u>fasted</u>, and <u>prayed</u> <u>before</u> the <u>God</u> of <u>heaven</u>,
- <sup>5</sup> And said, I <u>beseech</u> thee, O <u>LORD God</u> of <u>heaven</u>, the *great* and *terrible* <u>God</u>, that <u>keepeth covenant</u> and mercy for them that <u>love</u> him and observe his commandments:
- Let thine <u>ear</u> now be <u>attentive</u>, and thine <u>eyes open</u>, that thou mayest hear the <u>prayer</u> of thy <u>servant</u>, which I <u>pray</u> <u>before</u> thee now, <u>day</u> and <u>night</u>, for the children of <u>Israel</u> thy servants, and <u>confess</u> the <u>sins</u> of the children of <u>Israel</u>, which we have <u>sinned against</u> thee: <u>both I and my father's house</u> have sinned.
- The have dealt very corruptly against thee, and have not kept the commandments, nor the statutes, nor the judgments, which thou commandedst thy servant Moses.
- 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:
- <sup>9</sup> But if ye <u>turn</u> unto me, and <u>keep</u> my <u>commandments</u>, and <u>do</u> them; though there were of you <u>cast out</u> unto the <u>uttermost part</u> of the <u>heaven</u>, yet will I <u>gather</u> them from thence, and will bring them unto the <u>place</u> that I have <u>chosen</u> to <u>set</u> my <u>name</u> there.
- 10 Now these are thy <u>servants</u> and thy people, whom thou hast <u>redeemed</u> by thy <u>great power</u>, and by thy <u>strong hand</u>.
- <sup>11</sup> O LORD, I <u>beseech</u> thee, let now thine <u>ear</u> be <u>attentive</u> to the <u>prayer</u> of thy <u>servant</u>, and to the prayer of thy servants, who <u>desire</u> to <u>fear</u> thy <u>name</u>: and <u>prosper</u>, I pray thee, thy servant this <u>day</u>, and <u>grant</u> him <u>mercy</u> in the <u>sight</u> of this <u>man</u>. For I was the king's <u>cupbearer</u>.

- And it came to <u>pass</u> in the <u>month Nisan</u>, in the <u>twentieth year</u> of <u>Artaxerxes</u> the king, that <u>wine</u> was before him: and I took up the wine, and gave it unto the king. Now I had <u>not</u> been <u>beforetime sad</u> in his <u>presence</u>.
- Wherefore the king said unto me, Why is thy <u>countenance sad</u>, seeing thou art <u>not sick</u>? this is nothing else but <u>sorrow</u> of <u>heart</u>. Then I was <u>very sore afraid</u>,
- And said unto the king, Let the king <u>live</u> for ever: why should <u>not</u> my <u>countenance</u> be <u>sad</u>, when the <u>city</u>, the <u>place</u> of my <u>fathers' sepulchres</u>, <u>lieth waste</u>, and the <u>gates</u> thereof are <u>consumed</u> with <u>fire</u>?
- <sup>4</sup> Then the king said unto me, For what dost thou make <u>request</u>? So I <u>prayed</u> to the <u>God</u> of <u>heaven</u>.
- <sup>5</sup> And I said unto the king, If it <u>please</u> the king, and if thy <u>servant</u> have <u>found favour</u> in thy <u>sight</u>, that thou wouldest <u>send</u> me unto <u>Judah</u>, unto the <u>city</u> of my <u>fathers' sepulchres</u>, that I may <u>build</u> it.
- 6 And the king said unto me, (the <u>queen</u> also <u>sitting</u> by him,) For how *long* shall thy <u>journey</u> be? and when wilt thou <u>return</u>? So it <u>pleased</u> the king to <u>send</u> me; and I set him a <u>time</u>.
- Moreover I said unto the king, If it <u>please</u> the king, let <u>letters</u> be given me to the <u>governors</u> beyond the <u>river</u>, that they may <u>convey</u> me over till I come into <u>Judah</u>;
- And a <u>letter</u> unto <u>Asaph</u> the <u>keeper</u> of the king's <u>forest</u>, that he may give me <u>timber</u> to make <u>beams</u> for the <u>gates</u> of the <u>palace</u> which <u>appertained</u> to the <u>house</u>, and for the <u>wall</u> of the <u>city</u>, and for the <u>house</u> that I shall enter into. And the king <u>granted</u> me, according to the <u>good hand</u> of my <u>God</u> upon me.
- Then I came to the governors beyond the <u>river</u>, and gave them the king's <u>letters</u>. Now the king had <u>sent captains</u> of the <u>army</u> and <u>horsemen</u> with me.
- 10 When Sanballat the Horonite, and Tobiah the <u>servant</u>, the <u>Ammonite</u>, heard of it, it <u>grieved</u> them <u>exceedingly</u> that there was come a <u>man</u> to <u>seek</u> the <u>welfare</u> of the children of <u>Israel</u>.
- 11 So I came to **Jerusalem**, and was there <u>three days</u>.
- 12 And I <u>arose</u> in the <u>night</u>, I and some <u>few men</u> with me; <u>neither told</u> I <u>any man</u> what my <u>God</u> had put in my heart to do at <u>Jerusalem</u>: neither was there <u>any</u> beast with me, save the beast that I rode upon.
- 13 And I went out by night by the gate of the valley, even before the dragon well, and to the dung port, and viewed the walls of Jerusalem, which were broken down, and the gates thereof were consumed with fire.

- 14 Then I went on to the gate of the fountain, and to the king's pool: but there was no place for the beast that was under me to pass.
- 15 Then went I *up* in the <u>night</u> by the <u>brook</u>, and <u>viewed</u> the <u>wall</u>, and <u>turned</u> back, and <u>entered</u> by the <u>gate</u> of the <u>valley</u>, and so <u>returned</u>.
- 16 And the <u>rulers knew not</u> whither I went, or what I did; <u>neither</u> had I as yet told it to the <u>Jews</u>, <u>nor</u> to the <u>priests</u>, <u>nor</u> to the <u>nobles</u>, <u>nor</u> to the <u>rulers</u>, <u>nor</u> to the <u>rest</u> that did the <u>work</u>.
- 17 Then said I unto them, Ye see the <u>distress</u> that we are in, how <u>Jerusalem lieth waste</u>, and the <u>gates</u> thereof are <u>burned</u> with <u>fire</u>: come, and let us <u>build</u> *up* the <u>wall</u> of <u>Jerusalem</u>, that we be <u>no</u> *more* a <u>reproach</u>.
- <sup>18</sup> Then I told them of the <u>hand</u> of my <u>God</u> which was <u>good</u> upon me; as also the king's <u>words</u> that he had spoken unto me. And they said, Let us <u>rise</u> <u>up</u> and <u>build</u>. So they <u>strengthened</u> their <u>hands</u> for this <u>good</u> <u>work</u>.
- 19 But when Sanballat the Horonite, and Tobiah the servant, the Ammonite, and Geshem the Arabian, heard it, they laughed us to scorn, and despised us, and said, What is this thing that ye do? will ye rebel against the king?
- 20 Then answered I them, and said unto them, The God of <u>heaven</u>, he will <u>prosper</u> us; therefore we his servants will <u>arise</u> and <u>build</u>: but ye have <u>no portion</u>, nor right, nor memorial, in <u>Jerusalem</u>.

- 1 Then Eliashib the *high* priest rose *up* with his brethren the priests, and they <u>builded</u> the <u>sheep gate</u>; they <u>sanctified</u> it, and <u>set</u> *up* the <u>doors</u> of it; even unto the <u>tower</u> of <u>Meah</u> they sanctified it, unto the tower of <u>Hananeel</u>.
- 2 And next unto him <u>builded</u> the <u>men</u> of <u>Jericho</u>. And next to them <u>builded</u> <u>Zaccur</u> the son of <u>Imri</u>.
- 3 But the <u>fish gate</u> did the sons of <u>Hassenaah build</u>, who also <u>laid</u> the <u>beams</u> thereof, and <u>set</u> *up* the <u>doors</u> thereof, the <u>locks</u> thereof, and the <u>bars</u> thereof.
- <sup>4</sup> And next unto them repaired Meremoth the son of Urijah, the son of Koz. And next unto them repaired Meshullam the son of Berechiah, the son of Meshezabeel. And next unto them repaired Zadok the son of Baana.
- 5 And next unto them the Tekoites repaired; but their nobles put not their necks to the work of their LORD.
- Moreover the *old* gate repaired **Jehoiada** the son of **Paseah**, and **Meshullam** the son of **Besodeiah**; they laid the beams thereof, and set *up* the doors thereof, and the locks thereof, and the bars thereof.
- And next unto them repaired Melatiah the Gibeonite, and Jadon the Meronothite, the men of Gibeon, and of Mizpah, unto the throne of the governor on this side the river.
- 8 Next unto him repaired Uzziel the son of Harhaiah, of the goldsmiths. Next unto him also repaired Hananiah the son of one of the apothecaries, and they fortified Jerusalem unto the broad wall.
- 9 And *next* unto them <u>repaired</u> Rephaiah the son of Hur, the <u>ruler</u> of the <u>half part</u> of Jerusalem.
- 10 And *next* unto them <u>repaired</u> **Jedaiah** the son of **Harumaph**, even over <u>against</u> his <u>house</u>. And *next* unto him repaired **Hattush** the son of **Hashabniah**.
- 11 Malchijah the son of Harim, and Hashub the son of Pahathmoab, repaired the other piece, and the tower of the furnaces.
- <sup>12</sup> And next unto him repaired Shallum the son of Halohesh, the ruler of the half part of Jerusalem, he and his daughters.
- 13 The <u>valley gate repaired</u> Hanun, and the <u>inhabitants</u> of **Zanoah**; they <u>built</u> it, and <u>set</u> *up* the <u>doors</u> thereof, the <u>locks</u> thereof, and the <u>bars</u> thereof, and a <u>thousand cubits</u> on the <u>wall</u> unto the <u>dung gate</u>.
- 14 But the <u>dung gate repaired</u> Malchiah the son of Rechab, the <u>ruler</u> of <u>part</u> of <u>Bethhaccerem</u>; he <u>built</u> it, and <u>set up</u> the <u>doors</u> thereof, the <u>locks</u> thereof, and the <u>bars</u> thereof.

- 15 But the gate of the fountain repaired Shallun the son of Colhozeh, the ruler of part of Mizpah; he built it, and covered it, and set up the doors thereof, the locks thereof, and the bars thereof, and the wall of the pool of Siloah by the king's garden, and unto the stairs that go down from the city of David.
- 16 After him repaired Nehemiah the son of Azbuk, the ruler of the half part of Bethzur, unto the place over against the sepulchres of David, and to the pool that was made, and unto the house of the mighty.
- 17 After him repaired the Levites, Rehum the son of Bani. Next unto him repaired Hashabiah, the ruler of the half part of Keilah, in his part.
- 18 After him repaired their brethren, Bavai the son of Henadad, the ruler of the half part of Keilah.
- 19 And *next* to him <u>repaired</u> **Ezer** the son of **Jeshua**, the <u>ruler</u> of **Mizpah**, <u>another piece</u> over <u>against</u> the going *up* to the <u>armoury</u> at the <u>turning</u> of the <u>wall</u>.
- 20 After him Baruch the son of Zabbai earnestly repaired the other piece, from the turning of the wall unto the door of the house of Eliashib the high priest.
- 21 After him repaired Meremoth the son of Urijah the son of Koz another piece, from the door of the house of Eliashib even to the end of the house of Eliashib.
- 22 And *after* him <u>repaired</u> the <u>priests</u>, the <u>men</u> of the <u>plain</u>.
- <sup>23</sup> After him repaired Benjamin and Hashub over against their house. After him repaired Azariah the son of Maaseiah the son of Ananiah by his house.
- <sup>24</sup> After him repaired Binnui the son of Henadad another piece, from the house of Azariah unto the turning of the wall, even unto the corner.
- 25 Palal the son of Uzai, over <u>against</u> the <u>turning</u> of the <u>wall</u>, and the <u>tower</u> which <u>lieth</u> *out* from the king's high <u>house</u>, that was by the <u>court</u> of the <u>prison</u>. After him Pedaiah the son of Parosh.
- <sup>26</sup> Moreover the Nethinims dwelt in Ophel, unto the place over against the water gate toward the east, and the tower that lieth out.
- 27 After them the Tekoites repaired another piece, over against the great tower that lieth out, even unto the wall of Ophel.
- 28 From above the horse gate repaired the priests, every one over against his house. 29 After them repaired Zadok the son of Immer over against his house. After him repaired also Shemaiah the son of Shechaniah, the keeper of the east gate. 30 After him repaired Hananiah the son of Shelemiah, and Hanun the sixth son of Zalaph, another piece. After him repaired Meshullam the son of Berechiah over against his chamber. 31 After him repaired Malchiah the goldsmith's son unto the place of the Nethinims, and of the merchants, over against the gate Miphkad, and to the going up of the corner. 32 And between the going up of the corner unto the sheep gate repaired the goldsmiths and the merchants.

- ¹ But it came to <u>pass</u>, that when **Sanballat** heard that we <u>builded</u> the <u>wall</u>, he was <u>wroth</u>, and took <u>great indignation</u>, and <u>mocked</u> the Jews.
- 2 And he spake *before* his brethren and the <u>army</u> of **Samaria**, and said, What do these *feeble* Jews? will they <u>fortify</u> themselves? will they <u>sacrifice</u>? will they make an <u>end</u> in a <u>day</u>? will they <u>revive</u> the <u>stones</u> *out* of the <u>heaps</u> of the <u>rubbish</u> which are <u>burned</u>?
- Now **Tobiah** the **Ammonite** was by him, and he said, Even that which they <u>build</u>, if a <u>fox</u> go *up*, he shall even break *down* their stone wall.
- <sup>4</sup> Hear, O our God; for we are <u>despised</u>: and <u>turn</u> their <u>reproach</u> upon their <u>own head</u>, and give them for a <u>prey</u> in the <u>land</u> of <u>captivity</u>:
- 5 And <u>cover not</u> their <u>iniquity</u>, and let <u>not</u> their <u>sin</u> be <u>blotted</u> *out* from *before* thee: for they have <u>provoked</u> thee to <u>anger</u> *before* the <u>builders</u>.
- 6 So <u>built</u> we the <u>wall</u>; and *all* the wall was <u>joined</u> together unto the <u>half</u> thereof: for the people had a <u>mind</u> to <u>work</u>.
- <sup>7</sup> But it came to <u>pass</u>, that when <u>Sanballat</u>, and <u>Tobiah</u>, and the <u>Arabians</u>, and the <u>Ammonites</u>, and the <u>Ashdodites</u>, heard that the <u>walls</u> of <u>Jerusalem</u> were made *up*, and that the <u>breaches</u> began to be <u>stopped</u>, then they were <u>very wroth</u>,
- 8 And conspired all of them together to come and to fight against Jerusalem, and to hinder it.
- <sup>9</sup> Nevertheless we made our <u>prayer</u> unto our <u>God</u>, and <u>set</u> a <u>watch against</u> them <u>day</u> and <u>night</u>, because
  of them.
- 10 And **Judah** said, The <u>strength</u> of the <u>bearers</u> of <u>burdens</u> is <u>decayed</u>, and there is <u>much rubbish</u>; so that we are <u>not</u> able to <u>build</u> the <u>wall</u>.
- <sup>11</sup> And our <u>adversaries</u> said, They shall <u>not know</u>, <u>neither</u> see, till we come in the midst among them, and <u>slay</u> them, and cause the <u>work</u> to <u>cease</u>.
- 12 And it came to <u>pass</u>, that when the <u>Jews</u> which <u>dwelt</u> by them came, they said unto us <u>ten times</u>, From <u>all places</u> whence ye shall <u>return</u> unto us they will be upon you.
- 13 Therefore <u>set</u> I in the *lower* <u>places</u> *behind* the <u>wall</u>, and on the *higher* places, I even set the people *after* their <u>families</u> with their <u>swords</u>, their <u>spears</u>, and their <u>bows</u>.

- <sup>14</sup> And I looked, and <u>rose</u> up, and said unto the <u>nobles</u>, and to the <u>rulers</u>, and to the <u>rest</u> of the people, <u>Be</u> <u>not</u> ye <u>afraid</u> of them: <u>remember</u> the <u>LORD</u>, which is <u>great</u> and <u>terrible</u>, and <u>fight</u> for your brethren, your sons, and your daughters, your <u>wives</u>, and your <u>houses</u>.
- 15 And it came to <u>pass</u>, when our <u>enemies</u> heard that it was <u>known</u> unto us, and <u>God</u> had brought their <u>counsel</u> to <u>nought</u>, that we <u>returned</u> *all* of us to the <u>wall</u>, <u>every one</u> unto his <u>work</u>.
- 16 And it came to <u>pass</u> from that <u>time</u> forth, that the <u>half</u> of my <u>servants wrought</u> in the <u>work</u>, and the <u>other</u> half of them <u>held</u> both the <u>spears</u>, the <u>shields</u>, and the <u>bows</u>, and the <u>habergeons</u>; and the <u>rulers</u> were <u>behind all</u> the house of **Judah**.
- 17 They which <u>builded</u> on the <u>wall</u>, and they that <u>bare burdens</u>, with those that <u>laded</u>, every one with one of his <u>hands wrought</u> in the <u>work</u>, and with the <u>other hand held</u> a <u>weapon</u>.
- 18 For the <u>builders</u>, every one had his <u>sword girded</u> by his side, and so <u>builded</u>. And he that <u>sounded</u> the <u>trumpet</u> was by me.
- 19 And I said unto the <u>nobles</u>, and to the <u>rulers</u>, and to the <u>rest</u> of the people, The <u>work</u> is *great* and *large*, and we are <u>separated</u> upon the <u>wall</u>, one *far* from another.
- 20 In what <u>place</u> therefore ye hear the <u>sound</u> of the <u>trumpet</u>, <u>resort</u> ye thither unto us: our <u>God</u> shall <u>fight</u> for us.
- 21 So we <u>laboured</u> in the <u>work</u>: and <u>half</u> of them <u>held</u> the <u>spears</u> from the <u>rising</u> of the <u>morning</u> till the <u>stars</u> <u>appeared</u>.
- 22 Likewise at the same time said I unto the people, Let every one with his servant lodge within Jerusalem, that in the night they may be a guard to us, and labour on the day.
- 23 So <u>neither I, nor my brethren, nor my servants, nor the men</u> of the <u>guard</u> which <u>followed</u> me, <u>none</u> of us <u>put</u> *off* our <u>clothes</u>, <u>saving</u> that every one put them *off* for <u>washing</u>.

- And there was a great cry of the people and of their wives against their brethren the Jews.
- <sup>2</sup> For there were that said, We, our sons, and our daughters, are *many*: therefore we take *up* <u>corn</u> for them, that we may <u>eat</u>, and <u>live</u>.
- 3 Some also there were that said, We have <u>mortgaged</u> our <u>lands</u>, <u>vineyards</u>, and <u>houses</u>, that we <u>might buy corn</u>, because of the <u>dearth</u>.
- <sup>4</sup> There were also that said, We have <u>borrowed money</u> for the <u>king's tribute</u>, and that upon our <u>lands</u> and <u>vineyards</u>.
- 5 Yet now our <u>flesh</u> is as the flesh of our brethren, our children as their children: and, lo, we bring into <u>bondage</u> our sons and our daughters to be <u>servants</u>, and some of our daughters are brought unto bondage <u>already</u>: <u>neither</u> is it in our <u>power</u> to <u>redeem</u> them; for <u>other men</u> have our <u>lands</u> and <u>vineyards</u>.
- <sup>6</sup> And I was very angry when I heard their cry and these words.
- Then I <u>consulted</u> with myself, and I <u>rebuked</u> the <u>nobles</u>, and the <u>rulers</u>, and said unto them, Ye <u>exact</u> <u>usury</u>, every one of his <u>brother</u>. And I set a <u>great assembly against</u> them.
- \* And I said unto them, We after our ability have redeemed our brethren the Jews, which were sold unto the heathen; and will ye even sell your brethren? or shall they be sold unto us? Then held they their peace, and found nothing to answer.
- 9 Also I said, It is <u>not good</u> that ye do: ought ye <u>not</u> to <u>walk</u> in the <u>fear</u> of our <u>God</u> because of the <u>reproach</u> of the <u>heathen</u> our <u>enemies</u>?
- 10 I likewise, and my brethren, and my <u>servants</u>, might <u>exact</u> of them <u>money</u> and <u>corn</u>: I <u>pray</u> you, <u>let us leave</u> *off* this <u>usury</u>.
- 11 Restore, I pray you, to them, even this <u>day</u>, their <u>lands</u>, their <u>vineyards</u>, their <u>oliveyards</u>, and their <u>houses</u>, also the <u>hundredth part</u> of the <u>money</u>, and of the <u>corn</u>, the <u>wine</u>, and the <u>oil</u>, that ye <u>exact</u> of them.
- 12 Then said they, We will <u>restore</u> them, and will <u>require nothing</u> of them; so will we do as thou sayest.
   Then I called the <u>priests</u>, and took an <u>oath</u> of them, that they should do according to this <u>promise</u>.
- 13 Also I <u>shook my lap</u>, and said, So <u>God shake out every man</u> from his <u>house</u>, and from his <u>labour</u>, that <u>performeth not</u> this <u>promise</u>, even thus be he shaken <u>out</u>, and <u>emptied</u>. And <u>all</u> the <u>congregation</u> said, <u>Amen</u>, and <u>praised</u> the <u>LORD</u>. And the people did according to this promise.

- 14 Moreover from the time that I was appointed to be their governor in the land of Judah, from the twentieth year even unto the two and thirtieth year of Artaxerxes the king, that is, twelve years, I and my brethren have not eaten the bread of the governor.
- 15 But the *former* governors that had been *before* me were <u>chargeable</u> unto the people, and had taken of them <u>bread</u> and <u>wine</u>, beside <u>forty shekels</u> of <u>silver</u>; yea, even their <u>servants bare rule</u> over the people: but so did <u>not I</u>, because of the <u>fear</u> of **God**.
- 16 Yea, also I *continued* in the <u>work</u> of this <u>wall</u>, <u>neither bought</u> we <u>any land</u>: and <u>all</u> my <u>servants</u> were gathered thither unto the work.
- <sup>17</sup> Moreover there were at my <u>table</u> an <u>hundred and fifty</u> of the **Jews** and <u>rulers</u>, beside those that came
  unto us from among the <u>heathen</u> that are about us.
- 18 Now that which was <u>prepared</u> for me <u>daily</u> was <u>one ox</u> and <u>six choice sheep</u>; also <u>fowls</u> were prepared for me, and <u>once</u> in <u>ten days store</u> of <u>all</u> sorts of <u>wine</u>: yet for <u>all</u> this <u>required not</u> I the <u>bread</u> of the <u>governor</u>, because the <u>bondage</u> was <u>heavy</u> upon this people.
- 19 Think upon me, my God, for good, according to all that I have done for this people.

- Now it came to <u>pass</u> when <u>Sanballat</u>, and <u>Tobiah</u>, and <u>Geshem</u> the <u>Arabian</u>, and the <u>rest</u> of our <u>enemies</u>, heard that I had <u>builded</u> the <u>wall</u>, and that there was <u>no breach</u> left therein; (though at that <u>time</u> I had <u>not set</u> <u>up</u> the <u>doors</u> upon the <u>gates</u>;)
- 2 That Sanballat and Geshem sent unto me, saying, Come, let us meet together in some one of the villages in the plain of Ono. But they thought to do me mischief.
- 3 And I <u>sent messengers</u> unto them, saying, I am doing a *great* <u>work</u>, so that I <u>cannot</u> come *down*: why should the <u>work cease</u>, whilst I leave it, and come *down* to you?
- 4 Yet they <u>sent</u> unto me <u>four times</u> <u>after</u> this sort; and I answered them <u>after</u> the same <u>manner</u>.
- 5 Then sent Sanballat his servant unto me in like manner the fifth time with an open letter in his hand;
- Wherein was <u>written</u>, It is <u>reported</u> among the <u>heathen</u>, and <u>Gashmu</u> saith it, that thou and the <u>Jews</u>
   <u>think</u> to <u>rebel</u>: for which cause thou <u>buildest</u> the <u>wall</u>, that thou mayest be their <u>king</u>, according to these words.
- And thou hast also <u>appointed prophets</u> to <u>preach</u> of thee at <u>Jerusalem</u>, saying, There is a <u>king</u> in <u>Judah</u>:
   and now shall it be <u>reported</u> to the king according to these <u>words</u>. Come now therefore, and let us take <u>counsel</u> together.
- 8 Then I <u>sent</u> unto him, saying, There are <u>no</u> such <u>things</u> done as thou sayest, but thou <u>feignest</u> them <u>out</u> of thine <u>own heart</u>.
- For they *all* made us <u>afraid</u>, saying, Their <u>hands</u> shall be <u>weakened</u> from the <u>work</u>, that it be <u>not</u> done. Now therefore, O **God**, <u>strengthen</u> my <u>hands</u>.
- 10 Afterward I came unto the house of Shemaiah the son of Delaiah the son of Mehetabeel, who was shut up; and he said, Let us meet together in the house of God, within the temple, and let us shut the doors of the temple: for they will come to slay thee; yea, in the night will they come to slay thee.
- <sup>11</sup> And I said, Should such a <u>man</u> as I <u>flee</u>? and who is there, that, being as I am, would go into the <u>temple</u> to save his <u>life</u>? I will <u>not</u> go in.
- 12 And, lo, I <u>perceived</u> that <u>God</u> had <u>not sent</u> him; but that he <u>pronounced</u> this <u>prophecy against</u> me: for <u>Tobiah</u> and <u>Sanballat</u> had hired him.
- 13 Therefore was he <u>hired</u>, that I should be <u>afraid</u>, and do so, and <u>sin</u>, and that they might have <u>matter</u> for an <u>evil report</u>, that they might <u>reproach</u> me.

- 14 My God, think thou upon Tobiah and Sanballat according to these their works, and on the prophetess Noadiah, and the rest of the prophets, that would have put me in fear.
- 15 So the wall was finished in the twenty and fifth day of the month Elul, in fifty and two days.
- 16 And it came to <u>pass</u>, that when *all* our <u>enemies</u> heard thereof, and *all* the <u>heathen</u> that were about us saw these <u>things</u>, they were *much* <u>cast</u> <u>down</u> in their <u>own eyes</u>: for they <u>perceived</u> that this <u>work</u> was <u>wrought</u> of our <u>God</u>.
- 17 Moreover in those days the nobles of Judah sent many letters unto Tobiah, and the letters of Tobiah came unto them.
- 18 For there were *many* in **Judah** <u>sworn</u> unto him, because he was the *son in law* of **Shechaniah** the son of **Arah**; and his son **Johanan** had taken the daughter of **Meshullam** the son of **Berechiah**.
- 19 Also they <u>reported</u> his *good* <u>deeds</u> <u>before</u> me, and <u>uttered</u> my <u>words</u> to him. And <u>Tobiah</u> <u>sent letters</u> to <u>put</u> me in <u>fear</u>.

- 1 Now it came to <u>pass</u>, when the <u>wall</u> was <u>built</u>, and I had <u>set</u> *up* the <u>doors</u>, and the <u>porters</u> and the <u>singers</u> and the <u>Levites</u> were <u>appointed</u>,
- <sup>2</sup> That I gave my brother **Hanani**, and **Hananiah** the <u>ruler</u> of the <u>palace</u>, <u>charge</u> over **Jerusalem**: for he was a *faithful* man, and <u>feared</u> **God** *above many*.
- 3 And I said unto them, Let <u>not</u> the <u>gates</u> of <u>Jerusalem</u> be <u>opened</u> until the <u>sun</u> be <u>hot</u>; and while they <u>stand</u> by, let them <u>shut</u> the <u>doors</u>, and <u>bar</u> them: and <u>appoint watches</u> of the <u>inhabitants</u> of <u>Jerusalem</u>, every one in his <u>watch</u>, and every one to be over <u>against</u> his <u>house</u>.
- 4 Now the <u>city</u> was *large* and *great*: but the people were *few* therein, and the <u>houses</u> were <u>not builded</u>.
- And my God put into mine heart to gather together the nobles, and the rulers, and the people, that they might be reckoned by genealogy. And I found a register of the genealogy of them which came up at the first, and found written therein,
- <sup>6</sup> These are the children of the <u>province</u>, that went *up out* of the <u>captivity</u>, of those that had been <u>carried</u> <u>away</u>, whom <u>Nebuchadnezzar</u> the king of <u>Babylon</u> had carried away, and came <u>again</u> to <u>Jerusalem</u> and to <u>Judah</u>, every one unto his <u>city</u>;
- Who came with Zerubbabel, Jeshua, Nehemiah, Azariah, Raamiah, Nahamani, Mordecai, Bilshan, Mispereth, Bigvai, Nehum, Baanah. The <u>number</u>, I say, of the <u>men</u> of the people of Israel was this;
- 8 The children of Parosh, two thousand an hundred seventy and two.
- 9 The children of Shephatiah, three hundred seventy and two.
- The children of Arah, six hundred fifty and two.
- <sup>11</sup> The children of Pahathmoab, of the children of Jeshua and Joab, two thousand and eight hundred and eighteen.
- 12 The children of **Elam**, a thousand two hundred fifty and four.
- 13 The children of **Zattu**, eight hundred forty and five.
- 14 The children of **Zaccai**, seven hundred and threescore.
- 15 The children of Binnui, six hundred forty and eight.
- The children of Bebai, six hundred twenty and eight.
- 17 The children of Azgad, two thousand three hundred twenty and two.

- 18 The children of Adonikam, six hundred threescore and seven.
- 19 The children of Bigvai, two thousand threescore and seven.
- The children of Adin, six hundred fifty and five.
- 21 The children of Ater of Hezekiah, ninety and eight.
- 22 The children of Hashum, three hundred twenty and eight.
- 23 The children of Bezai, three hundred twenty and four.
- 24 The children of Hariph, an hundred and twelve.
- <sup>25</sup> The children of Gibeon, <u>ninety and five</u>.
- 26 The men of Bethlehem and Netophah, an hundred fourscore and eight.
- 27 The men of **Anathoth**, an hundred twenty and eight.
- 28 The men of Bethazmaveth, forty and two.
- 29 The men of Kirjathjearim, Chephirah, and Beeroth, seven hundred forty and three.
- 30 The men of Ramah and Gaba, six hundred twenty and one.
- 31 The men of Michmas, an hundred and twenty and two.
- 32 The men of Bethel and Ai, an hundred twenty and three.
- 33 The men of the other Nebo, fifty and two.
- 34 The children of the other **Elam**, a thousand two hundred fifty and four.
- 35 The children of **Harim**, three hundred and twenty.
- 36 The children of Jericho, three hundred forty and five.
- 37 The children of Lod, Hadid, and Ono, seven hundred twenty and one.
- 38 The children of Senaah, three thousand nine hundred and thirty.
- 39 The <u>priests</u>: the children of **Jedaiah**, of the <u>house</u> of **Jeshua**, <u>nine hundred seventy and three</u>.
- 40 The children of Immer, a thousand fifty and two.
- 41 The children of **Pashur**, a thousand two hundred forty and seven.
- 42 The children of Harim, a thousand and seventeen.

- 43 The Levites: the children of Jeshua, of Kadmiel, and of the children of Hodevah, seventy and four.
- 44 The singers: the children of Asaph, an hundred forty and eight.
- 45 The <u>porters</u>: the children of **Shallum**, the children of **Ater**, the children of **Talmon**, the children of **Akkub**, the children of **Hatita**, the children of **Shobai**, an hundred thirty and eight.
- 46 The Nethinims: the children of Ziha, the children of Hashupha, the children of Tabbaoth,
- <sup>47</sup> The children of Keros, the children of Sia, the children of Padon,
- <sup>48</sup> The children of **Lebana**, the children of **Hagaba**, the children of **Shalmai**,
- <sup>49</sup> The children of **Hanan**, the children of **Giddel**, the children of **Gahar**,
- 50 The children of Reaiah, the children of Rezin, the children of Nekoda,
- 51 The children of Gazzam, the children of Uzza, the children of Phaseah,
- 52 The children of Besai, the children of Meunim, the children of Nephishesim,
- 53 The children of **Bakbuk**, the children of **Hakupha**, the children of **Harhur**,
- 54 The children of **Bazlith**, the children of **Mehida**, the children of **Harsha**,
- 55 The children of Barkos, the children of Sisera, the children of Tamah,
- 56 The children of Neziah, the children of Hatipha.
- 57 The children of Solomon's <u>servants</u>: the children of Sotai, the children of Sophereth, the children of Perida,
- 58 The children of Jaala, the children of Darkon, the children of Giddel,
- 59 The children of **Shephatiah**, the children of **Hattil**, the children of **Pochereth** of **Zebaim**, the children of **Amon**.
- 60 A// the Nethinims, and the children of Solomon's servants, were three hundred ninety and two.
- 61 And these were they which went *up* also from **Telmelah**, **Telharesha**, **Cherub**, **Addon**, and **Immer**: but they **could not shew** their **father's house**, **nor** their **seed**, whether they were of **Israel**.
- 62 The children of **Delaiah**, the children of **Tobiah**, the children of **Nekoda**, six hundred forty and two.
- 63 And of the <u>priests</u>: the children of **Habaiah**, the children of **Koz**, the children of **Barzillai**, which took one of the daughters of **Barzillai** the **Gileadite** to wife, and was called *after* their name.

- 64 These <u>sought</u> their <u>register</u> among those that were <u>reckoned</u> by <u>genealogy</u>, but it was <u>not found</u>: therefore were they, as <u>polluted</u>, put from the <u>priesthood</u>.
- 65 And the *Tirshatha* said unto them, that they should <u>not eat</u> of the *most holy* things, till there <u>stood</u> *up* a <u>priest</u> with *Urim* and *Thummim*.
- 66 The whole congregation together was forty and two thousand three hundred and threescore,
- 67 Beside their <u>manservants</u> and their <u>maidservants</u>, of whom there were <u>seven thousand three hundred</u> <u>thirty and seven</u>: and they had <u>two hundred forty and five</u> <u>singing men</u> and singing <u>women</u>.
- 68 Their horses, seven hundred thirty and six: their mules, two hundred forty and five:
- 69 Their camels, four hundred thirty and five: six thousand seven hundred and twenty asses.
- 70 And some of the <u>chief</u> of the <u>fathers</u> gave unto the <u>work</u>. The <u>Tirshatha</u> gave to the <u>treasure</u> a <u>thousand</u> <u>drams</u> of <u>gold</u>, <u>fifty basons</u>, <u>five hundred and thirty priests' garments</u>.
- <sup>71</sup> And some of the <u>chief</u> of the <u>fathers</u> gave to the <u>treasure</u> of the <u>work twenty thousand drams</u> of <u>gold</u>, and <u>two thousand and two hundred pound</u> of <u>silver</u>.
- 72 And that which the <u>rest</u> of the people gave was <u>twenty thousand drams</u> of <u>gold</u>, and <u>two thousand pound</u> of <u>silver</u>, and <u>threescore and seven priests' garments</u>.
- 73 So the <u>priests</u>, and the <u>Levites</u>, and the <u>porters</u>, and the <u>singers</u>, and some of the people, and the <u>Nethinims</u>, and <u>all Israel</u>, <u>dwelt</u> in their <u>cities</u>; and when the <u>seventh month</u> came, the children of <u>Israel</u> were in their cities.

- And all the people gathered themselves together as one man into the street that was before the water gate; and they spake unto Ezra the scribe to bring the book of the law of Moses, which the LORD had commanded to Israel.
- <sup>2</sup> And Ezra the <u>priest</u> brought the <u>law before</u> the <u>congregation</u> both of <u>men</u> and <u>women</u>, and <u>all</u> that could hear with <u>understanding</u>, upon the <u>first day</u> of the <u>seventh month</u>.
- And he <u>read</u> therein *before* the <u>street</u> that was *before* the <u>water gate</u> from the <u>morning</u> until <u>midday</u>, *before* the <u>men</u> and the <u>women</u>, and those that could <u>understand</u>; and the <u>ears</u> of *all* the people were attentive unto the <u>book</u> of the *law*.
- <sup>4</sup> And Ezra the <u>scribe stood</u> upon a <u>pulpit</u> of <u>wood</u>, which they had made for the <u>purpose</u>; and beside him stood Mattithiah, and Shema, and Anaiah, and Urijah, and Hilkiah, and Maaseiah, on his <u>right hand</u>; and on his <u>left hand</u>, Pedaiah, and Mishael, and Malchiah, and Hashum, and Hashbadana, Zechariah, and Meshullam.
- <sup>5</sup> And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people; (for he was above all the people;) and when he opened it, all the people stood up:
- 6 And Ezra <u>blessed</u> the LORD, the *great* God. And *all* the people answered, Amen, Amen, with <u>lifting</u> *up* their <u>hands</u>: and they <u>bowed</u> their <u>heads</u>, and <u>worshipped</u> the LORD with their <u>faces</u> to the <u>ground</u>.
- <sup>7</sup> Also Jeshua, and Bani, and Sherebiah, Jamin, Akkub, Shabbethai, Hodijah, Maaseiah, Kelita, Azariah, Jozabad, Hanan, Pelaiah, and the Levites, caused the people to <u>understand</u> the <u>law</u>: and the people stood in their <u>place</u>.
- So they <u>read</u> in the <u>book</u> in the <u>law</u> of **God** <u>distinctly</u>, and gave the <u>sense</u>, and <u>caused</u> them to <u>understand</u> the reading.
- And Nehemiah, which is the *Tirshatha*, and Ezra the <u>priest</u> the <u>scribe</u>, and the <u>Levites</u> that <u>taught</u> the people, said unto *all* the people, This <u>day</u> is <u>holy</u> unto the <u>LORD</u> your <u>God</u>; <u>mourn not</u>, <u>nor weep</u>. For *all* the people <u>wept</u>, when they heard the <u>words</u> of the <u>law</u>.
- Then he said unto them, Go your <u>way</u>, <u>eat</u> the <u>fat</u>, and <u>drink</u> the <u>sweet</u>, and <u>send portions</u> unto them for whom <u>nothing</u> is <u>prepared</u>: for this <u>day</u> is <u>holy</u> unto our <u>LORD</u>: <u>neither</u> be ye <u>sorry</u>; for <u>the joy</u> of the <u>LORD</u> is your <u>strength</u>.
- 11 So the Levites stilled all the people, saying, Hold your peace, for the day is holy; neither be ye grieved.

- 12 And all the people went their way to eat, and to drink, and to send portions, and to make great mirth, because they had understood the words that were declared unto them.
- 13 And on the <u>second day</u> were <u>gathered</u> together the <u>chief</u> of the <u>fathers</u> of *all* the people, the <u>priests</u>, and the <u>Levites</u>, unto <u>Ezra</u> the <u>scribe</u>, even to <u>understand</u> the <u>words</u> of the <u>law</u>.
- 14 And they <u>found written</u> in the <u>law</u> which the **LORD** had <u>commanded</u> by <u>Moses</u>, that the children of <u>Israel</u> should <u>dwell</u> in <u>booths</u> in the <u>feast</u> of the seventh month:
- 15 And that they should <u>publish</u> and <u>proclaim</u> in *all* their <u>cities</u>, and in **Jerusalem**, saying, Go forth unto the <u>mount</u>, and <u>fetch olive branches</u>, and <u>pine</u> branches, and <u>myrtle</u> branches, and <u>palm</u> branches, and branches of *thick* <u>trees</u>, to make <u>booths</u>, as it is <u>written</u>.
- 16 So the people went forth, and brought them, and made themselves <u>booths</u>, every one upon the <u>roof</u> of his <u>house</u>, and in their <u>courts</u>, and in the courts of the <u>house</u> of <u>God</u>, and in the <u>street</u> of the <u>water gate</u>, and in the street of the gate of <u>Ephraim</u>.
- 17 And all the congregation of them that were come again out of the captivity made booths, and sat under the booths: for since the days of Jeshua the son of Nun unto that day had not the children of Israel done so. And there was very great gladness.
- <sup>18</sup> Also <u>day</u> by <u>day</u>, from the <u>first</u> day unto the <u>last</u> day, he <u>read</u> in the <u>book</u> of the <u>law</u> of <u>God</u>. And they <u>kept</u> the <u>feast seven days</u>; and on the <u>eighth day</u> was a <u>solemn</u> <u>assembly</u>, according unto the <u>manner</u>.

- Now in the <u>twenty and fourth day</u> of this <u>month</u> the children of <u>Israel</u> were <u>assembled</u> with <u>fasting</u>, and with <u>sackclothes</u>, and <u>earth</u> upon them.
- 2 And the <u>seed</u> of <u>Israel separated</u> themselves from <u>all strangers</u>, and <u>stood</u> and <u>confessed</u> their <u>sins</u>, and the <u>iniquities</u> of their <u>fathers</u>.
- 3 And they stood *up* in their <u>place</u>, and <u>read</u> in the <u>book</u> of the <u>law</u> of the <u>LORD</u> their <u>God one fourth part</u> of the <u>day</u>; and another <u>fourth part</u> they <u>confessed</u>, and <u>worshipped</u> the <u>LORD</u> their <u>God</u>.
- <sup>4</sup> Then <u>stood</u> up upon the <u>stairs</u>, of the <u>Levites</u>, <u>Jeshua</u>, and <u>Bani</u>, <u>Kadmiel</u>, <u>Shebaniah</u>, <u>Bunni</u>, <u>Sherebiah</u>, <u>Bani</u>, and <u>Chenani</u>, and <u>cried</u> with a <u>loud voice</u> unto the <u>LORD</u> their <u>God</u>.
- Then the Levites, Jeshua, and Kadmiel, Bani, Hashabniah, Sherebiah, Hodijah, Shebaniah, and Pethahiah, said, Stand up and bless the LORD your God for ever and ever. and blessed be thy glorious name, which is exalted above all blessing and praise.
- Thou, even thou, art **LORD** *alone*; thou hast made <u>heaven</u>, the *heaven of heavens*, with *all* their <u>host</u>, the <u>earth</u>, and *all* things that are therein, the <u>seas</u>, and *all* that is therein, and thou <u>preservest</u> them *all*, and the host of heaven <u>worshippeth</u> thee.
- <sup>7</sup> Thou art the LORD the God, who didst <u>choose</u> Abram, and broughtest him forth *out* of Ur of the Chaldees, and gavest him the <u>name</u> of Abraham;
- And <u>foundest</u> his <u>heart</u> <u>faithful</u> <u>before</u> thee, and madest a <u>covenant</u> with him to <u>give</u> the <u>land</u> of the <u>Canaanites</u>, the <u>Hittites</u>, the <u>Amorites</u>, and the <u>Perizzites</u>, and the <u>Jebusites</u>, and the <u>Girgashites</u>, to give it, I say, to his <u>seed</u>, and hast <u>performed</u> thy <u>words</u>; for thou art <u>righteous</u>:
- <sup>9</sup> And didst <u>see</u> the <u>affliction</u> of our <u>fathers</u> in <u>Egypt</u>, and heardest their <u>cry</u> by the <u>Red sea</u>;
- 10 And shewedst <u>signs</u> and <u>wonders</u> upon <u>Pharaoh</u>, and on <u>all</u> his <u>servants</u>, and on <u>all</u> the people of his land: for thou <u>knewest</u> that they <u>dealt proudly against</u> them. So didst thou get thee a <u>name</u>, as it is this <u>day</u>.
- 11 And thou didst <u>divide</u> the <u>sea</u> *before* them, so that they went through the midst of the <u>sea</u> on the <u>dry</u> <u>land</u>; and their <u>persecutors</u> thou <u>threwest</u> into the <u>deeps</u>, as a <u>stone</u> into the <u>mighty waters</u>.
- <sup>12</sup> Moreover thou <u>leddest</u> them in the <u>day</u> by a <u>cloudy pillar</u>; and in the <u>night</u> by a pillar of <u>fire</u>, to give them <u>light</u> in the <u>way</u> wherein they should go.

- <sup>13</sup> Thou camest down also upon mount Sinai, and spakest with them from heaven, and gavest them right judgments, and true laws, good statutes and commandments:
- <sup>14</sup> And madest <u>known</u> unto them thy *holy* sabbath, and <u>commandedst</u> them <u>precepts</u>, <u>statutes</u>, and <u>laws</u>, by the <u>hand</u> of <u>Moses</u> thy <u>servant</u>:
- 15 And gavest them <u>bread</u> from <u>heaven</u> for their <u>hunger</u>, and broughtest forth <u>water</u> for them *out* of the <u>rock</u> for their <u>thirst</u>, and <u>promisedst</u> them that they should go in to <u>possess</u> the <u>land</u> which thou hadst <u>sworn</u> to **give** them.
- 16 But they and our <u>fathers dealt</u> *proudly*, and <u>hardened</u> their <u>necks</u>, and hearkened <u>not</u> to thy <u>commandments</u>,
- 17 And <u>refused</u> to <u>obey</u>, <u>neither</u> were <u>mindful</u> of thy <u>wonders</u> that thou didst among them; but <u>hardened</u> their <u>necks</u>, and in their <u>rebellion appointed</u> a <u>captain</u> to <u>return</u> to their <u>bondage</u>: but thou art a <u>God ready</u> to <u>pardon</u>, <u>gracious</u> and <u>merciful</u>, <u>slow</u> to <u>anger</u>, and of <u>great kindness</u>, and <u>forsookest</u> them <u>not</u>.
- 18 Yea, when they had made them a *molten* <u>calf</u>, and said, This is thy God that brought thee *up out* of Egypt, and had <u>wrought</u> <u>great</u> <u>provocations</u>;
- 19 Yet thou in thy *manifold* mercies forsookest them <u>not</u> in the <u>wilderness</u>: the <u>pillar</u> of the <u>cloud departed</u> <u>not</u> from them by <u>day</u>, to <u>lead</u> them in the <u>way</u>; <u>neither</u> the pillar of <u>fire</u> by <u>night</u>, to shew them <u>light</u>, and the <u>way</u> wherein they should *go*.
- 20 Thou gavest also thy *good* spirit to <u>instruct</u> them, and <u>withheldest not</u> thy <u>manna</u> from their <u>mouth</u>, and gavest them <u>water</u> for their <u>thirst</u>.
- 21 Yea, <u>forty years</u> didst thou <u>sustain</u> them in the <u>wilderness</u>, so that they <u>lacked nothing</u>; their <u>clothes</u> <u>waxed not old</u>, and their <u>feet swelled not</u>.
- 22 Moreover thou <u>gavest</u> them <u>kingdoms</u> and <u>nations</u>, and didst <u>divide</u> them into <u>corners</u>: so they <u>possessed</u> the <u>land</u> of <u>Sihon</u>, and the land of the king of <u>Heshbon</u>, and the land of <u>Og</u> king of <u>Bashan</u>.
- 23 Their children also <u>multipliedst</u> thou as the <u>stars</u> of <u>heaven</u>, and broughtest them into the <u>land</u>, concerning which thou hadst <u>promised</u> to their <u>fathers</u>, that they should go in to <u>possess</u> it.
- 24 So the children went in and <u>possessed</u> the <u>land</u>, and thou <u>subduedst</u> *before* them the <u>inhabitants</u> of the land, the **Canaanites**, and gavest them into their <u>hands</u>, with their <u>kings</u>, and the people of the land, that they might do with them as they would.

- 25 And they took *strong* <u>cities</u>, and a *fat* <u>land</u>, and <u>possessed houses full</u> of *all* <u>goods</u>, <u>wells digged</u>, <u>vineyards</u>, and <u>oliveyards</u>, and <u>fruit trees</u> in <u>abundance</u>: so they did <u>eat</u>, and were <u>filled</u>, and became <u>fat</u>, and <u>delighted</u> themselves in thy *great* <u>goodness</u>.
- <sup>26</sup> Nevertheless they were <u>disobedient</u>, and <u>rebelled against</u> thee, and <u>cast</u> thy <u>law behind</u> their <u>backs</u>, and <u>slew</u> thy <u>prophets</u> which <u>testified against</u> them to <u>turn</u> them to thee, and they <u>wrought</u> <u>great</u> <u>provocations</u>.
- <sup>27</sup> Therefore thou <u>deliveredst</u> them into the <u>hand</u> of their <u>enemies</u>, who <u>vexed</u> them: and in the <u>time</u> of their <u>trouble</u>, when they <u>cried</u> unto thee, thou heardest them from <u>heaven</u>; and according to thy *manifold* <u>mercies</u> thou gavest them <u>saviours</u>, who <u>saved</u> them *out* of the <u>hand</u> of their enemies.
- 28 But *after* they had <u>rest</u>, they did <u>evil again</u> *before* thee: therefore <u>leftest</u> thou them in the <u>land</u> of their <u>enemies</u>, so that they had the <u>dominion</u> over them: yet when they <u>returned</u>, and <u>cried</u> unto thee, thou heardest them from <u>heaven</u>; and <u>many times</u> didst thou <u>deliver</u> them according to thy <u>mercies</u>;
- 29 And <u>testifiedst against</u> them, that thou mightest bring them <u>again</u> unto thy <u>law</u>: yet they <u>dealt proudly</u>, and hearkened <u>not</u> unto thy <u>commandments</u>, but <u>sinned against</u> thy <u>judgments</u>, (which if a <u>man</u> do, he shall <u>live</u> in them;) and <u>withdrew</u> the <u>shoulder</u>, and <u>hardened</u> their <u>neck</u>, and would <u>not</u> hear.
- Yet many years didst thou forbear them, and testifiedst against them by thy spirit in thy prophets: yet would they not give ear: therefore gavest thou them into the hand of the people of the lands.
- <sup>31</sup> Nevertheless for thy <u>great mercies'</u> sake thou didst <u>not utterly consume</u> them, <u>nor forsake</u> them; for thou art a <u>gracious</u> and <u>merciful</u> God.
- 32 Now therefore, our **God**, the *great*, the *mighty*, and the *terrible* **God**, who <u>keepest covenant</u> and <u>mercy</u>, let <u>not</u> *all* the <u>trouble</u> seem *little before* thee, that hath come upon us, on our <u>kings</u>, on our <u>princes</u>, and on our <u>priests</u>, and on our <u>prophets</u>, and on our <u>fathers</u>, and on *all* thy people, since the <u>time</u> of the kings of <u>Assyria</u> unto this <u>day</u>.
- 33 Howbeit thou art just in all that is brought upon us; for thou hast done right, but we have done wickedly.
- <sup>34</sup> Neither have our kings, our princes, our priests, nor our fathers, kept thy law, nor hearkened unto thy commandments and thy testimonies, wherewith thou didst testify against them.

- 35 For they have <u>not served</u> thee in their <u>kingdom</u>, and in thy <u>great goodness</u> that thou gavest them, and in the <u>large</u> and <u>fat land</u> which thou gavest <u>before</u> them, <u>neither turned</u> they from their <u>wicked works</u>.
- <sup>36</sup> Behold, we are <u>servants</u> this <u>day</u>, and for the <u>land</u> that thou gavest unto our <u>fathers</u> to <u>eat</u> the <u>fruit</u> thereof and the <u>good</u> thereof, behold, we are servants in it:
- 37 And it <u>yieldeth much increase</u> unto the kings whom thou hast <u>set</u> over us because of our <u>sins</u>: also they have <u>dominion</u> over our <u>bodies</u>, and over our <u>cattle</u>, at their <u>pleasure</u>, and we are in <u>great distress</u>.
- 38 And because of *all* this we make a *sure* <u>covenant</u>, and <u>write</u> it; and our <u>princes</u>, <u>Levites</u>, and <u>priests</u>, seal unto it.

- Now those that <u>sealed</u> were, <u>Nehemiah</u>, the <u>Tirshatha</u>, the son of <u>Hachaliah</u>, and <u>Zidkijah</u>,
- <sup>2</sup> Seraiah, Azariah, Jeremiah,
- <sup>3</sup> Pashur, Amariah, Malchijah,
- <sup>4</sup> Hattush, Shebaniah, Malluch,
- <sup>5</sup> Harim, Meremoth, Obadiah,
- <sup>6</sup> Daniel, Ginnethon, Baruch,
- <sup>7</sup> Meshullam, Abijah, Mijamin,
- 8 Maaziah, Bilgai, Shemaiah: these were the priests.
- <sup>9</sup> And the Levites: both Jeshua the son of Azaniah, Binnui of the sons of Henadad, Kadmiel;
- <sup>10</sup> And their brethren, Shebaniah, Hodijah, Kelita, Pelaiah, Hanan,
- <sup>11</sup> Micha, Rehob, Hashabiah,
- <sup>12</sup> Zaccur, Sherebiah, Shebaniah,
- <sup>13</sup> Hodijah, Bani, Beninu.
- 14 The chief of the people; Parosh, Pahathmoab, Elam, Zatthu, Bani,
- <sup>15</sup> Bunni, Azgad, Bebai,
- <sup>16</sup> Adonijah, Bigvai, Adin,
- <sup>17</sup> Ater, Hizkijah, Azzur,
- <sup>18</sup> Hodijah, Hashum, Bezai,
- 19 Hariph, *Anathoth*, Nebai,
- <sup>20</sup> Magpiash, Meshullam, Hezir,
- <sup>21</sup> Meshezabeel, Zadok, Jaddua,
- <sup>22</sup> Pelatiah, Hanan, Anaiah,
- <sup>23</sup> Hoshea, Hananiah, Hashub,
- <sup>24</sup> Hallohesh, Pileha, Shobek,
- <sup>25</sup> Rehum, Hashabnah, Maaseiah,

- <sup>26</sup> And Ahijah, Hanan, Anan,
- 27 Malluch, Harim, Baanah.
- <sup>28</sup> And the <u>rest</u> of the people, the <u>priests</u>, the <u>Levites</u>, the <u>porters</u>, the <u>singers</u>, the <u>Nethinims</u>, and <u>all</u> they that had <u>separated</u> themselves from the people of the lands unto the <u>law</u> of <u>God</u>, their <u>wives</u>, their sons, and their daughters, every one having <u>knowledge</u>, and having <u>understanding</u>;
- <sup>29</sup> They <u>clave</u> to their brethren, their <u>nobles</u>, and <u>entered</u> into a <u>curse</u>, and into an <u>oath</u>, to <u>walk</u> in <u>God's law</u>, which was given by <u>Moses</u> the <u>servant</u> of <u>God</u>, and to <u>observe</u> and <u>do all</u> the <u>commandments</u> of the <u>LORD</u> our <u>Lord</u>, and his judgments and his statutes;
- <sup>30</sup> And that we would <u>not</u> give our daughters unto the people of the land, <u>not</u> take their daughters for our sons:
- 31 And if the people of the land bring <u>ware</u> or <u>any victuals</u> on the <u>sabbath day</u> to <u>sell</u>, that we would <u>not buy</u> it of them on the <u>sabbath</u>, or on the <u>holy day</u>: and that we would <u>leave</u> the <u>seventh year</u>, and the <u>exaction</u> of <u>every debt</u>.
- 32 Also we made <u>ordinances</u> for us, to <u>charge</u> ourselves *yearly* with the <u>third part</u> of a <u>shekel</u> for the <u>service</u> of the house of our <u>God</u>;
- 33 For the <u>shewbread</u>, and for the <u>continual meat offering</u>, and for the <u>continual burnt</u> offering, of the <u>sabbaths</u>, of the <u>new moons</u>, for the <u>set feasts</u>, and for the <u>holy things</u>, and for the <u>sin</u> offerings to make an <u>atonement</u> for <u>Israel</u>, and for <u>all</u> the <u>work</u> of the <u>house</u> of our <u>God</u>.
- 34 And we <u>cast</u> the <u>lots</u> among the <u>priests</u>, the <u>Levites</u>, and the people, for the <u>wood offering</u>, to bring it into the <u>house</u> of our <u>God</u>, <u>after</u> the houses of our <u>fathers</u>, at <u>times</u> <u>appointed</u> <u>year</u> by <u>year</u>, to <u>burn</u> upon the <u>altar</u> of the <u>LORD</u> our <u>God</u>, as it is <u>written</u> in the <u>law</u>.
- 35 And to bring the <u>firstfruits</u> of our <u>ground</u>, and the firstfruits of *all* <u>fruit</u> of *all* <u>trees</u>, <u>year</u> by <u>year</u>, unto the <u>house</u> of the <u>LORD</u>:
- <sup>36</sup> Also the <u>firstborn</u> of our sons, and of our <u>cattle</u>, as it is <u>written</u> in the <u>law</u>, and the <u>firstlings</u> of our <u>herds</u> and of our <u>flocks</u>, to bring to the <u>house</u> of our <u>God</u>, unto the <u>priests</u> that <u>minister</u> in the <u>house</u> of our <u>God</u>:
- 37 And that we should bring the <u>firstfruits</u> of our <u>dough</u>, and our <u>offerings</u>, and the <u>fruit</u> of <u>all manner</u> of <u>trees</u>, of <u>wine</u> and of <u>oil</u>, unto the <u>priests</u>, to the <u>chambers</u> of the <u>house</u> of our <u>God</u>; and the <u>tithes</u> of our <u>ground</u> unto the Levites, that the same <u>Levites</u> might <u>have</u> the tithes in <u>all</u> the <u>cities</u> of our <u>tillage</u>.

- 38 And the <u>priest</u> the son of **Aaron** shall be with the **Levites**, when the **Levites take <u>tithes</u>**: and the **Levites** shall **bring** *up* the *tithe* of the *tithes* unto the <u>house</u> of our **God**, to the <u>chambers</u>, into the <u>treasure house</u>.
- <sup>39</sup> For the children of **Israel** and the children of **Levi** shall bring the <u>offering</u> of the <u>corn</u>, of the <u>new wine</u>, and the <u>oil</u>, unto the <u>chambers</u>, where are the <u>vessels</u> of the <u>sanctuary</u>, and the <u>priests</u> that <u>minister</u>, and the <u>porters</u>, and the <u>singers</u>: and we will <u>not forsake</u> the <u>house</u> of our **God**.

- And the <u>rulers</u> of the people <u>dwelt</u> at <u>Jerusalem</u>: the <u>rest</u> of the people also <u>cast lots</u>, to bring <u>one</u> of <u>ten</u> to dwell in <u>Jerusalem</u> the <u>holy city</u>, and <u>nine parts</u> to dwell in <u>other</u> cities.
- 2 And the people blessed all the men, that willingly offered themselves to dwell at Jerusalem.
- Now these are the <u>chief</u> of the <u>province</u> that <u>dwelt</u> in <u>Jerusalem</u>: but in the <u>cities</u> of <u>Judah</u> dwelt <u>every one</u> in his <u>possession</u> in their cities, to wit, <u>Israel</u>, the <u>priests</u>, and the <u>Levites</u>, and the <u>Nethinims</u>, and the children of <u>Solomon's servants</u>.
- <sup>4</sup> And at Jerusalem <u>dwelt certain</u> of the children of Judah, and of the children of Benjamin. Of the children of Judah; Athaiah the son of Uzziah, the son of Zechariah, the son of Amariah, the son of Shephatiah, the son of Mahalaleel, of the children of Perez;
- 5 And Maaseiah the son of Baruch, the son of Colhozeh, the son of Hazaiah, the son of Adaiah, the son of Joiarib, the son of Zechariah, the son of Shiloni.
- 6 All the sons of Perez that dwelt at Jerusalem were four hundred threescore and eight valiant men.
- <sup>7</sup> And these are the sons of Benjamin; Sallu the son of Meshullam, the son of Joed, the son of Pedaiah, the son of Kolaiah, the son of Maaseiah, the son of Ithiel, the son of Jesaiah.
- 8 And after him Gabbai, Sallai, nine hundred twenty and eight.
- 9 And Joel the son of Zichri was their overseer: and Judah the son of Senuah was second over the city.
- <sup>10</sup> Of the priests: Jedaiah the son of Joiarib, Jachin.
- 11 Seraiah the son of Hilkiah, the son of Meshullam, the son of Zadok, the son of Meraioth, the son of Ahitub, was the <u>ruler</u> of the <u>house</u> of God.
- <sup>12</sup> And their brethren that did the work of the house were eight hundred twenty and two: and Adaiah the son of Jeroham, the son of Pelaliah, the son of Amzi, the son of Zechariah, the son of Pashur, the son of Malchiah.
- 13 And his brethren, <u>chief</u> of the <u>fathers</u>, <u>two hundred forty and two</u>: and **Amashai** the son of **Azareel**, the son of **Ahasai**, the son of **Meshillemoth**, the son of **Immer**,
- 14 And their brethren, *mighty* men of <u>valour</u>, <u>an hundred twenty and eight</u>: and their <u>overseer</u> was **Zabdiel**, the son of one of the *great* men.
- <sup>15</sup> Also of the Levites: Shemaiah the son of Hashub, the son of Azrikam, the son of Hashabiah, the son of Bunni;

- 16 And Shabbethai and Jozabad, of the <u>chief</u> of the <u>Levites</u>, had the <u>oversight</u> of the <u>outward business</u> of the <u>house</u> of God.
- 17 And Mattaniah the son of Micha, the son of Zabdi, the son of Asaph, was the <u>principal</u> to begin the <u>thanksgiving</u> in <u>prayer</u>: and Bakbukiah the <u>second</u> among his brethren, and Abda the son of Shammua, the son of Galal, the son of Jeduthun.
- 18 A// the Levites in the holy city were two hundred fourscore and four.
- <sup>19</sup> Moreover the <u>porters</u>, Akkub, Talmon, and their brethren that <u>kept</u> the <u>gates</u>, were an <u>hundred seventy</u> and two.
- 20 And the <u>residue</u> of <u>Israel</u>, of the <u>priests</u>, and the <u>Levites</u>, were in <u>all</u> the <u>cities</u> of <u>Judah</u>, <u>every one</u> in his <u>inheritance</u>.
- <sup>21</sup> But the Nethinims <u>dwelt</u> in Ophel: and Ziha and Gispa were over the <u>Nethinims</u>.
- 22 The <u>overseer</u> also of the <u>Levites</u> at <u>Jerusalem</u> was <u>Uzzi</u> the son of <u>Bani</u>, the son of <u>Hashabiah</u>, the son of <u>Mattaniah</u>, the son of <u>Micha</u>. Of the sons of <u>Asaph</u>, the <u>singers</u> were over the <u>business</u> of the <u>house</u> of <u>God</u>.
- <sup>23</sup> For it was the <u>king's commandment</u> concerning them, that a *certain* <u>portion</u> should be for the <u>singers</u>, <u>due</u> for <u>every day</u>.
- 24 And **Pethahiah** the son of **Meshezabeel**, of the children of **Zerah** the son of **Judah**, was at the king's hand in *all* matters concerning the people.
- <sup>25</sup> And for the <u>villages</u>, with their <u>fields</u>, some of the children of <u>Judah dwelt</u> at <u>Kirjatharba</u>, and in the villages thereof, and at <u>Dibon</u>, and in the villages thereof, and at <u>Jekabzeel</u>, and in the villages thereof,
- <sup>26</sup> And at Jeshua, and at Moladah, and at Bethphelet,
- 27 And at Hazarshual, and at Beersheba, and in the villages thereof,
- <sup>28</sup> And at Ziklag, and at Mekonah, and in the <u>villages</u> thereof,
- <sup>29</sup> And at Enrimmon, and at Zareah, and at Jarmuth,
- 30 Zanoah, Adullam, and in their <u>villages</u>, at <u>Lachish</u>, and the <u>fields</u> thereof, at <u>Azekah</u>, and in the villages thereof. And they <u>dwelt</u> from <u>Beersheba</u> unto the <u>valley</u> of <u>Hinnom</u>.

- 31 The children also of Benjamin from Geba dwelt at Michmash, and Aija, and Bethel, and in their villages.
- 32 And at *Anathoth*, Nob, Ananiah,
- <sup>33</sup> Hazor, Ramah, Gittaim,
- 34 Hadid, Zeboim, Neballat,
- 35 Lod, and Ono, the <u>valley</u> of <u>craftsmen</u>.
- 36 And of the Levites were divisions in Judah, and in Benjamin.

- Now these are the <u>priests</u> and the <u>Levites</u> that went *up* with <u>Zerubbabel</u> the son of <u>Shealtiel</u>, and <u>Jeshua</u>: <u>Seraiah</u>, <u>Jeremiah</u>, <u>Ezra</u>,
- <sup>2</sup> Amariah, Malluch, Hattush,
- <sup>3</sup> Shechaniah, Rehum, Meremoth,
- 4 Iddo, Ginnetho, Abijah,
- <sup>5</sup> Miamin, Maadiah, Bilgah,
- <sup>6</sup> Shemaiah, and Joiarib, Jedaiah,
- <sup>7</sup> Sallu, Amok, Hilkiah, Jedaiah. These were the <u>chief</u> of the <u>priests</u> and of their brethren in the <u>days</u> of Jeshua.
- <sup>8</sup> Moreover the Levites: Jeshua, Binnui, Kadmiel, Sherebiah, Judah, and Mattaniah, which was over the thanksgiving, he and his brethren.
- 9 Also Bakbukiah and Unni, their brethren, were over <u>against</u> them in the <u>watches</u>.
- <sup>10</sup> And Jeshua begat Joiakim, Joiakim also begat Eliashib, and Eliashib begat Joiada,
- <sup>11</sup> And Joiada begat Jonathan, and Jonathan begat Jaddua.
- 12 And in the <u>days</u> of <u>Joiakim</u> were <u>priests</u>, the <u>chief</u> of the <u>fathers</u>: of <u>Seraiah</u>, <u>Meraiah</u>; of <u>Jeremiah</u>, <u>Hananiah</u>;
- <sup>13</sup> Of Ezra, Meshullam; of Amariah, Jehohanan;
- 14 Of Melicu, Jonathan; of Shebaniah, Joseph;
- 15 Of Harim, Adna; of Meraioth, Helkai;
- 16 Of Iddo, Zechariah; of Ginnethon, Meshullam;
- <sup>17</sup> Of Abijah, Zichri; of Miniamin, of Moadiah, Piltai:
- <sup>18</sup> Of Bilgah, Shammua; of Shemaiah, Jehonathan;
- 19 And of Joiarib, Mattenai; of Jedaiah, Uzzi;
- Of Sallai, Kallai; of Amok, Eber;
- 21 Of Hilkiah, Hashabiah; of Jedaiah, Nethaneel.

- 22 The Levites in the <u>days</u> of <u>Eliashib</u>, <u>Joiada</u>, and <u>Johanan</u>, and <u>Jaddua</u>, were <u>recorded chief</u> of the <u>fathers</u>: also the <u>priests</u>, to the <u>reign</u> of <u>Darius</u> the <u>Persian</u>.
- 23 The sons of Levi, the <u>chief</u> of the <u>fathers</u>, were <u>written</u> in the <u>book</u> of the <u>chronicles</u>, even until the <u>days</u> of **Johanan** the son of **Eliashib**.
- 24 And the <u>chief</u> of the <u>Levites</u>: <u>Hashabiah</u>, <u>Sherebiah</u>, and <u>Jeshua</u> the son of <u>Kadmiel</u>, with their brethren over <u>against</u> them, to <u>praise</u> and to give <u>thanks</u>, according to the <u>commandment</u> of <u>David</u> the <u>man</u> of <u>God</u>, ward over against *ward*.
- <sup>25</sup> Mattaniah, and Bakbukiah, Obadiah, Meshullam, Talmon, Akkub, were porters keeping the ward at the thresholds of the gates.
- <sup>26</sup> These were in the <u>days</u> of <u>Joiakim</u> the son of <u>Jozadak</u>, and in the <u>days</u> of <u>Nehemiah</u> the <u>governor</u>, and of <u>Ezra</u> the <u>priest</u>, the <u>scribe</u>.
- 27 And at the <u>dedication</u> of the <u>wall</u> of **Jerusalem** they <u>sought</u> the **Levites** *out* of *all* their <u>places</u>, to bring them to **Jerusalem**, to <u>keep</u> the <u>dedication</u> with <u>gladness</u>, both with <u>thanksgivings</u>, and with <u>singing</u>, with <u>cymbals</u>, <u>psalteries</u>, and with <u>harps</u>.
- 28 And the sons of the <u>singers gathered</u> themselves together, both *out* of the <u>plain country</u> round about **Jerusalem**, and from the <u>villages</u> of **Netophathi**;
- <sup>29</sup> Also from the <u>house</u> of Gilgal, and *out* of the <u>fields</u> of Geba and Azmaveth: for the <u>singers</u> had <u>builded</u> them <u>villages</u> round about Jerusalem.
- 30 And the <u>priests</u> and the <u>Levites purified</u> themselves, and purified the people, and the <u>gates</u>, and the <u>wall</u>.
- 31 Then I brought *up* the <u>princes</u> of **Judah** upon the <u>wall</u>, and <u>appointed two great companies</u> of them that gave <u>thanks</u>, whereof one went on the <u>right hand</u> upon the wall <u>toward</u> the <u>dung gate</u>:
- 32 And after them went Hoshaiah, and half of the princes of Judah,
- 33 And Azariah, Ezra, and Meshullam,
- <sup>34</sup> Judah, and Benjamin, and Shemaiah, and Jeremiah,
- 35 And <u>certain</u> of the <u>priests'</u> sons with <u>trumpets</u>; <u>namely</u>, **Zechariah** the son of **Jonathan**, the son of **Shemaiah**, the son of **Mattaniah**, the son of **Michaiah**, the son of **Zaccur**, the son of **Asaph**:

- 36 And his brethren, Shemaiah, and Azarael, Milalai, Gilalai, Maai, Nethaneel, and Judah, Hanani, with the *musical* instruments of David the man of God, and Ezra the scribe *before* them.
- 37 And at the <u>fountain gate</u>, which was over <u>against</u> them, they went *up* by the <u>stairs</u> of the <u>city</u> of **David**, at the going *up* of the <u>wall</u>, *above* the <u>house</u> of **David**, even unto the <u>water gate</u> <u>eastward</u>.
- 38 And the <u>other company</u> of them that gave <u>thanks</u> went over <u>against</u> them, and I <u>after them</u>, and the <u>half</u> of the people upon the <u>wall</u>, from <u>beyond</u> the <u>tower</u> of the <u>furnaces</u> even unto the <u>broad wall</u>;
- 39 And from *above* the <u>gate</u> of **Ephraim**, and *above* the <u>old gate</u>, and *above* the <u>fish gate</u>, and the <u>tower</u> of **Hananeel**, and the tower of **Meah**, even unto the <u>sheep gate</u>: and they <u>stood</u> *still* in the <u>prison gate</u>.
- 40 So <u>stood</u> the <u>two companies</u> of them that gave <u>thanks</u> in the <u>house</u> of <u>God</u>, and I, and the <u>half</u> of the rulers with me:
- 41 And the <u>priests</u>; Eliakim, Maaseiah, Miniamin, Michaiah, Elioenai, Zechariah, and Hananiah, with <u>trumpets</u>;
- <sup>42</sup> And Maaseiah, and Shemaiah, and Eleazar, and Uzzi, and Jehohanan, and Malchijah, and Elam, and Ezer. And the <u>singers sang</u> *loud*, with Jezrahiah their <u>overseer</u>.
- 43 Also that <u>day</u> they <u>offered</u> <u>great sacrifices</u>, and <u>rejoiced</u>: for <u>God</u> had made them <u>rejoice</u> with <u>great joy</u>: the <u>wives</u> also and the <u>children rejoiced</u>: so that the <u>joy</u> of <u>Jerusalem</u> was heard even <u>afar off</u>.
- 44 And at that <u>time</u> were some <u>appointed</u> over the <u>chambers</u> for the <u>treasures</u>, for the <u>offerings</u>, for the <u>firstfruits</u>, and for the <u>tithes</u>, to <u>gather</u> into them *out* of the <u>fields</u> of the <u>cities</u> the <u>portions</u> of the <u>law</u> for the <u>priests</u> and <u>Levites</u>: for <u>Judah rejoiced</u> for the priests and for the <u>Levites</u> that <u>waited</u>.
- 45 And both the <u>singers</u> and the <u>porters kept</u> the <u>ward</u> of their <u>God</u>, and the ward of the <u>purification</u>, according to the <u>commandment</u> of <u>David</u>, and of <u>Solomon</u> his son.
- 46 For in the <u>days</u> of <u>David</u> and <u>Asaph</u> of <u>old</u> there were <u>chief</u> of the <u>singers</u>, and <u>songs</u> of <u>praise</u> and <u>thanksgiving</u> unto <u>God</u>.
- 47 And *all* Israel in the <u>days</u> of <u>Zerubbabel</u>, and in the days of <u>Nehemiah</u>, gave the <u>portions</u> of the <u>singers</u> and the <u>porters</u>, <u>every day</u> his portion: and they <u>sanctified</u> *holy* things unto the <u>Levites</u>; and the <u>Levites</u> sanctified them unto the children of <u>Aaron</u>.

- 1 On that <u>day</u> they <u>read</u> in the <u>book</u> of <u>Moses</u> in the <u>audience</u> of the people; and therein was <u>found written</u>, that the <u>Ammonite</u> and the <u>Moabite</u> should <u>not</u> come into the <u>congregation</u> of <u>God</u> *for ever*,
- <sup>2</sup> Because they <u>met not</u> the children of <u>Israel</u> with <u>bread</u> and with <u>water</u>, but <u>hired</u> <u>Balaam against</u> them, that he should <u>curse</u> them: howbeit our <u>God turned</u> the curse into a <u>blessing</u>.
- 3 Now it came to <u>pass</u>, when they had heard the <u>law</u>, that they <u>separated</u> from <u>Israel</u> all the <u>mixed</u> multitude.
- <sup>4</sup> And *before* this, Eliashib the <u>priest</u>, having the <u>oversight</u> of the <u>chamber</u> of the <u>house</u> of our God, was <u>allied</u> unto Tobiah:
- 5 And he had <u>prepared</u> for him a <u>great chamber</u>, where <u>aforetime</u> they <u>laid</u> the <u>meat offerings</u>, the <u>frankincense</u>, and the <u>vessels</u>, and the <u>tithes</u> of the <u>corn</u>, the <u>new wine</u>, and the <u>oil</u>, which was <u>commanded</u> to be given to the <u>Levites</u>, and the <u>singers</u>, and the <u>porters</u>; and the <u>offerings</u> of the <u>priests</u>.
- But in *all* this <u>time</u> was <u>not</u> I at <u>Jerusalem</u>: for in the <u>two and thirtieth year</u> of <u>Artaxerxes</u> king of <u>Babylon</u> came I unto the king, and *after certain* <u>days obtained</u> I <u>leave</u> of the king:
- <sup>7</sup> And I came to Jerusalem, and <u>understood</u> of the <u>evil</u> that <u>Eliashib</u> did for <u>Tobiah</u>, in <u>preparing</u> him a chamber in the courts of the house of <u>God</u>.
- 8 And it grieved me *sore*: therefore I cast forth *all* the *household* stuff to **Tobiah** *out* of the chamber.
- Then I <u>commanded</u>, and they <u>cleansed</u> the <u>chambers</u>: and thither brought I <u>again</u> the <u>vessels</u> of the <u>house</u> of <u>God</u>, with the <u>meat offering</u> and the <u>frankincense</u>.
- 10 And I <u>perceived</u> that the <u>portions</u> of the <u>Levites</u> had <u>not</u> been given them: for the <u>Levites</u> and the <u>singers</u>, that did the <u>work</u>, were <u>fled every one</u> to his <u>field</u>.
- 11 Then <u>contended</u> I with the <u>rulers</u>, and said, Why is the <u>house</u> of <u>God forsaken</u>? And I <u>gathered</u> them together, and <u>set</u> them in their <u>place</u>.
- 12 Then brought *all* **Judah** the <u>tithe</u> of the <u>corn</u> and the <u>new wine</u> and the <u>oil</u> unto the <u>treasuries</u>.
- <sup>13</sup> And I made <u>treasurers</u> over the <u>treasuries</u>, <u>Shelemiah</u> the <u>priest</u>, and <u>Zadok</u> the <u>scribe</u>, and of the <u>Levites</u>, <u>Pedaiah</u>: and next to them was <u>Hanan</u> the son of <u>Zaccur</u>, the son of <u>Mattaniah</u>: for they were <u>counted faithful</u>, and their <u>office</u> was to <u>distribute</u> unto their brethren.
- 14 Remember me, O my God, concerning this, and wipe not out my good deeds that I have done for the house of my God, and for the offices thereof.

- 15 In those <u>days</u> saw I in <u>Judah</u> some <u>treading wine presses</u> on the <u>sabbath</u>, and <u>bringing in sheaves</u>, and <u>lading asses</u>; as also <u>wine</u>, <u>grapes</u>, and <u>figs</u>, and <u>all manner</u> of <u>burdens</u>, which they brought into <u>Jerusalem</u> on the <u>sabbath</u> day: and I <u>testified against</u> them in the day wherein they <u>sold victuals</u>.
- 16 There <u>dwelt men</u> of **Tyre** also therein, which brought <u>fish</u>, and <u>all manner</u> of <u>ware</u>, and <u>sold</u> on the **sabbath** unto the children of **Judah**, and in **Jerusalem**.
- <sup>17</sup> Then I <u>contended</u> with the <u>nobles</u> of <u>Judah</u>, and said unto them, What <u>evil</u> thing is this that ye do, and <u>profane</u> the <u>sabbath day</u>?
- <sup>18</sup> Did <u>not</u> your <u>fathers</u> thus, and did <u>not</u> our <u>God</u> bring <u>all</u> this <u>evil</u> upon us, and upon this <u>city</u>? yet ye bring <u>more wrath</u> upon <u>Israel</u> by <u>profaning</u> the <u>sabbath</u>.
- 19 And it came to <u>pass</u>, that when the <u>gates</u> of <u>Jerusalem</u> began to be <u>dark</u> <u>before</u> the <u>sabbath</u>, I <u>commanded</u> that the <u>gates</u> should be <u>shut</u>, and <u>charged</u> that they should <u>not</u> be <u>opened</u> till <u>after</u> the <u>sabbath</u>: and some of my <u>servants set</u> I at the <u>gates</u>, that there should <u>no burden</u> be brought in on the <u>sabbath</u> <u>day</u>.
- 20 So the merchants and sellers of all kind of ware lodged without Jerusalem once or twice.
- 21 Then I <u>testified against</u> them, and said unto them, Why <u>lodge</u> ye about the <u>wall</u>? if ye do so <u>again</u>, I will <u>lay hands</u> on you. From that <u>time</u> forth came they <u>no</u> *more* on the **sabbath**.
- <sup>22</sup> And I <u>commanded</u> the <u>Levites</u> that they should <u>cleanse</u> themselves, and that they should come and <u>keep</u> the <u>gates</u>, to <u>sanctify</u> the <u>sabbath day</u>. <u>Remember</u> me, O my <u>God</u>, concerning this also, and <u>spare</u> me according to the <u>greatness</u> of thy <u>mercy</u>.
- 23 In those <u>days</u> also saw I **Jews** that had <u>married wives</u> of **Ashdod**, of **Ammon**, and of **Moab**:
- 24 And their children spake <u>half</u> in the speech of **Ashdod**, and could <u>not</u> speak in the **Jews'** <u>language</u>, but according to the language of each people.
- <sup>25</sup> And I <u>contended</u> with them, and <u>cursed</u> them, and <u>smote certain</u> of them, and <u>plucked</u> off their <u>hair</u>, and made them <u>swear</u> by **God**, saying, Ye shall <u>not</u> give your daughters unto their sons, <u>nor</u> take their daughters unto your sons, or for yourselves.
- 26 Did <u>not</u> Solomon king of Israel <u>sin</u> by these <u>things</u>? yet among <u>many nations</u> was there <u>no</u> king like him, who was <u>beloved</u> of his God, and God made him king over <u>all</u> Israel: <u>nevertheless</u> even him did <u>outlandish</u> women cause to sin.

- 27 Shall we then hearken unto you to do *all* this *great* **evil**, to <u>transgress against</u> our **God** in <u>marrying</u> *strange* <u>wives</u>?
- 28 And one of the sons of **Joiada**, the son of **Eliashib** the *high* <u>priest</u>, was son in <u>law</u> to **Sanballat** the **Horonite**: therefore I <u>chased</u> him from me.
- Remember them, O my God, because they have defiled the priesthood, and the covenant of the priesthood, and of the Levites.
- 30 Thus <u>cleansed</u> I them from *all* <u>strangers</u>, and <u>appointed</u> the <u>wards</u> of the <u>priests</u> and the <u>Levites</u>, every one in his <u>business</u>;
- 31 And for the <u>wood offering</u>, at <u>times</u> *appointed*, and for the <u>firstfruits</u>. <u>Remember</u> me, O my **God**, for <u>good</u>.