

# “On the Way” 365 Bible Reading Plan

# NEHEMIAH 8

## Nehemiah 8

Nehemiah eight is one of the greatest chapters in the entire Old Testament. Chapter seven records the incredible feat of Nehemiah and his co-workers, as they finish the task of rebuilding the city walls of Jerusalem and restoring security by building the gates as well. This amazing work was accomplished at an unbelievable time of just fifty-two days! Less than two months after beginning the task, it was finished. Why? The people **“prayed”** to God, had a **“mind to work”** and did not give in to discouragement, but followed the example and admonition of a true man of God and capable leader, Nehemiah. Now that the primary task of wall building and gate building was accomplished, it not time to gloat, but to seek the face of God as never before. It was time for a fresh start with God and a new beginning for the people who had been in captivity. Their great place of worship, the temple had been restored.

God had allowed the people to restore the city walls and gates and have a place where people could again raise their families in the nurture and admonition of the God of Israel. Now it was time to bring the book of God and find

direction. The seventh month is the month of the blowing of the shophar, ram’s horn, for the beginning of a new year, a new season. It was on this day that all the people of Jerusalem gathered **“as one man”** a phrase that speaks of total unity in spirit and purpose in verse one. Ezra the scribe brought the Law of Moses, the Book of God **before the assembly of men and women and all those who could hear with understanding on the first day of the seventh month**. Notice the small children and babies were not in the assembly, why? Because this was a solemn time and only those who could understand needed to be in attendance and there did not need to be distractions on this momentous day. Since the Bible is not complete in details and is filled with assumptions, we must conclude that those who were not there were taken care of somehow, but it was taken so much for granted that God did not even mention it in the storyline.

### Prayer and Action Steps

*Lord, please help us not to stop when a task is accomplished, but rather praise you and assemble together in unity and seek your face and further direction. Amen.*

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Scripture \_\_\_\_\_

- *Read the chapter. If you have time, read it again.*
- *Highlight, underline or circle the Key Verse or Verses of the chapter.*
- *Ask yourself these questions as you read through the chapter.*

Is this historical narrative, analogy, metaphor, allegory, or some other element of speech or communicating truth?

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What is the Context? Old Testament? New Testament? What is the writer speaking or writing about? To whom is he writing?

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Is this a clear passage of Scripture (can only be interpreted one way)? Or could the passage be interpreted legitimately, in two or more ways, according to grammar and context?

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Does the passage teach a Biblical Precept; that is, tells you something to be, do or act? \_\_\_\_\_

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Are there principles in this chapter that if followed, would require me to change my attitudes or actions? \_\_\_\_\_

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Does the passage give a Biblical Pattern that is followed here and other places in the Bible? \_\_\_\_\_

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