

NEHEMIAH 9 vs 1

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The Book of Nehemiah originally was one book shared with Ezra; certain Greek manuscripts separated the two prior to the time of Origen and Jerome. Hebrew manuscripts kept them together until 1448. Nehemiah was a very gifted and capable man. His patriotism was infectious, moving men to leave their harvest in the field, in order to make the grueling journey back to Jerusalem. His integrity and humility made him stand out as a leader living at the highest level of trust. He attained fame as the cupbearer to King Artaxerxes of Persia.

The people have a moment to change their mind,

¹ Now on the twenty-fourth day of this month the children of Israel assembled, fasting, and with sackcloth and ashes thrown on their heads.

² And the descendants of Israel separated themselves from all foreigners, and stood up to confessed their sins, and the inequities of their fathers.

³ They stood in place, and read in The Book of the Law of the LORD their God for three hours of the day; then for three hours they confessed, and worshiped the LORD their God.

⁴ On the stairs of the Levites stood Jeshua, Bani, Kadmiel, Shebaniah, Bunni, Sherebiah, Bani, and Chenani, and cried aloud to the LORD their God.

⁵ And the Levites, Jeshua, Kadmiel, Bani, Hashabniah, Sherebiah, Hodiah, Shebaniah, and Nathaniah said, Arise and thank the LORD your God for ever and ever: saying, Blessed is Your glorious Name, which is exalted above all blessing and praise.

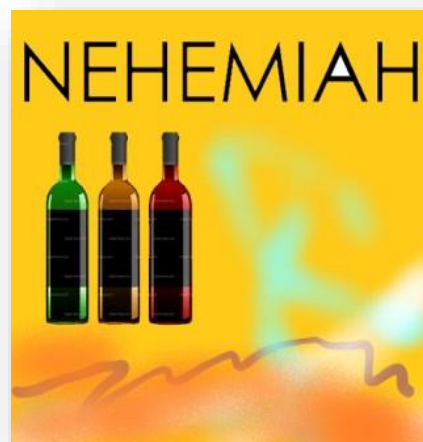
⁶ You alone, are the LORD; You made heaven, the heaven of heavens, with all their host, the earth and all things on it, the seas and all in them, You give life to all of them all; and the host of heaven bows down before You.

⁷ You are the LORD God who chose Abram, and brought him from Ur of the Chaldees, and gave him the name of Abraham / father of many nations;

⁸ You found his heart faithful before You, and made a covenant with him to give the land of the Canaanite, Hittite, Amorite, Perizzite, Jebusite, and Girgashite – to give it to his descendants, and You fulfilled Your promise; for You are righteous:

⁹ You saw the affliction of our fathers in Egypt, and heard their cry by the Red sea / by the sea where Esau lived;

¹⁰ You showed signs and wonders against Pharaoh, against all his servants, and the people of his land: for You knew that they dealt arrogantly toward them.



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and made a name for Yourself, as it is this day.

¹¹ You divided the sea in their presence, so they passed through the midst of the sea on dry land; and their pursuers You threw into the depths, like a stone into raging waters / as is portrayed in the very ancient Mycenae stele.

¹² And with a pillar of cloud You led them by day; and with a pillar of fire by night, to light for them the way to go.

¹³ Then You came down on Mount Sinai / in Arabia, and spoke to them from heaven, You gave them just decrees, and true instructions, good statutes and commands:

¹⁴ So You made know to them Your sacred sabbath, instructing them in precepts, statutes, and laws, through Moses Your servant:

¹⁵ You gave them bread from heaven when they were hungry, and brought water for them out of the rock when they were thirsty, and You told them to enter and possess the land You promised to give them.

¹⁶ But they -- our fathers were insolent, and obstinate, and did not listen to Your instructions,

¹⁷ and refused listen, and did not remember Your wondrous deeds You worked among them; but they were stubborn, and appointed a leader to take them back to their slavery in Egypt. But You are a God ready to pardon, gracious and merciful, slow to anger, rich in kindness, and did not abandon them.

¹⁸ Yes, even when they made for them a calf of molten metal and said, This thing is your god that brought you up from Egypt, as they greatly blasphemed You;



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¹⁹ Yet You in Your multicolor mercies did not abandon them in the wilderness: nor did the pillar of the cloud leave from them by day, to guide them on the way; nor the pillar of fire by night, to light for them the way to go.

²⁰ And You gave Your good Spirit to instruct them; Your manna You did not withhold from them, and You gave them water when they were thirsty.

²¹ Yes, forty years You sustained them in the wilderness, so they lacked nothing; their clothes never wore out, and their feet never blistered.

²² You gave them kingdoms and nations, allotting them every corner of the land till they possessed the land of Sihon king of Heshbon, and the land of Og king of Bashan.

²³ Their children multiplied as the stars of heaven, and You brought them into the land, which You told their fathers to enter and possess.

²⁴ So the children entered and took possession of the land, and You subdued the inhabitants of the land before them, even the Canaanites, giving them into their hand, with their kings, and peoples of the land, to do with them as they desired.

²⁵ And they took fortified cities, and bountiful fields, and seized houses full of all goods, wells already dug, vineyards, olive groves with fruit trees in abundance: so they ate their fill, and flourished, and reveled in Your great goodness.

²⁶ But they were disobedient, and rebelled against You, and threw Your instructions behind them, and killed Your prophets who warned them to return to You, even as they greatly blasphemed You.

²⁷ So You handed them over to their enemies, who distressed them: and when they cried to You in the time of their trouble, You heard from heaven; and in Your multicolored mercies You gave them rescuers, who delivered them from the hand of their enemies.

²⁸ But soon after their relief, they again did evil in Your presence: so You abandoned them to their enemies, who ruled over them. Yet when they cried again to You, You heard from heaven, and many times, You rescued them due to Your mercies / remember, mercy is withholding what you really deserve;

²⁹ and warned them, that You turn them again to Your law / to Your instructions: yet they were disrespectful, and ignored Your instructions, and sinned against Your judgments, (by which if a man does them, he will live;) but stubbornly they withdrew, and hardened their hearts, and would not listen.

³⁰ Many years You restrain Yourself, warning against them by Your Spirit through Your prophets: yet they refused to hear: so You handed them over to the people of these lands.

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³¹ Still in Your great compassion You did not destroy them, nor abandon them; for You are a God full of grace and mercy.

³² So now, our God, the great, the mighty, the awesome God, who keeps Your covenant of mercy, let not all this trouble seem too little a thing to You, this trouble of us, of our kings, of our nobles, of our priests, of our prophets, of our fathers, and of all Your people, since the time of the kings of Assyria to this day.

³³ You are just in all that has fallen on us; for You did right; but we did wrong:

³⁴ for neither our kings, our nobles, our priests, nor our fathers, kept Your law, nor listened to Your instructions and Your testimonies, with which You warned them.

³⁵ But they in their own kingdom, which You in Your great goodness gave them, they did not serve You, in the large and plentiful land which You set before them, nor did they turn from their evil deeds.

³⁶ Indeed, we are slaves today, here in the land You gave our fathers, to enjoy its fruit and its good; indeed, we are its slaves:

³⁷ and it produces bountifully for those foreign kings You set over us because we sinned: who rule over our lives, and our cattle, at their pleasure, while we are in great distress.

³⁸ Now because of all this we are making a covenant, signing our names to it; and our nobles, Levites, and priests endorse it.

Every Praise

3 Days are still on His Calendar

The Mountain of Moses – Sinai in Arabia

We are grateful to God that the Saudi govt has preserved the Mountain of Moses.

The Origin of Christianity – CSLewisDoodle

The Funeral of a Great Myth -- CSLewisDoodle