

# A Renewed Remnant

## Lesson 19

### Maintaining A Link To The Past (Neh. 11-13)

#### Introduction

A group of people cannot know who they are or where they are going until they first know who they've been or what they've done (Eph. 2:11-13). History has *always* been the best teacher for the future. This is even more true when it is God's people.

These final chapters of Nehemiah's story about the remnant emphasize several attempts to "reconnect with the past" as the post-exilic Jews tried to reclaim their place as God's people.

- 1) What had been the situation described earlier? (7:4) How was it going to be decided who would live in Jerusalem? (11:1-2)
  
- 2) Although the record in 11:3-19 is most likely not exhaustive, how many came into the city? How were some of these men described? (vv. 6, 14)
  
- 3) Where did the others start living? (11:20, 25-36) *Thought question:* why do you think it would be important for Jews to take up residence again in these old ancestral grounds?
  
- 4) What activity is mentioned in 11:22-24? (cp. Ezra 6:8-10)
  
- 5) What "registry" is listed in 12:1-26? Why would it be important for Nehemiah to record this?

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- 6) What is recorded in 12:27-43? How might 2 Chron. 29:20-29 have served as a “pattern?”
  
- 7) To what other “duties” did Nehemiah give his attention? (12:44-47)
  
- 8) What was discovered when the Jews had a public reading of the Law? (13:1-3) What person was specifically affected by this decision? (13:4-9; cp. 6:17-19) What allowed this situation to exist for as long as it did? (13:6)
  
- 9) *Thought question:* do you see any similarity between 13:8b-9 and Mt. 21:12-13?
  
- 10) What else apparently was disregarded while Nehemiah was away? (13:10a) What had this neglect forced some among the Levites to do? (13:10b) What was Nehemiah’s response? (13:11-13) Once again, what did he do? (13:14; cp. 1:5-11a; 2:4; 4:4-5, 9; 5:19; 6:9b, 14)
  
- 11) What other “failure” did Nehemiah have to address? (13:15-18; cp. Ex. 20:8-11; Deut. 5:12-14) What else had been violated? (10:31)

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- 12) What steps did Nehemiah take to prevent this from re-occurring? (13:19-22a) Again, what else did he do? (13:22b)
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- 13) What problem resurfaced to plague the remnant? (13:23; cp. Ezra 9:1-2)
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- 14) What tragedy did this create? (13:24) How did Nehemiah react? (13:25) What did he say? (13:26-27; cp. 1 Kings 11:1-13) What else had been violated? (10:30)
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- 15) What made this “violation” especially painful for Nehemiah? (13:28) What did he do? (13:29; cp. 1:5-11a; 2:4; 4:4-5, 9; 5:19; 6:9b, 14; 13:14)
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- 16) What final actions does Nehemiah’s story record? (13:30-31a) Not surprisingly, how does his story close? (13:31b)