

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

# RESTORED

LESSONS IN NEHEMIAH

## Lesson 19 – Order in God's House

### Nehemiah 13:1-14

If you have been following along in our study of the book of Nehemiah, you will recall that the walls were miraculously completed in 52 days, the city of Jerusalem was repopulated, leaders were assigned to their appropriate places, and the people celebrated with a huge dedication ceremony. The work was complete and God was glorified – a perfect ending to our story, right? Unfortunately, while Nehemiah was away at the palace, the order in God's house deteriorated. The people had abandoned the promise they made to put God above all else. When the enemy couldn't accomplish what he wanted outside the walls, he quietly infiltrated the city and accomplished his evil purposes from within. When Nehemiah arrived, he found his beloved Jerusalem in a sad state. But true to Nehemiah's character, he once again set himself to put things right and restore order in God's house.

**Open your Bible and begin with a word of prayer**

**This Week's Scripture: Nehemiah 13:1-14**

*On that day they read from the Book of Moses in the hearing of the people, and in it was found written that no Ammonite or Moabite should ever come into the assembly of God, <sup>2</sup>because they had not met the children of Israel with bread and water, but hired Balaam against them to curse them. However, our God turned the curse into a blessing. <sup>3</sup>So it was, when they had heard the Law, that they separated all the mixed multitude from Israel. <sup>4</sup>Now before this, Eliashib the priest, having authority over the storerooms of the house of our God, was allied with Tobiah. <sup>5</sup>And he had prepared for him a large room, where previously they had stored the grain offerings, the frankincense, the articles, the tithes of grain, the new wine and oil, which were commanded to be given to the Levites and singers and gatekeepers, and the offerings for the priests. <sup>6</sup>But during all this I was not in Jerusalem, for in the thirty-second year of Artaxerxes king of Babylon I had returned to the king. Then after certain days I obtained leave from the king, <sup>7</sup>and I came to*

Jerusalem and discovered the evil that Eliashib had done for Tobiah, in preparing a room for him in the courts of the house of God. <sup>8</sup> And it grieved me bitterly; therefore I threw all the household goods of Tobiah out of the room. <sup>9</sup> Then I commanded them to cleanse the rooms; and I brought back into them the articles of the house of God, with the grain offering and the frankincense. <sup>10</sup> I also realized that the portions for the Levites had not been given them; for each of the Levites and the singers who did the work had gone back to his field. <sup>11</sup> So I contended with the rulers, and said, "Why is the house of God forsaken?" And I gathered them together and set them in their place. <sup>12</sup> Then all Judah brought the tithe of the grain and the new wine and the oil to the storehouse. <sup>13</sup> And I appointed as treasurers over the storehouse Shelemiah the priest and Zadok the scribe, and of the Levites, Pedaiah; and next to them was Hanan the son of Zaccur, the son of Mattaniah; for they were considered faithful, and their task was to distribute to their brethren. <sup>14</sup> Remember me, O my God, concerning this, and do not wipe out my good deeds that I have done for the house of my God, and for its services!

**This Week's Memory Verse:**

**A bishop then must be blameless, the husband of one wife, temperate, sober-minded, of good behavior, hospitable, able to teach; not given to wine, not violent, not greedy for money, but gentle, not quarrelsome, not covetous.**

**1 Timothy 3:2-3(NKJV)**

1. While Nehemiah was away, the people drifted from their commitments to God. What was Nehemiah's response to their drifting, according to verses 8-9? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. Does Nehemiah's response sound familiar? Read John 2:13-17 and share why both of these men were so upset regarding the lack of order within the house of God. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. Nehemiah took their disobedience seriously. Not only did he see what was going on but he responded with action. Read the following verses and share what steps can we take to be serious about staying away from sin in our lives?
  - a. 2 Corinthians 6:14-17: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

b. 1 Timothy 6:9-11: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

c. Hebrews 2:1: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

4. Nehemiah was a godly leader who desired to be blameless before God in the way he led and directed the people. Read 1 Peter 4:17 and share why Nehemiah responded to sin in the house of God the way he did. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Reflect and Respond** – Nehemiah is a great reminder to each one of us to remain steadfast and faithful to the Lord no matter what happens in the world around us. 1 Corinthians 10:12-13 (NLT) sternly reminds us that, “If you think you are standing strong, be careful not to fall. The temptations in your life are no different from what others experience.” Keeping this in mind, what can we learn from how quickly Israel backslid after experiencing such a great revival and how can we avoid similar types of mistakes? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Result** – Consider today’s Bible study lecture and group time. What one lesson will you take away from this study and apply to your walk with the Lord? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

