

# The Prayers Of Nehemiah

Feb 9, 2019





Prophet Nehemiah - Orthod...  
oca.org



holy prophet nehemiah ort...  
pinterest.com



Greek and Russian Orthodox I...  
pinterest.com



icSEzra - St. Ezra Icon in 20...  
pinterest.com



saints commemorated on De...  
oca.org



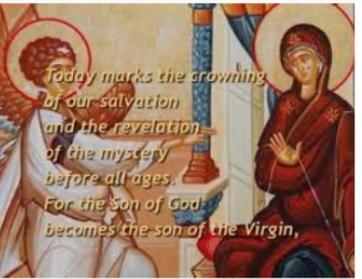
Prophet Zachariah - Ortho...  
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Orthodox St Miriam icon | IC...  
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The Annunciation of the Theotokos ...  
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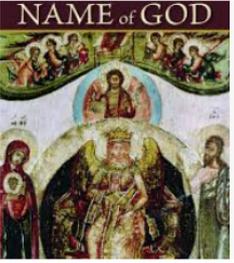
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Lives of the Saints - Ortho...  
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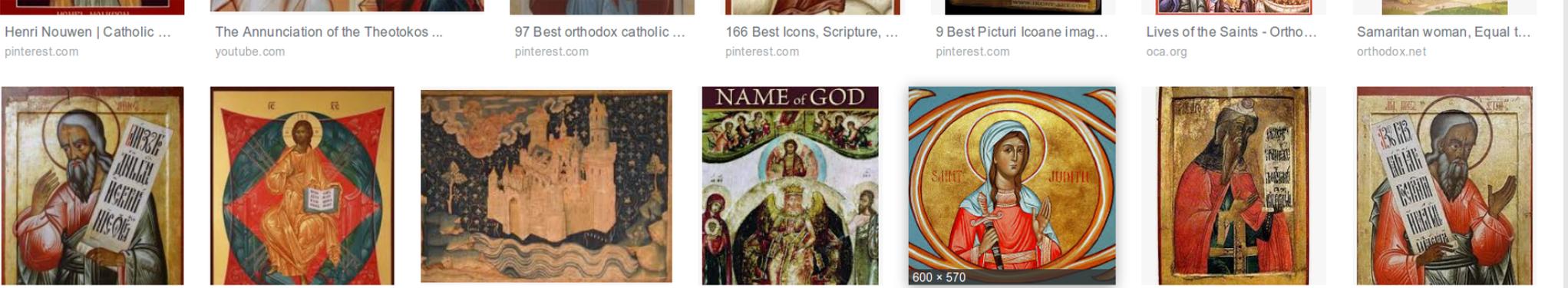
Samaritan woman, Equal t...  
orthodox.net

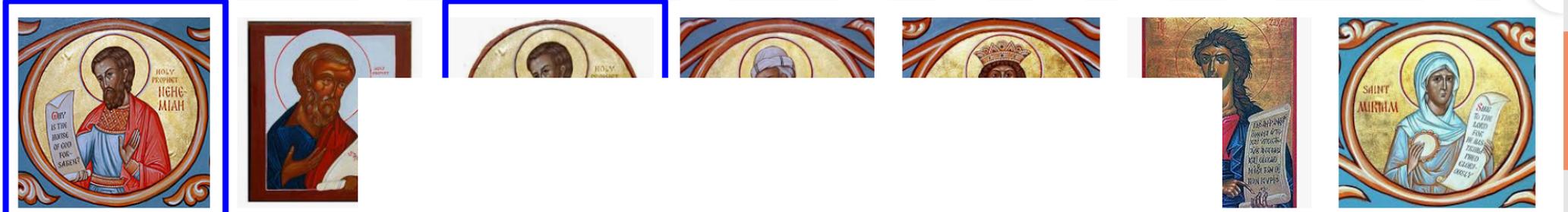




# Art [ edit ]

Samuel Taylor Coleridge commented on the dearth of any classical paintings featuring Nehemiah.<sup>[14]</sup>





Prophet Nehemiah - Ortho...

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Orthodox St Miriam icon | IC...



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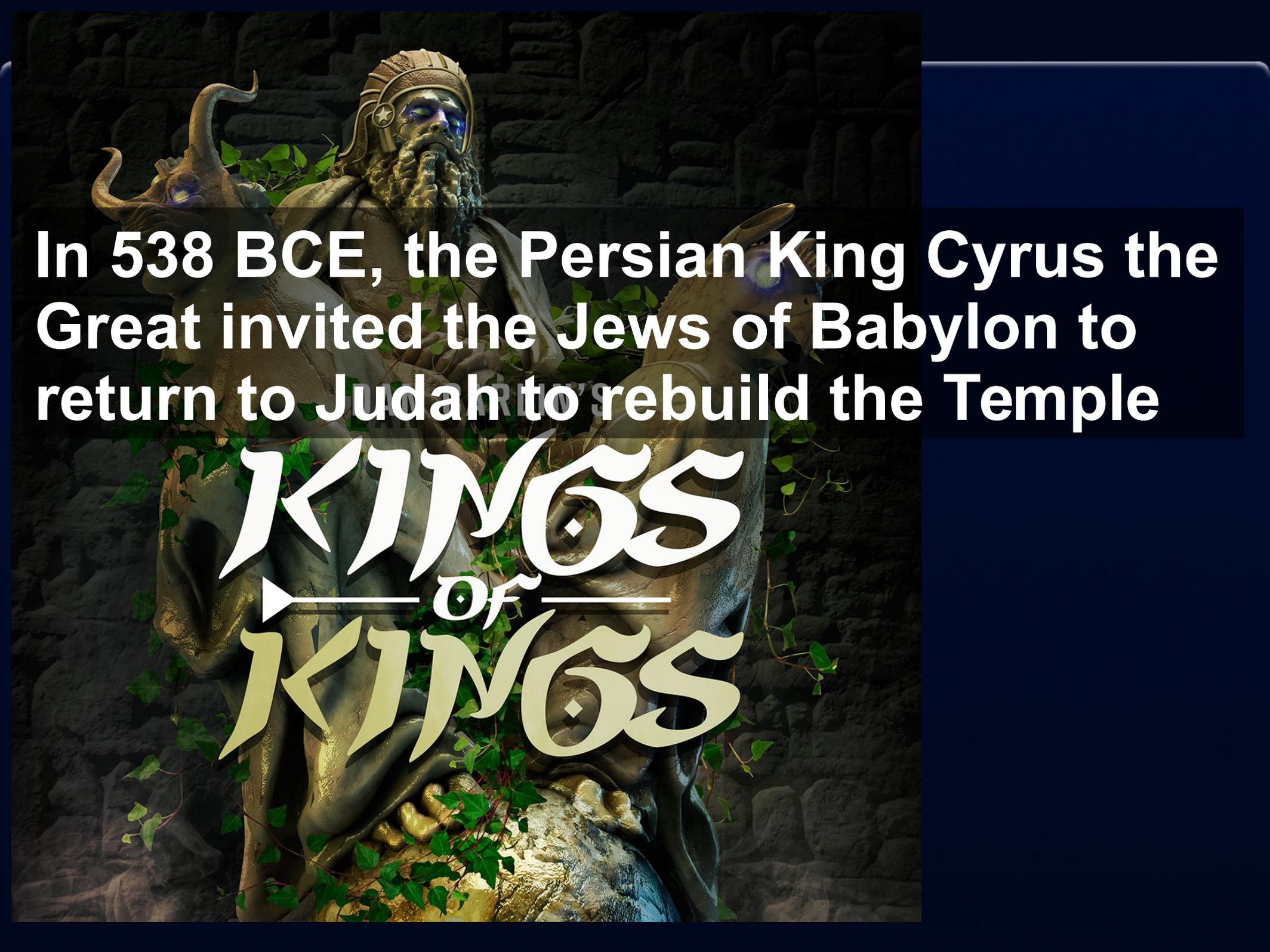


600 x 570

## The Destruction Of Jerusalem

**The First Temple period ended around 586 BCE, as the Babylonians conquered Judah and Jerusalem, and laid waste to Solomon's Temple and the city.**





In 538 BCE, the Persian King Cyrus the Great invited the Jews of Babylon to return to Judah to rebuild the Temple

# KINGS OF KINGS

# Battle Of Thermopylae – 300 Spartans (480 BC)



## Battle Of Thermopylae - 300 Spartans (480BC)

A Greek force of approximately 7,000 men marched north to block the pass in the middle of 480 BC. The Persian army, alleged by the ancient sources to have numbered over one million, but today considered to have been much smaller (various figures are given by scholars, ranging between about 100,000 and 150,000)[10][11] arrived at the pass in late August or early September. The vastly outnumbered Greeks held off the Persians for seven days (including three of battle) before the rear-guard was annihilated in one of history's most famous last stands.



# Battle Of Thermopylae - 300 Spartans (480BC)



**Xerxes I**



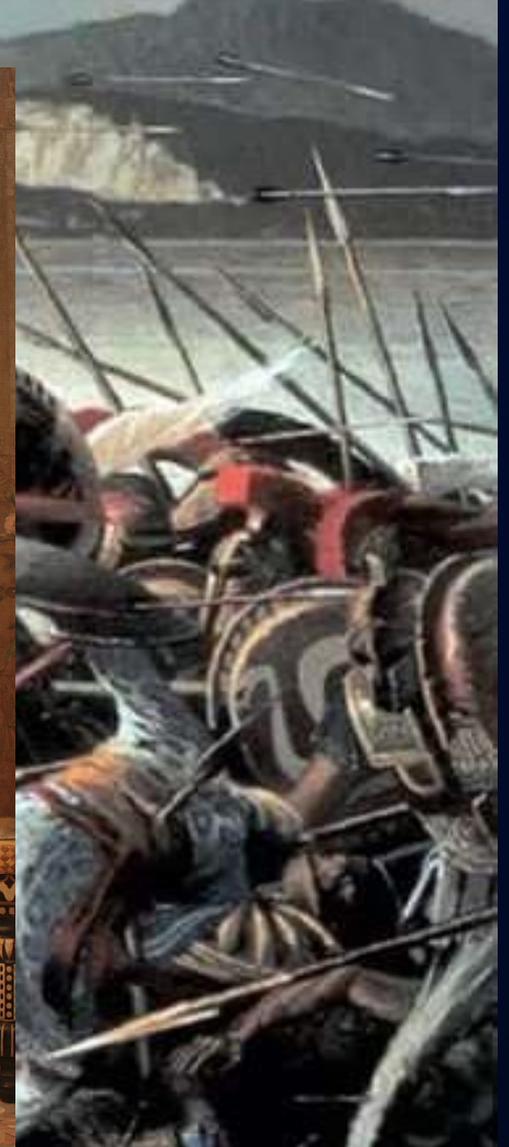
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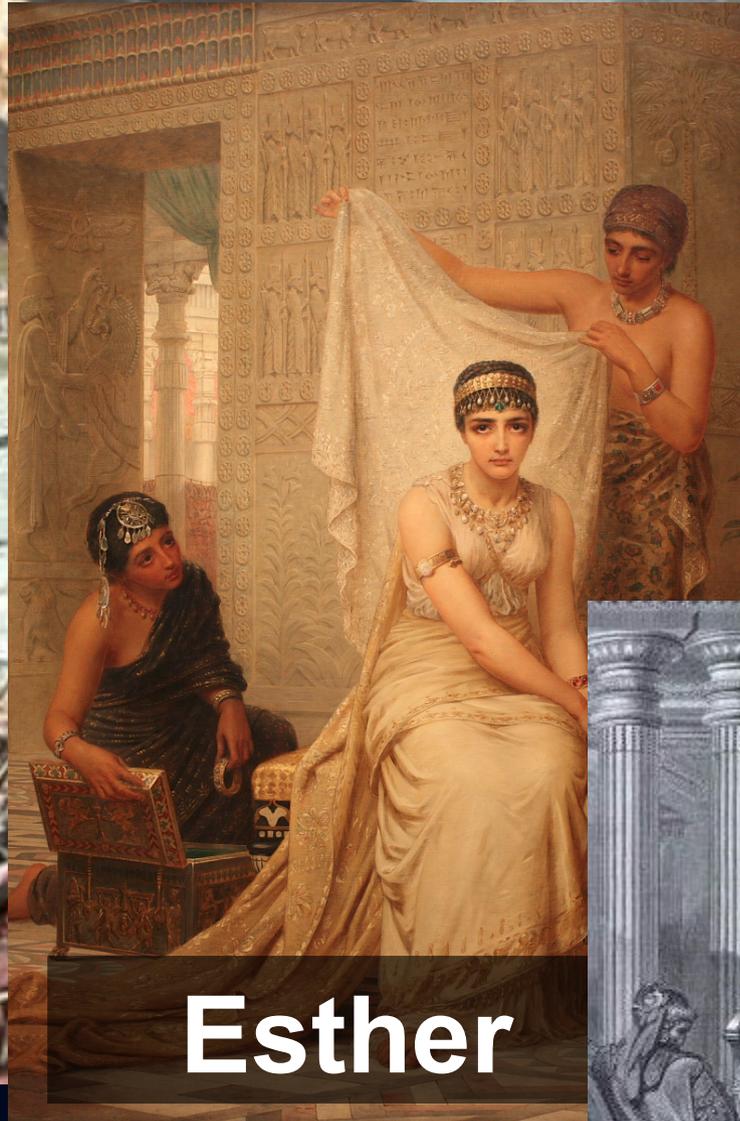
**Esther**



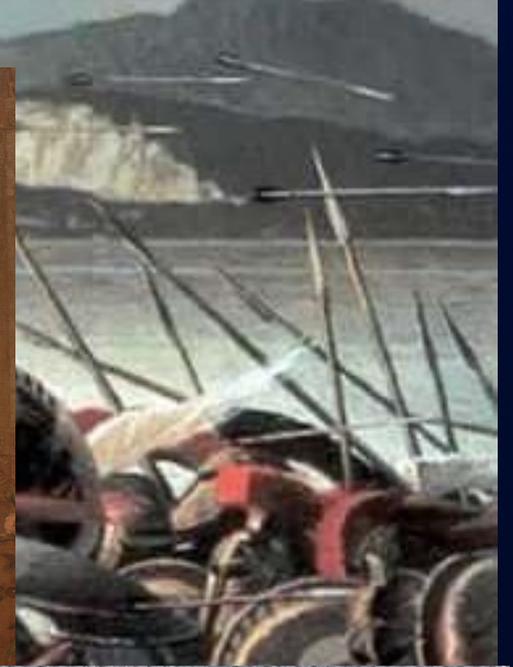
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**Xerxes I**



**Esther**



# Battle Of Thermopylae - 300 Spartans (480BC)



**Xerxes I**



**Esther**



# That's One Way To Become "King Of Kings"

In 465 BC, Xerxes I was murdered by Artabanus, the commander of the royal bodyguard... After Artaxerxes discovered the murder, he killed Artabanus and his sons.



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In 458 BC, Ezra arrives at Jerusalem



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In 445 BC, Book Of Nehemiah

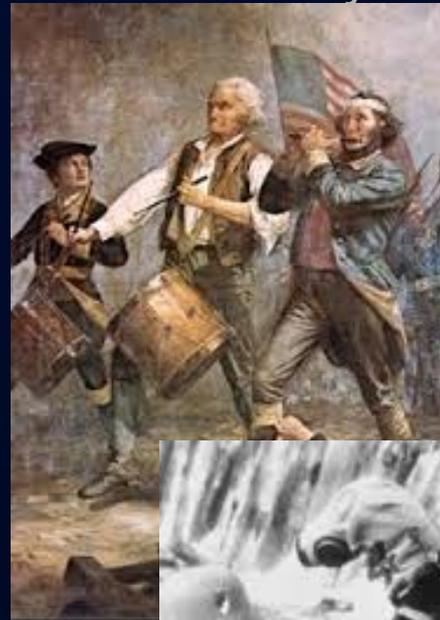
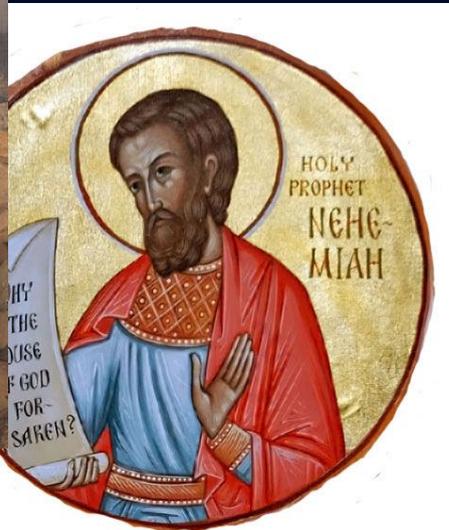
# Timeline

Year 0, 586 BC – Destruction Of Jerusalem

Year 48, 538 BC – Cyrus Decrees, Some Jews Return

Year 128, 458 BC – Ezra Arrives At Jerusalem

**Year 141**, 445 BC – Book Of Nehemiah [From Revolutionary War To WWI]



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## Nehemiah 1:3

They said to me, "The remnant there in the province who survived the captivity are in great distress and reproach, and the wall of Jerusalem is broken down and its gates are burned with fire."

# Conquest Of Constantinople



## Nehemiah 1:4

When I heard these words, I sat down and wept and mourned for days; and I was fasting and praying before the God of heaven.

## Artaxerxes I

*King of Kings*

*King of Persia*

*Pharaoh of Egypt*



Vs 4, God of heaven

Fasting, ongoing – not for selfish pleasure

Depends on the covenant

Quotes scripture

Ear be attentive – compare to his day-job

Confesses his sins

This man – king of kings

The request at the end – what is it?

Prov 21:1

The king's heart is *like* channels of water in the hand of the LORD; He turns it wherever He wishes.

## Artaxerxes I

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A **cup-bearer** was an officer of high rank in [royal courts](#) whose duty it was to serve the drinks at the royal table. On account of the constant fear of plots and intrigues, a person must be regarded as thoroughly trustworthy to hold the position. He must guard against poison in the king's cup and was sometimes required to swallow some of the wine before serving it. His confidential relations with the king often gave him a position of great influence.

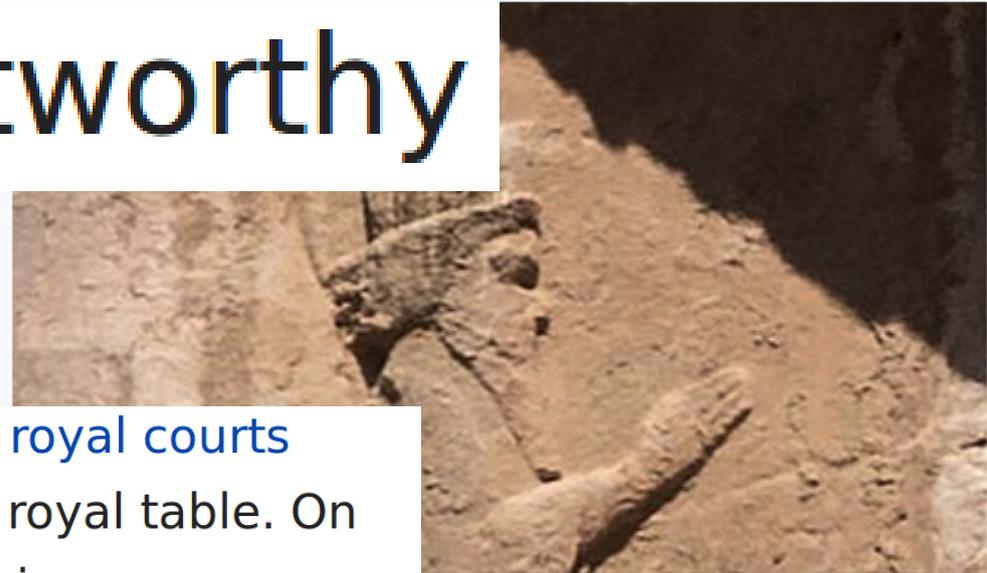
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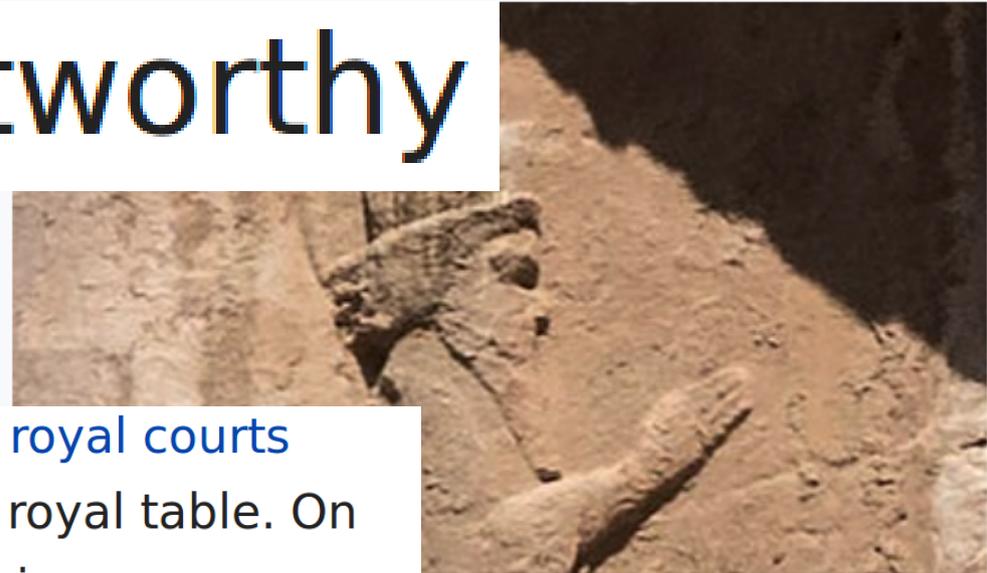
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# Nehemiah 2:1-4

Also vs 8

Also vs 12 – I walk alone

Also vs 17+18



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Also vs 8

Also vs 12 – I walk alone

Also vs 17+18





4:1-14

1-3, opposition

4-5, prayer – how does this line up with Jesus teaching? (hint: Mt 5). How can this be in the Bible? Ps 137:8-9. How can that be in the bible?

## Augustine On Psalm 137:8

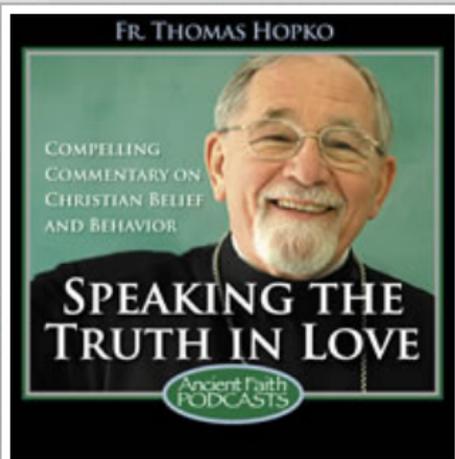
“What are the little ones of Babylon? Evil desires at their birth. For there are, who have to fight with inveterate lusts. When lust is born, before evil habit gives it strength against you, when lust is little, by no means let it gain the strength of evil habit; when it is little, dash it. But you fear, lest though dashed it die not; “Dash it against the Rock; and that Rock is Christ.””

Referencing James 1:14-15, “But each one is tempted when he is carried away and enticed by his own lust. Then when lust has conceived it gives birth to sin; and when sin is accomplished, it brings forth death. Do not be deceived my beloved brethren.”

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## Speaking the Truth in Love

Compelling Commentary on Christian Belief and Behavior



### Psalm 137

March 4, 2008 Length: 22:29

Father Tom discusses Psalm 137, which is included in a special way during the Matins Service for the three Sundays leading up to Great Lent.



-00:13



4:1-14

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4-5, prayer – how does this line up with Jesus teaching? (hint: Mt 5). How can this be in the Bible? Ps 137:8-9.  
How can that be in the bible?

9, prayer plus action – health

10-13 discouragement

14, encouragement – how does he do it?

# Usury

Chapter 5, especially vs 5

Dut 23:19-20

Aristotle:

- Imagine an economy with 100 drachmas of silver.
- The nobles loan out the 100 drachmas to the peasants at 10% interest.
- Now the peasants owe the nobles 110 drachmas. Where do the 10 come from?

“Usury, the taking of interest on money, is contrary to nature because the coins themselves could not reproduce.”

# More Prayers

5:19, Remember me... - Memory eternal.

6:9, Accusations... But now, O God, strengthen my hands.

6:10 then 14, Attempt panic Nehemiah...

Dut 23:19-20

Aristotle:

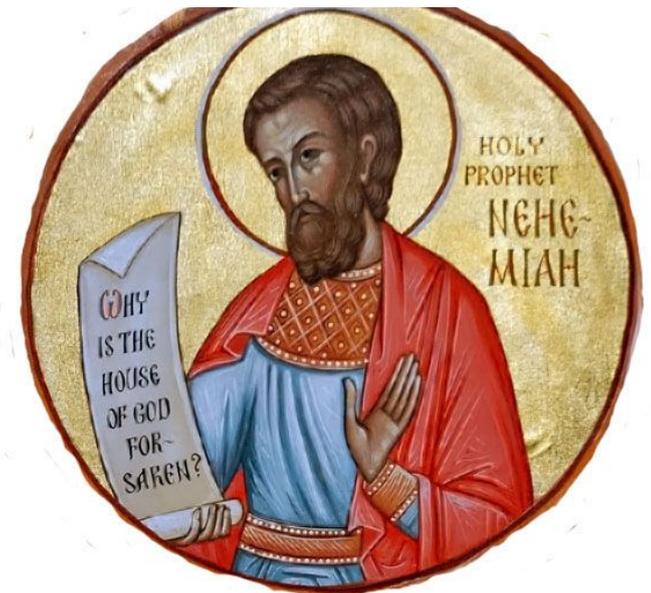
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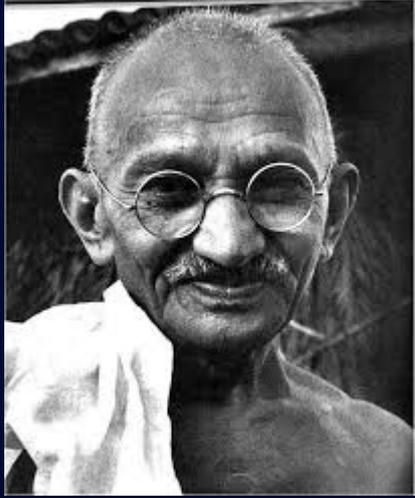
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## Nehemiah 6:15-16

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**15** So the wall was completed on the twenty-fifth of *the month* Elul, in fifty-two days. **16** When all our enemies heard *of it*, and all the nations surrounding us saw *it*, they <sup>[a]</sup>lost their confidence; for they recognized that this work had been accomplished <sup>[b]</sup>with the help of our God.



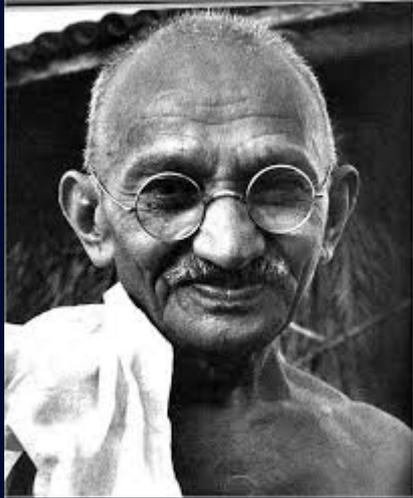


2:10,

2:19,

4:8, 6:2,

6:15-16,

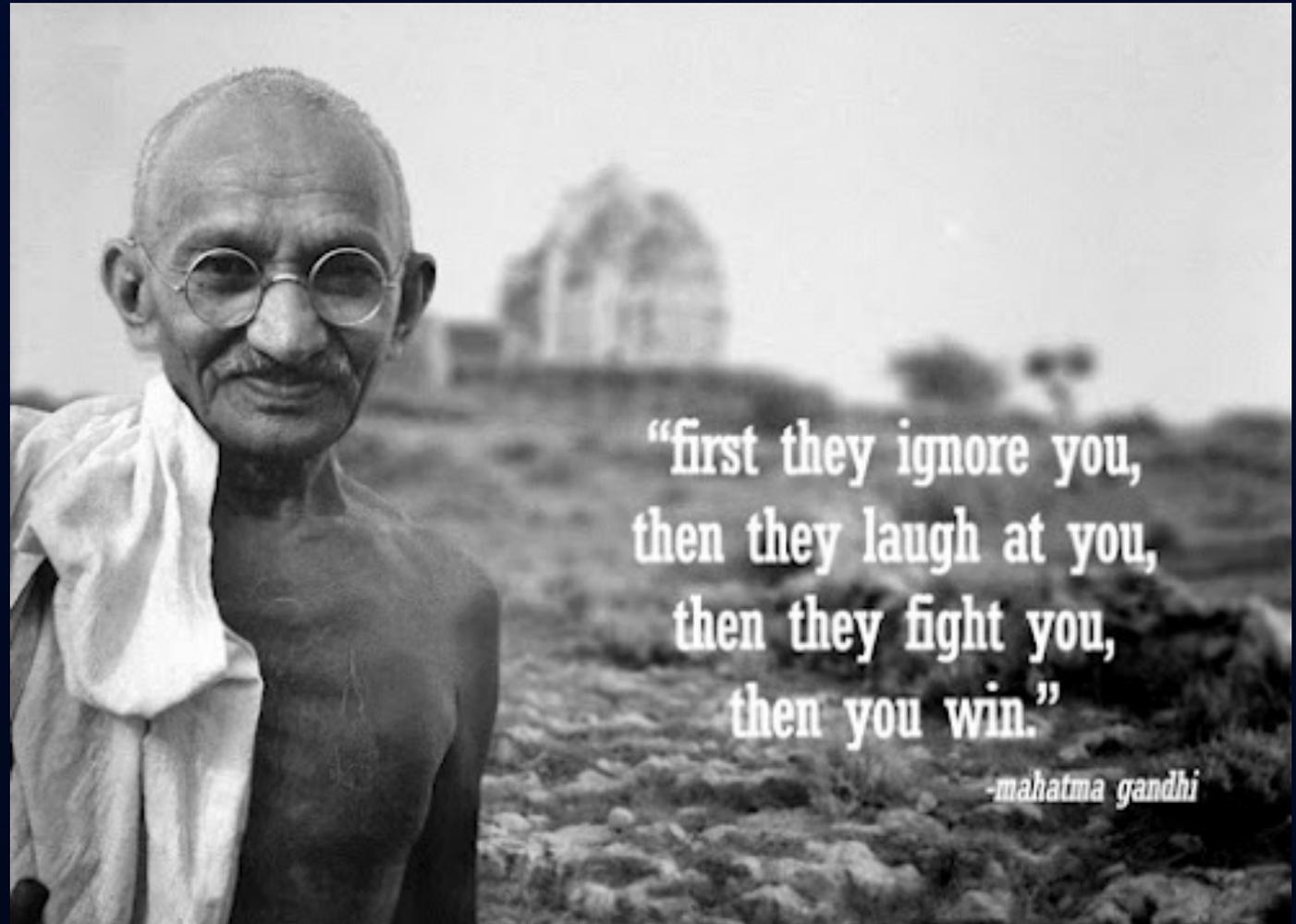


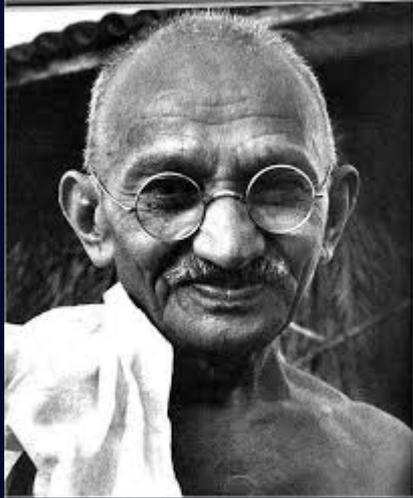
2:10, First they ignore you

2:3, 2:19, 4:2-3, Then they laugh at you

4:8, 6:2, Then they fight you

6:15-16, Then you win



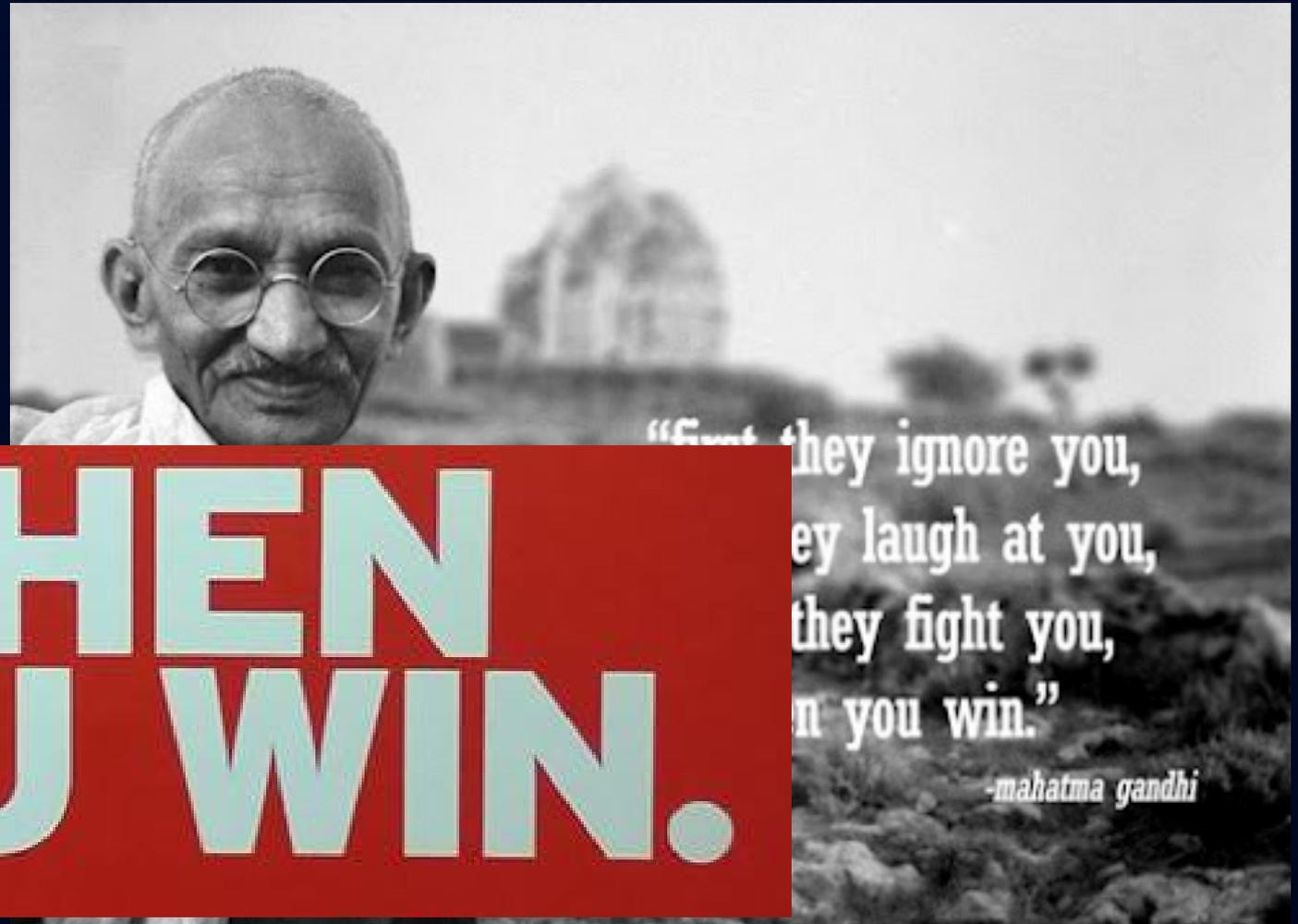


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**THEN  
YOU WIN.**

# Reforms

Ch 5, abolishes usury

Ch 8 & 9, public commitment... Reading of the law, feast of booths, confession of sin... 8:10

Ch 10, raising money for the temple

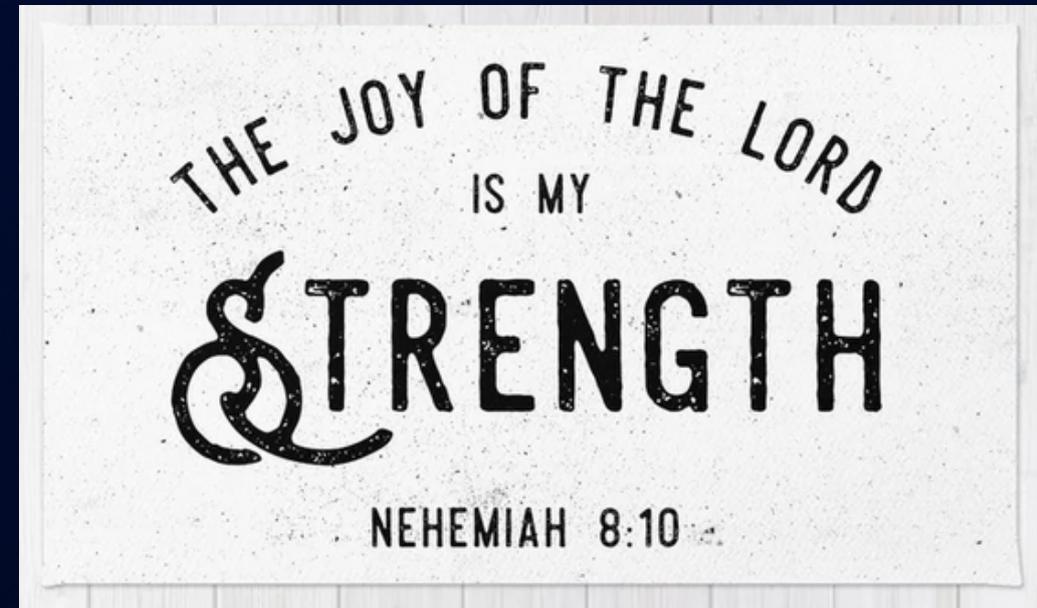
Ch 12:31, organizing worship

Ch 13:4-9, cleansing the temple

Ch 13:10-13, ends financial corruption

Ch 13:15..., Restores the sabbath

Ch 13:25, forbids mixed marriages



# Reamer



A **reamer** is a type of rotary cutting **tool** used in **metalworking**. Precision reamers are designed to enlarge the size of a previously formed hole...

# Reamer



## Nehemiah 13:25

So I contended with them and cursed them and struck some of them and pulled out their hair, and made them swear by God, "You shall not give your daughters to their sons, nor take of their daughters for your sons or for yourselves."



# Dreamer, Schemer, Reamer





# Before And After

## Nehemiah 1:3

They said to me, "The remnant there in the province who survived the captivity are in great distress and reproach, and the wall of Jerusalem is broken down and its gates are burned with fire."



Rebuilt the wall

Ch 5, abolishes usury

Ch 8 & 9, public commitment...

Reading of the law, feast of booths, confession of sin... 8:10

Ch 10, raising money for the temple

Ch 12:31, organized worship

Ch 13:4-9, cleansed the temple

Ch 13:10-13, ended financial corruption

Ch 13:15..., Restored the sabbath

Ch 13:25, forbid mixed marriages



# The Prayers Of Nehemiah

Neh 1:4-11, wept, mourned, prayed, fasted, covenant, confession, beseech

2:4, at a critical moment.

2:12, Got put things into his mind.

4:4-5, Under pressure (when being ridiculed)

4:9, In danger (with action)

5:19, Remember me... reflecting on his way of life

6:9, After a false accusation

6:14, Remember them, After a plot to discredit him

7:5, God put it into his heard (public commitment)

13:14, Remember me, after doing a difficult, but right thing

13:29, Remember them, after priests defiled their ministry



# NEHEMIAH



## Nehemiah 13:22

And I commanded the Levites that they should purify themselves and come as gatekeepers to sanctify the sabbath day. *For this also remember me, O my God,* and have compassion on me according to the greatness of Your lovingkindness.

<sup>30</sup> Thus I purified them from everything foreign and appointed duties for the priests and the Levites, each in his task, <sup>31</sup> and *I arranged* for the supply of wood at appointed times and for the first fruits. *Remember me, O my God,* for good.

# NEHEMIAH



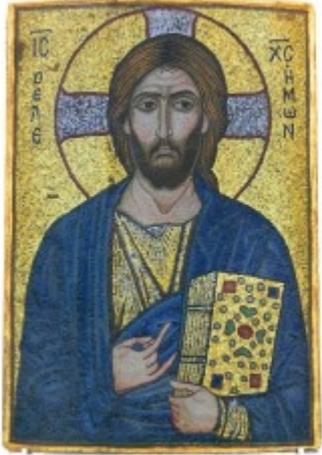
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# Next Week



Lord Jesus Christ Son of God,  
have mercy on me a sinner



IC XC  
NI KA

LORD

JESUS CHRIST,  
SON OF GOD,  
HAVE MERCY  
ON ME,  
A SINNER.

<http://orthochristian.com/90853.html>