

Legacy of Leadership

Nehemiah 13



Week Thirteen

inTro



Read This Week's Passage:
Nehemiah 10–13

SIGN HERE

Nehemiah 9 left off with the prayer of remembrance. Like the conclusion of the prayer of chapter 1, the latter prayer also concludes with a spirit of surrender. Verse 36 reads, "Here we are, servants today!" (NKJV). The corporate body enters into a covenant, or a contract, with God. Chapters 10–13 technically do not fit into the chiasmic structure; they act more like appendices to chapter 9. Chapter 10 contains a list of names of those who essentially were signing off on the contract. These names included Nehemiah the governor, priests, Levites, and the leaders of the city.

From verse 28 to verse 39, chapter 10 then outlines four areas in which the people entered into an oath and the attending curses should these oaths be broken. The first area was the realm of marriage, where they promised not to marry the non-Judean people of the land (verse 30). The second was the keeping of the seventh-day Sabbath (verse 31). The third was the return of the tithe (verses 35–37). And the fourth was the care of the house of God (verses 38, 39).

Within the time frame of about twelve years, Nehemiah returned to the land of Judah and found every single covenant oath broken, in the opposite order of which they were made (like another chiasm!). What is a leader to do now?



inScribe

Write out Nehemiah 13:6–25 from the translation of your choice. If you're pressed for time, write out Nehemiah 13:14, 22b, 29, 31b. You may also rewrite the passage in your own words, outline it, or mind map the chapter.



Go back to your scribed text and study the passage.

Circle repeated words/phrases/ideas

Underline words/phrases that are important and have meaning to you



Draw Arrows to connect words/phrases to other associated or related words/phrases



Memorize your favorite verse. Write it out multiple times to help memorization.

Are there areas of compromise in your life? Do you see compromise creeping into your home life? Your church life?



Read more at www.inverseible.org/neh13-3



After looking at your scribed and annotated text, what special insights do your marks overall seem to point to?



What questions emerge after studying this passage? What parts are difficult?

What other principles and conclusions do you find?



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www.inversebible.org/neh13-4



What relationship do the following verses have with the primary passage?

- Gen. 1:1–2:25
- Mal. 3:8–10
- 1 Pet. 2:21–25



What other verses/promises come to mind in connection with Nehemiah 13?

Review your memorized verse from Nehemiah 13.



Meditate on Nehemiah 13 again and look for Jesus in the chapter.



How does Christ's leadership surpass that of Nehemiah?

How do you see Jesus differently or see Him again?

Prayer: How do you respond to seeing Jesus in this way?



Read more at
www.inversebible.org/neh13-6



Review your memory verse.
How does it apply to your
life this week?



As you have studied this
week, what personal
applications have you been
convicted of in your life?

What are practical applications
you must make in your school,
family, workplace, and church?



Read more inSight from the
Spirit of Prophecy at
www.inverseible.org/neh13-7



Share insights from this week's memory verse and Bible study as well as any discoveries, observations, and questions with your Sabbath School class (or Bible study group). Consider these discussion questions with the rest of the group.



How do we keep our eyes on Christ amidst the faults of human leadership?

Though Nehemiah may have been absolved from the curse of the covenant, what happened to the guilty people?

How does Christ come to take away the curse of the covenant?

Where is our house of God today?

Why is returning tithes difficult?

How does the Bible state we should keep the Sabbath properly?

Why is marriage under threat today?

How can we thank leaders biblically? Have you thanked or remembered your leaders recently?

How has Jesus practically been your personal leader?