

Haggai, Ezra and Nehemiah

Gail Arterburn –2021

Monday, 9:30 – 11:00 am

To be discussed –04/19/21

Lesson 16

Nehemiah 13:1-31

Chapter 13 is a record of what took place during Nehemiah's absence when he returned to the king of Persia, and the final reforms he put into place upon his return to Jerusalem. All of them deal with the violation of the covenant the people had made with God in 10:29-39.

1. Read Nehemiah 10:29-32, 13:1-9, Deut., 23:3-6, James 4:4
 - What "law-breaking" were the people convicted of in vv. 1-3? What did they do about it?
 - What had they done in vv. 4-9? What did Nehemiah do about it on his return? Who was Eliashib (3:1) Tobiah? (4:3)
 - What do both of these situations have in common? Can you think of modern day applications?
2. Read Nehemiah 13:10-14. What had the people failed to do? What sinful attitude lies behind such actions? What was the result? (v. 10) What would happen to churches and Christian ministries if we did the same thing today? More importantly, what would that say about our relationship to God?
3. Read Nehemiah 13:15-22. What was the third problem? How had that worked for them in the past? What did Nehemiah do to address the problem?
4. Read Nehemiah 13:23-27. Once again Nehemiah had to address the sin of mixed marriages. What had resulted from such marriages according to v. 24? How did Nehemiah respond? Who did he give as a past example and warning of the disaster that follows such sin?
5. Read Nehemiah 13:28-31. Who did he drive away? Why? (vv. 28-29) What were his last recorded reforms? (vv. 30-31)
6. Notice Nehemiah's repeated prayers in vv. 14, 22, 29 and 31. What does that tell you about him?
7. What lessons can be learned from the repeated failure of the Israelites to do what they promised? (1 Cor. 10:11-13)