Year 3

Week 113 Ezra Reads the Law/Wall is Dedicated

Nehemiah

Scriptures: Ezra 8 - 13

Key Verse: Nehemiah 13:11 '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'.

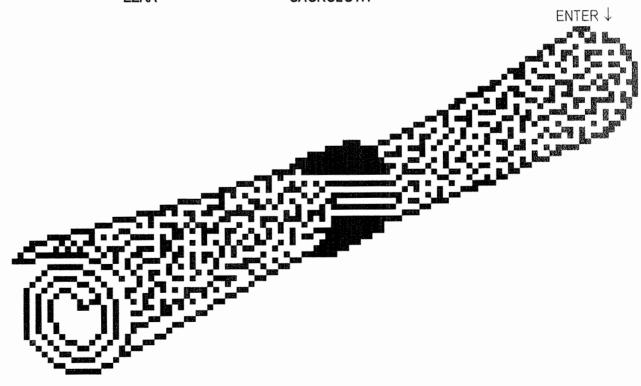
Key Points:

- 1. The children of Israel were living in their cities. All the people gathered together in the open square in Jerusalem. Ezra, the priest and scribe, brought the book of the Law of Moses. Ezra stood on a wooden platform and all the people stood up as he opened the book. Ezra read from the book and the people worshiped God. Ezra, Nehemiah and the Levites taught the people and helped them understand the reading.
- 2. On the next day they assembled again. Ezra read from the book again, teaching about the feast of Tabernacles. They learned they were to be living in "booths" during the feast so they made booths from tree branches and lived in them for the seven days of the feast. During the days of the reading and feast, the children of Israel realized how far they had strayed from God and His laws. As well as not keeping feasts and ceremonies, they had also taken foreign wives and worshiped idols.
- **3.** The children of Israel held a special assembly, fasting in sackcloth with ashes on their head. They stood, confessing their sins, and worshiped the Lord. Everyone who understood, separated themselves to God and away from pagan rituals and idol worship. They all joined together with the Levites and priests and sealed a covenant with God.
- **4.** Nehemiah dedicated the wall. They celebrated the dedication with singing, thanksgiving, and with cymbals and harps. The priests and Levites purified themselves, the people, the gates and the wall. They offered great sacrifices and rejoiced so that the joy could be heard from afar.
- 5. Nehemiah leaves to serve the king. He comes back and finds the children of Israel were again in sin. He goes about the work of setting things right again.

(NEHEMIAH 8:1-9:5)

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BLESSED BOOK OF THE LAW BOOTHS CONFESSED EZRA FASTING LORD OPEN SQUARE PEOPLE SACKCLOTH SCRIBE WATER GATE WEPT WORSHIPED



(NEHEMIAH 8:1-9:5)



"And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people; (for he was above all the people;) and when he opened it, all the people stood up: and Ezra blessed the LORD, the great God. And all the people answered, Amen, Amen, with lifting up their hands: and they bowed their heads, and worshipped the LORD with *their* faces to the ground."

NEHEMIAH 8:5-6

(NEHEMIAH 8:1-9:5)

MEMORY VERSE:

"Stand up and bless the LORD your God forever and ever! Blessed be Your glorious name, which is exalted above all blessing and praise!" NEHEMIAH 9:5

FILL IN THE BLANK:	
1.	"Now all the people gathered together as one man in the open square that was in front of the Water Gate; and they told the scribe to bring the Book of the Law of Moses, which the LORD had commanded Israel." NEHEMIAH 8:1
TRUE OR FALSE:	
2.	"And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, for he was standing above all the people; and when he opened it, all the people stood up." NEHEMIAH 8:5 TRUE OR FALSE
FILL IN THE BLANKS:	
3.	"And Ezra the LORD, the great God. Then all the people answered, 'Amen, Amen!' while lifting up their hands. And they bowed their heads and worshiped the LORD with their faces to the ground." NEHEMIAH 8:6
4.	"They read distinctly from the book, in the Law of God; and they gave the sense, and helped them to the reading." NEHEMIAH 8:8
5.	"And Nehemiah, who was the governor, Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, 'This day is holy to the LORD your God; do not mourn nor weep.' For all the people, when they heard the words of the Law." NEHEMIAH 8:9
6.	"Then he said to them, 'Go your way, eat the fat, drink the sweet, and send portions to those for whom nothing is prepared; for this day is holy to our LORD. Do not sorrow, for the joy of the is your strength.' " NEHEMIAH 8:10
7.	"They found written in the Law, which the LORD had commanded by Moses, that the children of Israel should dwell in during the feast of the seventh month." NEHEMIAH 8:14
TRUE	E OR FALSE:
8.	But the people said, "We will not dwell in booths!" NEHEMIAH 8:16 TRUE OR FALSE
9.	"The whole congregation of those who had returned from the captivity made booths and sat under the booths." NEHEMIAH 8:17
	TRUE OR FALSE
10.	"Also day by day, from the first day until the last day, he read from the Book of the Law of God." NEHEMIAH 8:18
FII I	TRUE OR FALSE IN THE BLANK:
11.	"Now on the twenty-fourth day of this month the children of Israel were assembled with fasting, in sackcloth, and with dust on their heads. Then those of the Israelite lineage separated themselves from all foreigners; and they stood and their sins and the iniquities of their fathers." NEHEMIAH 9:1-2

(NEHEMIAH 8:1-9:5)

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