

unfoldingWord® Translation Questions

v92

Nehemiah

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Nehemiah

Nehemiah 1

Nehemiah 1:1

ULT	UST
The words of Nehemiah the son of Hacaliah: And it happened in the month of Kislev, in year 20, that I myself was in Susa the citadel.	*I am Nehemiah, son of Hacaliah. I am writing this account. My story begins in the month of Kislev during the twentieth year of the reign of King Artaxerxes over the Persian Empire. I was in the capital city of Susa.*

Who wrote the book of Nehemiah?

Nehemiah the son of Hacaliah wrote the book of Nehemiah.

Nehemiah 1:1-2

When did Nehemiah ask Hanani and some people from Judah about the Jews who had escaped, the remnant of the Jews who were there, and about Jerusalem?

He asked them in the month Kislev, in the twentieth year.

Nehemiah 1:3

ULT	UST
And they said to me, "The ones left behind, who were left behind from the captivity there in the province, are in great evil and in reproach. And the wall of Jerusalem is broken down, and its gates have been burned with fire."	*They said to me, "The Jews who escaped the exile and remained in the province of Judah are in a desperate situation. The Babylonian soldiers broke down the wall of Jerusalem to get into the city, and they burned down all of its gates. The people living there are defenseless."*

What did Hanani and some people from Judah reply?

They replied that those who remained in the province were in great evil and reproach because Jerusalem's wall was broken down and its gates were burned with fire.

Nehemiah 1:4

ULT	UST
And it happened that, when I heard these words, I sat down and wept, and I mourned for days. And I was fasting and praying before the face of the God of heaven.	*When I heard about these things, I sat down and cried. I could not stop mourning for days. I went without food, and I prayed to the God who is in heaven.*

What did Nehemiah do when he heard about the condition of Jerusalem?

He sat down and wept, and he mourned for days. He also fasted and prayed.

What did Nehemiah request while praying before the God of heaven?

Nehemiah requested that Yahweh would listen to his prayer. Nehemiah requested that Yahweh would remember the word he commanded Moses, promising to gather the scattered Israelites if they returned to him and kept his commandments. Nehemiah requested that Yahweh would give him success and grant him mercy.

Nehemiah 1:6-7

What did Nehemiah confess while praying before the God of heaven?

Nehemiah confessed the sins of the people of Israel and his own sins and the sins of his family. Nehemiah said they had acted very corruptly against Yahweh and had not kept the commandments, the statutes, and the judgments that Yahweh had commanded Moses.

Nehemiah 1:8-11

What did Nehemiah request while praying before the God of heaven?

Nehemiah requested that Yahweh would listen to his prayer. Nehemiah requested that Yahweh would remember the word he commanded Moses, promising to gather the scattered Israelites if they returned to him and kept his commandments. Nehemiah requested that Yahweh would give him success and grant him mercy.

Nehemiah 1:11

ULT	UST
Ah! My Lord, please let your ear be attentive to the prayer of your servant and to the prayer of your servants, the ones who delight to fear your name. And please cause your servant to succeed today, and give him mercies before the face of this man." Now as for me, I was a cupbearer for the king.	*O my Lord, please pay careful attention to my prayer and to the prayers of my fellow Israelites. We are eager to honor you. Please grant that the king will agree to the request that I hope to make soon." At that time, I was an important official who served the wine at the king's table.*

To whom did Nehemiah serve as cupbearer?

Nehemiah served as cupbearer to the king.

Nehemiah 2

Nehemiah 2:1

ULT	UST
And it happened that, in the month of Nisan, in year 20 of Artaxerxes the king, wine was before his face. And I lifted the wine, and I gave it to the king, and I was not unpleasant before his face.	*I prayed like this for four months. Then one day in the month of Nisan, still in the twentieth year of the reign of Artaxerxes, something happened. When it was time to serve the wine, I took some and gave it to the king. I had never before looked sad in his presence.*

At what date did Nehemiah, when he was sad, give wine to the king?

Nehemiah gave wine to the king in the month of Nisan, in the twentieth year of King Artaxerxes.

Nehemiah 2:3

ULT	UST
And I said to the king, "May the king live to eternity! Why should not my face be unpleasant, when the city, the house of the graves of my fathers, is desolate, and its gates have been consumed by fire."	*I replied to the king, "Your Majesty, I hope you will live a very long time! I am sorry, but I cannot help being sad. I am sad because the city of Jerusalem, the place where my ancestors are buried, lies in ruins. Our enemies have burned down its gates."*

Why was Nehemiah sad?

He was sad because Jerusalem, the city of the graves of his fathers, was desolate and its gates had been consumed by fire.

Nehemiah 2:4

ULT	UST
And the king said to me, "For what is this you are seeking?" And I prayed to the God of heaven.	*The king replied to me, "What do you want me to do for you?" Before I answered him, I prayed to the God who is in heaven.*

When the king asked what Nehemiah wanted him to do, what did Nehemiah do?

Nehemiah prayed to the God of heaven.

Nehemiah 2:4-5

What did Nehemiah want the king to give him permission to do?

Nehemiah wanted permission from the king to go to Judah to rebuild the city.

Nehemiah 2:9-10

When the king sent Nehemiah with officers of the army and horsemen, why were Sanballat and Tobiah displeased?

Sanballat and Tobiah were displeased that someone had come who wanted to seek good for the people of Israel.

Nehemiah 2:12

ULT	UST
And I arose in the night, myself and a few men with me, and I did not tell anyone what my God had been giving to my heart to do for Jerusalem. Now there was no animal with me except the animal upon which I was riding.	*I did not say publicly what God was leading me to do for Jerusalem. Instead, I got up secretly in the night to inspect the city walls. I brought only a few other men with me. So that we could work quietly, the only animal I brought with me was the one that I was riding.*

When Nehemiah arose in the night, who did he tell what God had put into his heart to do for Jerusalem?

At that time, Nehemiah did not tell anyone what his God had put into his heart to do for Jerusalem.

Nehemiah 2:17-18

When Nehemiah told the rulers, the Jews, the priests, the nobles, the rest who did the work that the good hand of his God was on him and about the words the king had spoken to him, what did they say and do?

They said that they would rise and build, and they strengthened their hands for the good work.

Nehemiah 2:19-20

How did Nehemiah respond to Sanballat, Tobiah, and Geshem when they heard about the work, and mocked and ridiculed the workers?

Nehemiah responded by saying that God would give them success, that they were God's servants, and that Sanballat, Tobiah, and Geshem had no share, no right, and no memorial in Jerusalem.

Nehemiah 3

Nehemiah 3:1

ULT	UST
And Eliashib the high priest rose up with his brothers the priests, and they built the gate of sheep. They themselves consecrated it and erected its doors. And they consecrated it as far as the tower of the hundred and as far as the tower of Hananel.	*These are the names of the people who helped to rebuild the wall around Jerusalem. Eliashib the Supreme Priest and his fellow priests began by rebuilding the Sheep Gate. They dedicated this gate to God, as a symbolic way of dedicating the entire wall. Then they set the doors of the Sheep Gate in place. They rebuilt the wall as far as the Tower of 100 Soldiers and beyond that to the Tower of Hananel. Then they dedicated that part of the wall to God as well.*

Who built and consecrated the Sheep Gate?

Eliashib built and consecrated the Sheep Gate along with his brothers, the priests.

Nehemiah 3:3

ULT	UST
And the sons of Hassenaah built the gate of fish. They themselves laid its beams and erected its doors, its bolts, and its bars.	*The sons of Hassenaah rebuilt the Fish Gate. They framed it with wooden beams, they set its doors in place, and they installed bolts and bars for locking the gate.*

Who built the Fish Gate?

The sons of Hassenaah built the Fish Gate.

Nehemiah 3:5

ULT	UST
And the Tekoites strengthened at their hand, but their nobles did not bring their necks to the service of their lords.	*Next to him, some people from Tekoa repaired part of the wall. But the leading citizens of Tekoa were too proud to do the work that the leaders of Judah had asked them to do.*

Whose nobles refused to do the work ordered by their lords?

The nobles of the Tekoites refused to do the work.

Nehemiah 3:6

ULT	UST
And Joiada the son of Paseah, and Meshullam the son of Besodeiah, strengthened the gate of old. They themselves laid its beams and erected its doors, its bolts, and its bars.	*Joiada the son of Paseah, and Meshullam the son of Besodeiah, repaired the Old Gate. They framed it with wooden beams, they set its doors in place, and they installed bolts and bars for locking the gate.*

Who repaired the Old Gate?

Joiada and Meshullam repaired the Old Gate.

Nehemiah 3:8

ULT	UST
Uzziel, the son of Harhaiah, of the goldsmiths, strengthened at his hand. And Hananiah, a son of the perfumers, strengthened at his hand. And they restored Jerusalem as far as the broad wall.	*Next to them, Uzziel the son of Harhaiah repaired part of the wall. He was one of the goldsmiths, the workers who made jewelry and other objects from gold. Next to him, Hananiah repaired part of the wall. He was one of the workers who made perfumes. They rebuilt the wall of Jerusalem as far as the Broad Wall.*

Who repaired Jerusalem as far as the Broad Wall?

Uzziel and Hananiah repaired that portion of Jerusalem.

Nehemiah 3:11

ULT	UST
Malkijah the son of Harim, and Hasshub the son of Pahath-Moab, strengthened a second section along with the tower of ovens.	*Malkijah the son of Harim and Hashub the son of Pahath-Moab repaired another section of the wall, along with the Tower of the Ovens.*

Who repaired another section along with the Tower of Ovens?

Malkijah (the son of Harim) and Hasshub repaired another section and the Tower of Ovens.

Nehemiah 3:12

ULT	UST
And Shallum, the son of Hallohesh, the administrator for half of the district of Jerusalem, strengthened at his hand, he and his daughters.	*Next to them, Shallum the son of Hallohesh repaired part of the wall. Shallum ruled the other half of the district of Jerusalem. His daughters worked with him on the repairs.*

Who helped Shallum repair the walls?

His daughters helped him.

Nehemiah 3:13

ULT	UST
Hanun and the inhabitants of Zanoah strengthened the gate of the valley. They themselves built it and erected its doors, its bolts, and its bars, and a thousand cubits of the wall as far as the gate of dung.	*Hanun and some people from the city of Zanoah repaired the Valley Gate. They rebuilt the gate, they set its doors in place, and they installed bolts and bars for locking the gate. They also repaired 1500 feet of the wall, as far as the Rubbish Gate.*

Who repaired the Valley Gate as far as the Dung Gate?

Hanun and the inhabitants of Zanoah repaired the Valley Gate and the entire portion of wall between the Valley Gate and the Dung Gate.

Nehemiah 3:14

ULT	UST
And Malkijah, the son of Recab, the administrator for the district of Beth-Hakkerem, strengthened the gate of dung. He himself was building it and erecting its doors, its bolts, and its bars.	*Malkijah. The son of Rechab, repaired the Rubbish Gate. Malkijah ruled the district of Beth-Hakkerem. He rebuilt the gate, he set its doors in place, and he installed bolts and bars for locking the gate.*

Who repaired the Dung Gate?

Malkijah (the son of Recab) repaired the Dung Gate.

Nehemiah 3:15

ULT	UST
And Shallun, the son of Kol-Hozeh, the administrator for the district of the Mizpah, strengthened the gate of the spring. He himself was building it and covering it and erecting its doors, its bolts, and its bars, and the wall of the pool of Shelach at the garden of the king even as far as the stairs descending from the city of David.	*Shallun the son of Kol-Hozeh repaired the Fountain Gate. Shallun ruled the district of Mizpah. He rebuilt the gate and put a roof over it, he set its doors in place, and he installed bolts and bars for locking the gate. Near the Pool of Siloam he also repaired the wall next to the royal garden, as far as the steps that went down from the City of David.*

Who repaired the Fountain Gate and the wall of the Pool of Siloam?

Shallun repaired the Fountain Gate and the wall of the Pool of Siloam.

Nehemiah 3:16

ULT	UST
After him, Nehemiah, the son of Azbuk, the administrator for half of the district of Beth-Zur, strengthened as far as in front of the graves of David, and as far as the pool that was made, and as far as the house of the mighty men.	*Next to him, Nehemiah the son of Azbuk repaired the wall as far as the place opposite the tombs in the City of David, to the reservoir that the people had made and the army barracks. Nehemiah ruled half of the district of Beth-Zur.*

Who repaired from the place across from the tombs of David to the house of the mighty men?

Nehemiah the son of Azbuk repaired that section.

Nehemiah 3:20

ULT	UST
After him, Baruch the son of Zabbai burned, and strengthened a second section from the angle as far as the opening of the house of Eliashib the high priest.	*Next to him, Baruch the son of Zabbai repaired another section with great enthusiasm, from the bend in the wall as far as the door of the house of Eliashib the Supreme Priest.*

Who repaired from the angle to the door of the house of Eliashib the high priest?

Baruch repaired it.

Nehemiah 3:23

ULT	UST
After him, Benjamin and Hasshub strengthened in front of their house. After him, Azariah, the son of Maaseiah, the son of Ananiah, strengthened beside his house.	*Next to them, Benjamin and Hasshub repaired a section opposite their house. Azariah, the son of Maaseiah and grandson of Ananiah, repaired the next section, beside his house.*

Which section of the wall did Benjamin and Hasshub repair?

They repaired the section in front of their own house.

Nehemiah 3:28

ULT	UST
The priests strengthened from above the gate of horses, a man to the front of his house.	*A group of priests repaired the wall starting at the Horse Gate. Each one repaired the section in front of his own house.*

Who did the repairs on the section above the Horse Gate?

The priests repaired that section. Each of the priests repaired in front of his own house.

Nehemiah 3:32

ULT	UST
And the goldsmiths and the merchants strengthened between the upper chamber of the corner to the gate of sheep.	*Some of the other goldsmiths, along with some merchants, repaired the last section of the wall from the corner apartments to the Sheep Gate.*

Who repaired the wall between the upper changes of the corner and the Sheep Gate?

The goldsmiths and the merchants repaired that section.

Nehemiah 4

Nehemiah 4:1-3

Who mocked the Jews when they heard the Jews were building the wall?

Sanballat and Tobiah mocked the Jews.

Nehemiah 4:4-6

Why did Nehemiah ask God not to cover over the iniquity of Sanballat and Tobiah?

Nehemiah asked God not to cover their iniquity because they had contempt for the Jews and provoked the builders to anger.

Nehemiah 4:7-9

When Sanballat, Tobiah, the Arabians, the Ammonites, and the Ashdodites came to fight against Jerusalem, what did the builders and people do?

They prayed to their God and set a guard as protection.

Nehemiah 4:12-14

What did Nehemiah do after the Jews warned him of the schemes being made against them?

After learning of the schemes against them, Nehemiah positioned people in the lowest parts of the wall, in the bare areas. He positioned each family with their weapons. Nehemiah told the people to not be afraid of their enemies, but to remember the great and fearsome Lord and to fight for their families and homes.

Nehemiah 4:15

ULT	UST
And it happened that, when our enemies heard that it was known to us, and God had frustrated their counsels, all of us returned to the wall, a man to his work.	*When our enemies learned that we had found out about their plan, they realized that God had kept them from launching a surprise attack. They decided not to attack us. So we all went back to working on the wall. Each person continued doing the same work as before.*

What did the enemies hear?

They heard that the workers knew their plans and that God had frustrated their plans.

Nehemiah 4:16

ULT	UST
And it happened that, from that day, half of my young men were doing the work, and half of them were grasping, even the spears, the shields, and the bows, and the breastplates. And the officials were behind all the house of Judah.	*But after that, only half of my servants worked on the wall. The other half of them stood guard armed with spears, shields, bows and arrows, and metal armor. Officers stood behind the workers and guards to encourage everyone and to give orders in case there was an attack.*

What were the young men doing?

Half of them were working on rebuilding the wall and half of them were holding their weapons and armor.

Nehemiah 4:19-20

What reason did Nehemiah give for sounding the ram's horn as a signal to fight?

Nehemiah explained that the workers were separated on the wall, far from one another.

Nehemiah 4:21-23

Why did some people not go to their homes to sleep? Why did some people not change their clothes?

Some people did not go to their homes or change their clothes so that they could spend the night in the middle of Jerusalem, being a guard during the night and a worker in the day.

Nehemiah 5

Nehemiah 5:1-5

Why did the men and women raise a great outcry against their fellow Jews?

They raised an outcry because some of them had to mortgage their property in order to get grain, some of them had to put their children in bondage as slaves, and some of them had to borrow silver in order to pay the kings taxes on their fields and vineyards.

Nehemiah 5:7

ULT	UST
And my heart reigned over me, and I contended with the nobles and with the prefects. And I said to them, "You are lending interest, a man against his brother!" And I put forth a great assembly against them.	*I thought hard about what to do. Then I brought charges against the leading citizens and the city officials. I called together a large group of people to hear the charges against them. I told these leaders, "You are charging interest on loans to your fellow Jews. You know that is forbidden in the Law of Moses."*

What did Nehemiah do when he heard the outcry of the Jewish men and women against their fellow Jews?

He contended with the nobles and with the prefects and said to them, "You are lending interest, a man against his brother!" And he put forth a great assembly against them.

Nehemiah 5:8

ULT	UST
And I said to them, "We ourselves, according to our ability, have bought back our brothers, the Jews, the ones who were sold to the nations. But even you yourselves are selling your brothers, and they are being bought back by us!" Then they were silent, and they did not find a word.	*I said to them, "Whenever our fellow Jews have had to sell themselves into slavery to people from other nations, to the best of our ability we have been buying them back. But you are actually selling your fellow Jews into slavery to get back the money they owe you. These are some of the very people we have been buying back!" They knew that these charges were true, so there was absolutely nothing they could say in response.*

Although the men and women were buying back from slavery their Jewish brothers who had been sold to the nations, what were the nobles and the prefects doing?

They were selling their brothers and sisters, who were then being bought back by other Jewish men and women.

Nehemiah 5:9-11

Why did Nehemiah command the nobles and the prefects to return the property they taken from the people?

He commanded them to do that because what they were doing was not good.

Nehemiah 5:12-13

How did the nobles and the prefects respond to Nehemiah's command?

They said they would return what they had taken, that they would not take anything more, and that they would do as Nehemiah commanded.

Nehemiah 5:14-15

Why did neither Nehemiah nor his brothers take the food provided for the governor during the 12 years he was Judah's governor?

He did not do so because he feared God, and because the former governors had laid heavy burdens on the people.

Nehemiah 5:17

ULT	UST
Now the Jews and the prefects were 150 men at my table, with the ones coming to us from the nations that were around us.	*As governor, I was responsible for feeding 150 Jewish leaders and city officials. I also entertained Jewish visitors who came from nearby countries.*

Who ate at Nehemiah's table?

Those who ate at Nehemiah's table were the Jews and the prefects, 150 men, and also those who came to Nehemiah from among the nations who were around them.

Nehemiah 5:19

ULT	UST
Remember me, my God, for good, all that I have done for this people.	*My God, think of me, and reward me for all the good that I have done for the people of Judah.*

Why did Nehemiah ask God to call him to mind for good?

Nehemiah asked God to do this because of all that he (Nehemiah) had done for the people.

Nehemiah 6

Nehemiah 6:2

ULT	UST
that Sanballat and Geshem sent to me, saying, "Come, and let us appoint a time to meet together among the villages in the valley of Ono." And they were thinking to do evil to me.	*So Sanballat and Geshem sent me a message that said, "We want to arrange to meet with you in one of the villages in the plain of Ono." But I knew that they were saying this because they wanted to harm me.*

When Sanballat, Tobiah, and Geshem asked Nehemiah to meet with them in the plain of Ono, what was their intention?

Sanballat, Tobiah, and Geshem intended to do evil to Nehemiah.

Nehemiah 6:3

ULT	UST
And I sent messengers to them, saying, "I am doing a great work, and I am not able to go down. Why should the work stop while I abandon it and go down to you?"	*So I sent messengers to tell them, "The work I am doing here is very important. I am not able to travel while it is going on. There is no reason for me to stop the work and leave it so that I can meet with you."*

How did Nehemiah respond to the requests of their enemies?

Nehemiah sent messengers to them saying, "I am doing a great work and I cannot come down. Why should the work stop while I leave it and come down to you?"

Nehemiah 6:5

ULT	UST
Then Sanballat sent his young man to me a fifth time according to this word, and an opened letter was in his hand.	*Then Sanballat sent one of his servants to me bringing the same request for a fifth time. This time the message was written, but it was not sealed. Sanballat left the letter unsealed so that others would find out what it said, because he wanted to pressure me to meet with him.*

How did Nehemiah respond to Sanballat's fifth message?

Nehemiah responded by saying that Sanballat had invented the reports in his own heart.

Nehemiah 6:5-6

What did Sanballat say in his fifth message?

He said that all the nations had reported that Nehemiah and the Jews were planning to rebel, and the king would certainly hear these reports.

Nehemiah 6:8

ULT	UST
And I sent to him, saying, "No such thing has been done according to these words that you are saying, but you are inventing them out of your own heart."	*I sent a message back to him saying, "None of these things that you are saying are true. You are just making them up yourself."*

How did Nehemiah respond to Sanballat's fifth message?

Nehemiah responded by saying Sanballat had invented the reports in his own heart.

Nehemiah 6:8-9

What did Nehemiah pray when he realized that Sanballat and Jews' enemies were trying to make the work stop and the Jews afraid?

Nehemiah prayed that God would strengthen his hands.

Nehemiah 6:10-11

Why did Nehemiah refuse to meet Shemaiah, the son of Delaiah, the son of Mehetabel, in the temple?

Nehemiah refused because he thought a man like himself should neither run away to save his own life nor hide in the temple.

Nehemiah 6:13

ULT	UST
For this purpose he was hired, so that I would be afraid, and I would do thus and sin. And it might become an evil name to them, so that they could reproach me.	*They had paid him the money specifically to say things that would scare me. They were hoping they could make me sin by abandoning my responsibilities and hiding in the temple. If I had done that, they would have ruined my reputation and discredited me.*

What would have happened if Nehemiah had gone into the temple?

He would have sinned and given himself a bad name, and Sanballat and Tobiah might have reproached him.

Nehemiah 6:14

ULT	UST
My God, remember Tobiah, and Sanballat according to these deeds of his, and also Noadiah the prophetess, and the rest of the prophets who are frightening me.	*So I prayed, "My God, treat Tobiah and Sanballat the way they deserve for what they have done. Do the same for the female prophet Noadiah and all the other prophets who are trying to make me afraid."*

What did Nehemiah pray the second time?

He prayed God would remember Tobiah, and Sanballat according to their deeds, as well as the prophetess Noadiah, and the rest of the prophets who were trying to frighten Nehemiah.

Nehemiah 6:15-16

Why did Nehemiah's enemies become afraid and fall in their own esteem when the wall was finished?

They became afraid because they knew the work was done with the help of the Jews' God.

Nehemiah 7

Nehemiah 7:1-2

When did Nehemiah give his brother Hanani charge over Jerusalem?

Nehemiah gave Hanani charge of Jerusalem after he (Nehemiah) had finished the wall, set up the doors, and appointed the gatekeepers, singers, and Levites.

Nehemiah 7:3

ULT	UST
And I said to them, “Let not the gates of Jerusalem be opened until the sun becomes hot. And while they are still standing, let them shut the doors, and they must bar them. And set up watches for those who dwell in Jerusalem, a man in his watch, and a man in front of his house.”	*I told them, “Do not open the gates of Jerusalem until broad daylight. That way we will be able to see anything our enemies are doing. Have the gatekeepers close the gates and put the bars across the doors while they are still guarding the gates before they go home for the night.” I also told them, “Have the men who live in Jerusalem take turns keeping watch in their own neighborhoods.”*

When were the gates of Jerusalem supposed to be opened?

The gates were supposed to be opened when the sun became hot.

Nehemiah 7:4

ULT	UST
Now the city was wide on two hands and great, and the people were few in the midst of it. And there were no built houses.	*The city of Jerusalem covered a large area, but at that time not many people lived in the city, and they had not yet built houses for themselves.*

Although the city was wide and large, were there people and houses within it?

There were few people within the city, and no built houses.

Nehemiah 7:5

ULT	UST
And my God gave to my heart, and I gathered together the nobles and the prefects and the people to be enrolled by genealogy. And I found the book of the genealogy for the ones who came up at the first. And I found written in it:	*So as a first step towards filling Jerusalem with people again, God led me to gather together the leading citizens and the city officials and the other people living in the city to register them according to their family histories. I also found a book containing the records of the first group of people who had returned to Jerusalem from the exile. This is what those records said.*

What did God put into Nehemiah's heart to do?

God put into Nehemiah's heart to gather together the nobles, the prefects, and the people to be enrolled by genealogy.

Nehemiah 7:64

ULT	UST
These ones sought their record among the ones who were enrolled by genealogy, but it was not found. And they were desecrated from the priesthood.	*These priests searched the records that contained the names of the Israelite ancestors, but they could not find the names of their families. They did not qualify to be priests because they could not trace their family history, so they were not allowed to have the rights and duties of priests.*

What was done concerning the priests who could not find their genealogical records? What did the Tirshatha restrict them from doing?

The priests who could not find their genealogical records were desecrated from the priesthood. The Tirshatha said that they should not be allowed to eat the holy food from the sacrifices until a priest stood with Urim and Thummim.

Nehemiah 7:65

ULT	UST
And the Tirshatha said to them that they must not eat from the holiest holy food until the priest stood with Urim and Thummim.	*The governor told them that they must not eat any of the share of food taken from the sacrifices and kept for the priests. They would have to wait until the priest in charge of the temple had begun his duties and could ask God what to do about this situation.*

What was done concerning the priests who could not find their genealogical records? What did the Tirshatha restrict them from doing?

The priests who could not find their genealogical records were desecrated from the priesthood. The Tirshatha said they should not be allowed to eat the priest's share of food from the sacrifices.

When might the priests who could not prove their genealogy be included in the priesthood again?

They might be included when there was a priest to stand with Urim and Thummim.

Nehemiah 7:66

ULT	UST
All the assembly, as one, was 42, 360:	*Altogether, 42360 people returned to Judea.*

How many people were counted in the enrollment of the assembly?

The whole assembly was counted to be 42,360 people.

Nehemiah 7:70-72

Who gave gifts for the work?

Some of the heads of ancestors' families gave gifts, as did both the Tirshatha and the rest of the people.

Nehemiah 7:73

ULT	UST
And the priests, and the Levites, and the gatekeepers, and the ones who sang, and some from the people, and the Nethinim, and all Israel dwelt in their cities. And the seventh month came, and the sons of Israel were in their cities.	*So the priests, the Levites, the gatekeepers, the singers, the temple workers, and many ordinary people started to live in the towns and cities of Judea where their ancestors had lived. All these people were Israelites. By the seventh month all of the Israelites had gone to their cities and had started living in them.*

When did the priests, Levites, gatekeepers, singers, temple servants, and people live in their cities?

They lived in their cities by the seventh month.

Nehemiah 8

Nehemiah 8:1-2

Why did the people gather together on the first day of the seventh month, and every day until the end of the feast?

The people gathered together to listen to the book of the law.

Nehemiah 8:2-3

Who gathered together to listen to the book of the law?

Men, women, and anyone who could understand gathered to listen to it.

Nehemiah 8:3

ULT	UST
And he read it aloud before the face of the open area that is before the face of the gate of water, from the light until the middle of the day, in front of the men and the women, and the ones who were understanding. And the ears of all the people listened to the book of the law.	*So he read aloud from the book in the plaza that was near the Water Gate throughout the whole morning. He read it in front of all the people, both men and women and children who were old enough to understand what he read. And all the people listened carefully to the laws that were written on the scroll.*

Why did the people gather together on the first day of the seventh month, and every day until the end of the feast?

The people gathered together to listen to the book of the law of Moses.

Nehemiah 8:5

ULT	UST
And Ezra opened the book before the eyes of all the people, for he was higher than all the people. And as soon as he opened it, all the people stood.	*Ezra stood on the platform above all the people so that everyone could see him. He opened the scroll, and as he did that all the people stood up.*

Who read from the book of the law?

Ezra and the Levites read from the book of the law.

Nehemiah 8:7-8

Who read from the book of the law?

Ezra and the Levites read from the book of the law.

Why did the Levites read carefully and set the interpretation of the book of the law?

They did those things so that the people could understand the reading.

Nehemiah 8:9-10

Why did Nehemiah, Ezra, and the Levites command all of the people to celebrate with great joy and not to mourn, weep, or grieve?

They commanded the people to celebrate and not to mourn, weep, or grieve because the day was holy to Yahweh their God and because the joy of Yahweh was their strength.

Nehemiah 8:13-14

What insight did the leaders of the ancestors' families, the priests, and the Levites gain when they came together to learn from Ezra?

They learned that Yahweh had commanded the people of Israel to live in tents during the festival of the seventh month.

Nehemiah 8:16

ULT	UST
And the people went out and brought and made huts for themselves, a man on his roof, and in their courtyards, and in the courtyards of the house of God, and in the open area of the gate of water, and in the open area of the gate of Ephraim.	*So the people went out of the towns and cut branches and brought them to make shelters for themselves. They built shelters on the flat roofs of their houses, in their courtyards, in the courtyards of the temple, in the plaza near the Water Gate, and in the plaza near the Ephraim Gate.*

Where did the people make their huts to celebrate the festival?

The people made their huts on their own roofs, in their courtyards, in the courts of the house of God, in the open place by the Water Gate, and in the square at the Gate of Ephraim.

Nehemiah 8:17

ULT	UST
And all the assembly, the ones who returned from the captivity, made huts, and they dwelt in the huts. For the sons of Israel had not done thus from the days of Joshua the son of Nun until that day. And there was extremely great rejoicing.	*All of the Israelite people who had returned from Babylon built shelters and lived in them for one week. Now the Israelite people had never celebrated that festival like this since Joshua the son of Nun led them into this territory. This was the first time they were doing it. And the people were very happy.*

Where did the people make their huts to celebrate the feast?

The people made their huts on their own roofs, in their courtyards, in the courts of the house of God, in the open place by the Water Gate, and in the square at the Gate of Ephraim.

When was the last time the people of Israel had obeyed the command of Yahweh to celebrate the feast?

The last time the feast had been celebrated was in the days of Joshua the son of Nun.

Nehemiah 8:18

ULT	UST
And he read aloud from the book of the law of God, day by day, from the first day to the last day. And they made a seven-days feast, and on the eighth day an assembly, according to the ordinance.	*Every day during that week Ezra read aloud to the people from the scroll of the law of God. They celebrated the festival for seven days. On the eighth day, they called for all the people to come together so they could hold a ceremony to bring the festival to an end. That was what the scroll instructed.*

Why did the people gather together on the first day of the seventh month, and every day until the end of the feast?

The people gathered together to listen to the book of the law.

Nehemiah 9

Nehemiah 9:1-2

In general, what were the people of Israel doing as they gathered together on the twenty-fourth day of the same month?

The people of Israel were fasting, wearing sackcloth, and putting dust on their heads. The Israelites separated themselves from all the foreigners, and they stood and confessed their own sins and the sins of their ancestors.

Nehemiah 9:5-6

What did the people say about Yahweh?

The people said he alone was Yahweh. The people said that Yahweh had made the heavens, the heavens of the heavens, the earth, the seas, and all that was in them. The people said that Yahweh gave life to everything.

Nehemiah 9:7-8

What else did the people say of Yahweh concerning Abram?

The people said that Yahweh had chosen Abram, changed his name to Abraham, found his heart faithful, and made the covenant with him to give his descendants the land.

Nehemiah 9:9-10

How did the people say that Yahweh kept his promise to them?

The people told how Yahweh brought their forefathers out of Egypt, showed signs and wonders against Pharaoh and his people, and saved their forefathers at the Red Sea.

Nehemiah 9:11

ULT	UST
And you split open the sea before their face, and they passed through the midst of the sea on the dry land. And you cast their pursuers into the depths, like a stone in mighty waters.	*You divided the sea in front of your people Israel, and they walked through the middle of the sea on dry land. But you drowned the soldiers of the Egyptian army under the waters. They sank as a stone sinks in deep water!*

What did the people say that Yahweh did for the Israelites at the Red Sea?

Yahweh parted the sea so they could pass through on dry ground, and then he brought the sea back onto those that were pursuing them.

Nehemiah 9:12-13

What other ways did they say Yahweh took care of the Israelites?

Yahweh led them by a pillar of cloud during the day and a pillar of fire during the night. Also, Yahweh gave them his ten commandments at Mount Sinai.

Nehemiah 9:14-15

What else did the people say Yahweh provided to their forefathers?

Yahweh made his holy Sabbath known to them, gave them bread from heaven, water from a rock, and told them to possess the land he had promised them.

Nehemiah 9:16-17

How did the Israelites and their ancestors act toward God?

The Israelites were disrespectful and stubborn. They refused to listen, rebelled, and appointed a leader to return them to their slavery.

Why did God not abandon the Israelites when they were disrespectful, stubborn, rebellious, and disobedient?

God did not abandon the Israelites because he is a God who is full of forgiveness, gracious and compassionate, slow to anger, and abounding in covenant faithfulness.

Nehemiah 9:20

ULT	UST
And you gave your good spirit to give them insight. And you did not withhold your manna from their mouth, and you gave them water for their thirst.	*You gave them your good Spirit to instruct them. You continued to give them manna when they were hungry, and you gave them water when they were thirsty.*

How did the people say God provided for their forefathers for forty years in the wilderness?

Yahweh gave his good Spirit to instruct them. Yahweh gave them food and water; also, their clothes did not wear out and their feet did not swell.

Nehemiah 9:21

ULT	UST
And you sustained them forty years in the wilderness; they did not lack. Their clothes did not wear out, and their feet did not swell.	*For forty years you took care of them in the desert. During all that time, they had everything they needed. Their clothes did not wear out. Their feet did not swell up, even though they were continually walking.*

How did the people say God provided for their forefathers for forty years in the wilderness?

Yahweh gave his Spirit to instruct them. He provided food and water; their clothes did not wear out, and their feet did not swell.

Nehemiah 9:23-24

What did the people say happened after their forefathers were in the wilderness?

The people said that Yahweh multiplied their families, told them to go in and possess the land he had promised them, and subdued the Canaanites.

Nehemiah 9:25

ULT	UST
And they captured fortified cities and fat ground. And they possessed houses full of all good things, hewn cisterns, vineyards, and olive orchards, and food trees in abundance. And they ate and were satisfied and grew fat and reveled in your great goodness.	*Our ancestors captured cities that had walls around them. They took possession of fertile fields. They took possession of houses that were already full of all kinds of good things, and wells that someone had already dug. They took possession of many vineyards and groves of olive trees and fruit trees. They ate all that they wanted and became fat. They enjoyed all the many good things you did for them.*

How did the Israelites live after taking possession of the land God had promised them?

The Israelites took the land. They ate and were satisfied and grew fat. They reveled in God's great goodness.

Nehemiah 9:26-27

What did the people say Yahweh did to their forefathers and ancestors after they became disobedient and rebelled against him?

Yahweh handed them over to their enemies, who made them suffer.

Nehemiah 9:27

ULT	UST
And you gave them into the hand of their adversaries, and they harassed them. And in the time of their distress they cried out to you, and you yourself heard from heaven. And, according to your many mercies, you gave to them saviors, and they saved them from the hand of their adversaries.	*So you allowed their enemies to defeat them. But when their enemies caused them to suffer, they called out to you. You heard them from heaven, and because you are very merciful, you sent them people to help them. Those leaders rescued them from their enemies.*

When the Israelites cried out to God, what did God do for them because of his great mercies?

God rescued them from their enemies many times.

Nehemiah 9:37

ULT	UST
And its great produce belongs to the kings whom you have given to be over us in our sins, and to be ruling over our bodies and over our livestock, according to their will. And we are in great distress.	*The kings whom you have allowed to rule over us are enjoying all the good things that grow here. This is because we have sinned. They rule over our bodies and our cattle. They do whatever they please. We feel great distress.*

Why did the rich yield from the Israelite's land go to the kings God had set over them?

The rich yield of the land went to their kings because of the Israelite's sins.

Why were the Israelites in great distress?

The Israelites were in great distress because their kings ruled over their bodies and their livestock as the kings pleased.

Nehemiah 9:38

ULT	UST
And in all of this, we are cutting a faithful covenant, and writing even on a sealed document our leaders, our Levites, our priests."	*Because of all this, we the Israelite people are making a solemn agreement. We are writing it on a scroll. We will write down the names of our leaders, our Levites, and our priests. Then we will seal the scroll."*

What did the Israelites do because of their great distress?

The Israelites made a firm covenant in writing with Yahweh.

Whose names were written on the sealed covenant?

The names of the Israelites' leader, Levites, and priests were written on the sealed covenant.

Nehemiah 10

Nehemiah 10:28-29

Who pledged themselves to the law of God that was given to Moses?

Those that pledged themselves were the rest of the people, the priests, the Levites, the gatekeepers, the singers, the Nethinim, and all the others who bound themselves to God's law.

Nehemiah 10:30-31

What promises did they make to God?

They promised not to give their daughters to or let their sons take daughters from the people from whom they had separated. They promised not to buy any goods on the Sabbath, or any holy day. They promised they would let their fields rest every seventh year.

Nehemiah 10:32-33

What commands did they accept?

They would give money, bread, grain, and provide for all the offerings and feasts each year for the service of the house of God.

Nehemiah 10:34

ULT	UST
And we cast lots among the priests, the Levites, and the people: concerning the offering of pieces of wood, to bring them to the house of our God, for the house of our fathers at the appointed times year by year, for burning on the altar of Yahweh our God as written in the law;	*We have cast lots to determine when each clan of the priests, the Levites, and the rest of the people will bring an offering of wood to the temple. Each clan will do this at an appointed time every year. The Levites will use the wood to burn the sacrifices on the altar that belongs to Yahweh our God. He commanded this in the law he gave through Moses.*

Why did the priests, the Levites, and the people cast lots for the wood offering?

This would select which family would bring the wood into the house of God at selected times each year.

Nehemiah 10:35

ULT	UST
and to bring the firstfruits of our soil and the firstfruits of all the fruit of every tree, year by year, to the house of Yahweh;	*We will also bring an offering to the temple every year from the first grain that we harvest and from all the first fruit that grows on all our trees.*

What did they promise to bring to the house of Yahweh?

They promised to bring the firstfruits of the harvests as well as the firstborn of their sons and their livestock.

Nehemiah 10:36

ULT	UST
and the firstborns of our sons and our livestock, as written in the law, even the firstborns of our herds and our flocks, to bring them to the house of our God, to the priests, the ones who minister in the house of our God.	*We will also do something else that God commanded. We will bring our firstborn sons to the temple for dedication, and our firstborn calves and lambs and goats as sacrifices, to the priests who minister in the temple.*

What did they promise to bring to the house of Yahweh?

They promised to bring the firstfruits of their harvests and the firstborn of their sons and their livestock.

Nehemiah 10:38

ULT	UST
And a priest who is a son of Aaron will be with the Levites when the Levites receive tithes. And the Levites will bring a tithe of the tithe to the house of our God, to the chambers of the house of the treasury.	*A priest, one of the descendants of Aaron, will be with the Levites and supervise them when they collect that 10 percent. Then the Levites must bring 10 percent of what they have received to the temple. The priests will put it in the storerooms and it will support them.*

Who had to be with the Levites when the Levites received the tithes?

A priest who was a descendant of Aaron had to be with the Levites.

Nehemiah 10:39

ULT	UST
For the sons of Israel and the sons of Levi shall bring to the chambers the offerings of grain, wine, and oil. And there shall be the vessels for the sanctuary, and the priests, the ones who are ministering, and the gatekeepers, and the ones who sing. And we shall not neglect the house of our God.	*That is how it will work. The Israelites and the Levites will bring their offerings of grain, wine, and olive oil to those storerooms. That is where the priests will store the equipment for the temple. And that is where they will keep the food supplies for the priests, the gatekeepers, and the singers who are serving at that time. We promise that we will keep taking care of the temple."*

Where did the people of Israel and descendants of Levi bring the contributions of the harvest?

They brought the contributions to the storerooms where the articles of the sanctuary were kept.

Nehemiah 11

Nehemiah 11:1

ULT	UST
And the leaders of the people dwelt in Jerusalem. And the rest of the people cast lots to bring one out of ten to dwell in Jerusalem the holy city, and nine hands were in the cities.	*So the Israelite leaders settled in Jerusalem with their families. The rest of the people cast lots to select one family out of ten to live in Jerusalem. That was the city set apart for God. The remaining nine families lived in the other towns.*

Who lived in the holy city of Jerusalem?

The leaders of the people lived in Jerusalem, and the rest of the people cast lots to see which one person out of ten people would live there.

Nehemiah 11:20

ULT	UST
And the rest of Israel, the priests, the Levites, were in all the cities of Judah, a man in his inheritance.	*The rest of the Israelite people, including the priests and the Levites, all lived on their own property in all the other towns in Judea.*

Where were the remainder of Israel, the priests, and the Levites living?

They were living in all the towns of Judah, on their own inherited property.

Nehemiah 12

Nehemiah 12:23

ULT	UST
The sons of Levi, the heads of fathers, were written in the book of the events of days even until the days of Johanan, the son of Eliashib.	*Scribes recorded the names of the clan leaders of the Levites in their record books up until the time when Johanan the descendant of Eliashib was the Supreme Priest.*

In what book were the descendants of Levi and their leaders of families recorded?

They were recorded in the Book of the Events of Days until the days of Johanan.

Nehemiah 12:27

ULT	UST
And at the dedication of the wall of Jerusalem, they sought out the Levites from all their places, to bring them to Jerusalem to perform the dedication with rejoicing, and with thanksgivings, and with song, cymbals, lyres, and harps.	*When we dedicated the wall around Jerusalem, we summoned the Levites from all the places where they were living. We brought them to Jerusalem to assist in dedicating the wall by rejoicing and giving thanks and by singing accompanied by cymbals and harps and other stringed instruments.*

Why did the people seek out the Levites at the dedication of the wall of Jerusalem?

The people brought the Levites to Jerusalem to perform the dedication ceremony.

Nehemiah 12:30

ULT	UST
And the priests and the Levites purified themselves. And they purified the people, and the gates, and the wall.	*The priests and Levites performed rituals to make themselves acceptable to God. Then they performed similar rituals to purify the other people, the gates, and the wall.*

What did the priests and Levites do for the celebration?

The priests and Levites purified themselves, and then purified the people, the gates, and the wall.

Nehemiah 12:31

ULT	UST
And I caused the officials of Judah to go up on top of the wall. And I caused to stand two great thanksgiving groups, and processions to the right hand on top of the wall toward the gate of dung.	*Then I gathered the leaders of Judah together on top of the wall. I assigned them to lead two large groups that would march around the city on top of the wall, thanking God. As they faced the city, one group walked to the right toward the Rubbish Gate.*

Where did the leaders of Judah go on the day of celebration?

The leaders went up to the top of the wall.

What were the two large choirs that Nehemiah appointed supposed to do?

The two large choirs were supposed to give thanks.

Where did the first choir go?

One choir went to the right on the wall toward the Dung Gate.

Nehemiah 12:42

ULT	UST
and Maaseiah, and Shemaiah, and Eleazar, and Uzzi, and Jehohanan, and Malkijah, and Elam, and Ezer. And the ones who sang made themselves heard, with Jezrahiah the overseer.	*Others who were blowing trumpets included Maaseiah, Shemaiah, Eleazar, Uzzi, Jehohanan, Malkijah, Elam, and Ezer. The singers sang with Jezrahiah who was their leader.*

Who directed the singers?

The singers sang with Jezrahiah as overseer.

Nehemiah 12:43

ULT	UST
And on that day they sacrificed great sacrifices, and they rejoiced, for God had made them glad with great rejoicing. Yes, even the women and the children rejoiced, so the rejoicing of Jerusalem was heard from far away.	*The people offered many sacrifices that day. They all rejoiced because God had made them very happy. The women and the children rejoiced along with the men, so the sound of the celebration in Jerusalem was so loud that people far away could hear it.*

Why did they offer great sacrifices that day, and rejoice?

They offered great sacrifices that day, and rejoiced, because God had made them rejoice with great rejoicing.

Nehemiah 12:44

ULT	UST
And on that day men were appointed over the chambers for the storehouses, for the offerings, for the firstfruits, and for the tithes, to gather into them from the fields of the cities the portions of the law for the priests and for the Levites. For Judah rejoiced over the priests and over the Levites, the ones who were standing.	*On that day we appointed men to be in charge of the storerooms. That was where the priests kept the money and the food and the grain and the tithes. The people brought these things from the fields near the cities into the storerooms for the priests and the Levites, as Moses had commanded in the law. The people of Judah did all this because they were so happy about the priests and the Levites serving in the temple.*

Who was assigned to work the fields near the towns?

The men who were appointed to be in charge of the storerooms were assigned to work the fields near the towns.

Nehemiah 12:47

ULT	UST
And in the days of Zerubbabel and in the days of Nehemiah, all Israel was giving the portions of the ones who sang and the gatekeepers, as a daily matter in its day. And they were consecrating for the Levites, and the Levites were consecrating for the sons of Aaron.	*During the time when Zerubbabel was the governor, the people all contributed the food that the singers and temple gatekeepers needed each day. They did the same during the time when Nehemiah was the governor. They gave a tenth of their crops to the Levites, and the Levites gave a tenth of that to the priests, who were descendants of Aaron, the first Supreme Priest.*

When did all Israel give the daily portions for the singers and the gatekeepers?

In the days of Zerubbabel and in the days of Nehemiah, all Israel gave the daily portions for the singers and the gatekeepers.

Nehemiah 13

Nehemiah 13:1-2

Why should an Ammonite and a Moabite not come into the assembly of God, forever?

An Ammonite and a Moabite should not come into the assembly of God forever because they had not come to the people of Israel with bread and water, but had hired Balaam to curse Israel.

Nehemiah 13:5

ULT	UST
And he made for him a great chamber, and there previously they were putting offerings: the frankincense; and the vessels; and the tithes of the grain, the wine, and the oil, the commandment for the Levites, and the ones who sang, and the gatekeepers; and the offerings of the priests.	*He allowed Tobiah to have a large room in which the priests used to store supplies. These included the grain offerings and the incense, the equipment for the temple, and the tithes of grain and wine and olive oil. God had commanded the people to bring these to the Levites, the singers, and the gatekeepers. This room had also held the offerings for the priests.*

What did Eliashib prepare for Tobiah?

Eliashib prepared for Tobiah a large storeroom.

Nehemiah 13:6

ULT	UST
And during all this I was not in Jerusalem. For I had gone to the king in year 32 of Artaxerxes, the king of Babylon. And at an end of days I requested leave from the king.	*During that time I was not in Jerusalem, because in the thirty-second year that Artaxerxes was the king of Babylonia, I had gone back to report to the king what I had been doing. After I had been there a while, I asked the king to allow me to return to Jerusalem.*

Where did Nehemiah go in the thirty-second year of Artaxerxes?

In the thirty-second year of Artaxerxes, Nehemiah returned from Jerusalem to the king.

Nehemiah 13:8

ULT	UST
And it was extremely evil to me, and I cast out all the things of the house of Tobiah from the storeroom to the outside.	*That grieved me very much. I threw everything that belonged to Tobiah out of that room.*

Why did Nehemiah throw all the household articles of Tobiah out of the storeroom?

Nehemiah threw all the household articles of Tobiah out of the storeroom because Nehemiah thought it was very wrong for Tobiah to be staying there.

Nehemiah 13:10

ULT	UST
And I knew that the portions of the Levites had not been given, and the Levites and the ones who sang, who did the work, had fled, a man to his field.	*I also learned that the singers and the other Levites who were responsible for the temple services had left Jerusalem. They had returned to their own fields because the people had stopped giving them 10 percent of their harvests, since Tobiah had occupied the storeroom.*

Why did the Levites and singers hurry to leave the temple?

Because the people were no longer faithfully supporting God's work by giving portions to the Levites, and therefore the Levites left the temple as did the singers.

Nehemiah 13:13

ULT	UST
And I appointed treasurers over the treasuries: Shelemiah the priest, and Zadok the scribe, and Pedaiah from the Levites; and at their hand was Hanan, the son of Zaccur, the son of Mattaniah. For they were considered faithful, and it was for them to apportion to their brothers.	*I appointed some men to be in charge of the storerooms. They were Shelemiah the priest, Zadok the scribe, and Pedaiah the Levite. I also appointed Hanan the son of Zaccur and grandson of Mattaniah to assist them. I appointed these men because everyone knew that they were trustworthy and would distribute the offerings fairly to their associates.*

Who was counted as trustworthy?

Shelemiah the priest, Zadok the scribe, Pedaiah, and Hanan were counted as trustworthy.

Nehemiah 13:15

ULT	UST
In those days I saw in Judah ones treading winepresses on the sabbath, and ones bringing in grain-heaps, and ones loading onto donkeys, yes, even wine, grapes, and figs, and all kinds of loads, and ones bringing to Jerusalem on the day of the sabbath. And I protested on the day of their selling provisions.	*During that time, I saw some people in Judea who were working on the Sabbath day. Some were pressing grapes to make wine. Others were taking their grain and loading it on donkeys. Others were also loading bags of wine, baskets of grapes, figs, and many other things onto donkeys and bringing them into Jerusalem on the Sabbath day. I warned them not to sell food to the people of Judea on Sabbath days.*

When were people in Judah treading winepresses?

People in Judah were treading winepresses on the Sabbath.

Nehemiah 13:16

ULT	UST
And the Tyrians who dwelt in it were bringing in fish and all kinds of merchandise and were selling them on the sabbath to the sons of Judah, even in Jerusalem.	*I also saw some people from the city of Tyre who were living there in Jerusalem bringing fish and other things into Jerusalem to sell to the people of Judah on the Sabbath day.*

What did men from Tyre do on the Sabbath?

Men from Tyre brought in fish and all kinds of goods, and they sold them on the Sabbath to the people of Judah and in the city.

Nehemiah 13:19

ULT	UST
And it happened that, when the gates of Jerusalem grew dark before the face of the sabbath, I spoke, and the doors were shut, and I said that they should not open them until after the sabbath. And I caused some from my young men to stand at the gates; a load could not enter on the day of the sabbath.	*So I commanded the gatekeepers to shut the doors of the gates of the city when it started to get dark on Friday evening. I commanded them not to open the gates until Saturday evening. I also stationed some of my men at the gates so they would make sure that no one brought things to sell into the city in between those times, on the Sabbath day.*

How did Nehemiah prevent people from coming into Jerusalem on the Sabbath?

As soon as it became dark at the gates of Jerusalem before the Sabbath, Nehemiah commanded that the doors be shut and that they should not be opened until after the Sabbath. He stationed some of his servants at the gates so no load could be brought in on the Sabbath day.

Nehemiah 13:22

ULT	UST
And I said to the Levites that they should purify themselves and come keep the gates to consecrate the day of the sabbath. Remember me concerning this also, my God, and have pity on me according to the greatness of your covenant faithfulness.	*I also commanded the Levites to perform a ritual to purify themselves and then take up stations to guard the city gates. I wanted them to ensure that Sabbath days were kept holy by not allowing merchants to enter the city on that holy day. "My God, please bless me for doing this too! And be kind to me, because you faithfully love us so abundantly."*

Who came and guarded the gates to sanctify the Sabbath day?

The Levites came and guarded the gates to sanctify the Sabbath day.

Nehemiah 13:24

ULT	UST
And their sons, half were speaking Ashdodite, and none of them were knowing to speak Hebrew, but according to the tongue of people group by people group.	*So half of their children spoke a foreign language, and they did not know how to speak Hebrew. They spoke whatever language their foreign parent spoke.*

What did half the children speak?

Half the children spoke the language of Ashdod, and they could not speak the language of Judah, but only the language of one of the other peoples.

Nehemiah 13:25

ULT	UST
And I contended with them, and cursed them, and struck some of their men, and pulled out their hair. And I caused them to swear an oath by God: "If you give your daughters to their sons, or if you lift from their daughters for your sons, or for yourselves!	*So I rebuked those men. I asked God to curse them. I struck some of them with my fists. I pulled out their hair. Then I forced them to make a solemn promise, knowing that God was listening. I made them promise that they would never again allow their daughters to marry foreign men. I also made them promise that they and their sons would not marry foreign women.*

How did Nehemiah confront the Jews who married women of Ashdod, Ammon, and Moab?

Nehemiah confronted them, and he cursed them, and he hit some of them and pulled out their hair.

Nehemiah 13:31

ULT	UST
and for the offering of pieces of wood at the appointed times; and for the firstfruits. Remember me, my God, for good.	*I also arranged for the people to bring their offerings of wood at the set times to burn on the altar, and to bring the first part of what they harvested of each crop during the year. “My God, please consider that I have done all these things, and bless me for doing them.”*

How did Nehemiah want God to remember him?

Nehemiah wanted God to remember him for good.