

# NEHEMIAH

## “NATURAL OBSTACLES TO FAITH EXPECTATION”

Nehemiah 10:1-39

Lesson #11

January 24, 2024

### REVIEW:

- A. Sealing. . . . . Nehemiah 10:1-29
- 1) To seal a covenant in the Old Testament involved the blood cutting between two people, or a cutting of a sacrifice if between God and man. (Gen. 15)
  - 2) They are sealing a document with their seals
- B. Committing. . . . . Nehemiah 10:30-34
- 1) They are making a commitment to not do what has been done in the past.
  - 2) Honoring the Sabbath day is much easier in a nation who's laws honored it.
  - 3) Now the kings they serve demand their part of the land's harvests each year and do not honor or give room for a land Sabbath. What are they to do?
  - 4) A self imposed third part of a shekel offering for the Temple service.
  - 5) They determined 1/3 of a shekel as sufficient at the time, but at some point they returned to the standard fixed by the law. (Matthew 17:24-27)
  - 6) The cost of the showbread was not as high as other things (no more than twelve cakes of fine flour weekly), but it was mentioned first. (Lev. 24:5-8)
  - 7) The regular burnt offerings (Numbers 28:3-10)

- 8) During the 2<sup>nd</sup> Temple period, a ritual or festival of bringing wood to the Temple was observed.

- C. Giving . . . . . Nehemiah 10:35-39
- 1) The giving of firstfruits is an act of faith that God will provide the harvest to follow.
  - 2) The first-fruits of our dough (Numbers 15:18-21)
  - 3) And our offerings - or our heave offerings (Numbers 15:20)
  - 4) The store-chambers attached to the temple-building described in Nehemiah 13:4-5.
  - 5) Bringing the offering - The priests were not to be troubled with the carrying any of the offerings.

APPLICATION: You can't change what was done, and no action in the present or future will alter the past. But we can change what happens in the future and what decisions we chose to make and carry out. (Heb. 12:1-3 & Phil. 3:13-15)

**CONTRITION - UNRESTRAINED SORROW** will not bring change.

**RETRIBUTION - UNDISCIPLINED FOCUS** will not bring productive change.

**SUBMISSION - DETRIMENTAL YEILDINGS** will bring negative change

**CONDESCENSION - HOSTILE THINKING** toward others will not bring beneficial change

**SELF-DEPRECIATION - Having a FLAW MINDEDNESS** will not bring about perfected reality.