



📍 PREPARE YOUR HEART & MIND

Begin this time in prayer, confessing any sins you can recall, thanking the Lord for the gift of His Word, and asking for His Spirit to guide you in your time.

Now the leaders of the people lived in Jerusalem, but the rest of the people cast lots to bring one out of ten to live in Jerusalem, the holy city, while nine-tenths remained in the other cities. ² And the people blessed all the men who volunteered to live in Jerusalem. ³ Now these are the heads of the provinces who lived in Jerusalem, but in the cities of Judah each lived on his own property in their cities—the Israelites, the priests, the Levites, the temple servants, and the descendants of Solomon's servants. ⁴ Some of the sons of Judah and some of the sons of Benjamin lived in Jerusalem. From the sons of Judah: Athaiah the son of Uziah, the son of Zechariah, the son of Amariah, the son of Shephatiah, the son of Mahalalel, of the sons of Perez; ⁵ and Maaseiah the son of Baruch, the son of Col-hozeh, the son of Hazaiah, the son of Adaiah, the son of Joiarib, the son of Zechariah, the son of the Shilonite. ⁶ All the sons of Perez who lived in Jerusalem were 468 able men.⁷ Now these are the sons of Benjamin: Sallu the son of Meshullam, the son of Joed, the son of Pedaiah, the son of Kolaiah, the son of Maaseiah, the son of Ithiel, the son of Jeshaiiah; ⁸ and after him Gabbai and Sallai, ⁹ 928. ⁹ Joel the son of Zichri was their overseer, and Judah the son of Hassenuah was second in command of the city. ¹⁰ From the priests: Jedaiah the son of Joiarib, Jachin, ¹¹ Seraiah the son of Hilkiah, the son of Meshullam, the son of Zadok, the son of Meraioth, the son of Ahitub, the overseer of the house of God, ¹² and their kinsmen who did the work of the temple, 822; and Adaiah the son of Jeroham, the son of Pelaliah, the son of Amzi, the son of Zechariah, the son of Pashhur, the son of Malchijah, ¹³ and his kinsmen, heads of fathers' households, 242; and Amashsai the son of Azarel, the son of Ahzai, the son of Meshillemoth, the son of Immer, ¹⁴ and their brothers, valiant warriors, 128. And their overseer was Zabdiel, the son of Haggadolim. ¹⁵ Now from the Levites: Shemaiah the son of Hasshub, the son of Azrikam, the son of Hashabiah, the son of Bunni; ¹⁶ and Shabbethai and Jozabad, from the leaders of the Levites, who were in charge of the outside work of the house of God; ¹⁷ and Mattaniah the son of Mica, the son of Zabdi, the son of Asaph, who was the leader in beginning the thanksgiving at prayer, and Bakbukiah, the second among his kinsmen; and Abda the son of



Shammua, the son of Galal, the son of Jeduthun. ¹⁸ All the Levites in the holy city were 284. ¹⁹ Also the gatekeepers: Akkub, Talmon, and their kinsmen who kept watch at the gates, were 172. ²⁰ The rest of Israel, of the priests and of the Levites, were in all the cities of Judah, each on his own inheritance. ²¹ But the temple servants were living in Ophel, and Ziha and Gishpa were in charge of the temple servants. ²² Now the overseer of the Levites in Jerusalem was Uzzi the son of Bani, the son of Hashabiah, the son of Mattaniah, the son of Mica, from the sons of Asaph, who were the singers for the service of the house of God. ²³ For there was a commandment from the king concerning them and a royal command for the singers day by day. ²⁴ And Pethahiah the son of Meshezabel, of the sons of Zerah the son of Judah, was the king's representative for every matter concerning the people. ²⁵ Now as for the villages with their fields, some of the sons of Judah lived in Kiriath-arba and its towns, in Dibon and its towns, and in Jekabzeel and its villages, ²⁶ and in Jeshua, in Moladah, and Beth-pelet, ²⁷ and in Hazar-shual, in Beersheba and its towns, ²⁸ and in Ziklag, in Meconah and in its towns, ²⁹ and in En-rimmon, in Zorah, and in Jarmuth, ³⁰ Zanoah, Adullam, and their villages, Lachish and its fields, Azekah and its towns. So they camped from Beersheba as far as the Valley of Hinnom. ³¹ The sons of Benjamin also lived from Geba onward, at Michmash and Aija, at Bethel and its towns, ³² at Anathoth, Nob, Ananiah, ³³ Hazor, Ramah, Gittaim, ³⁴ Hadid, Zeboim, Neballat, ³⁵ Lod, and Ono, the Valley of Craftsmen. ³⁶ And from the Levites, some divisions in Judah belonged to Benjamin.

12 Now these are the priests and the Levites who came up with Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, and Jeshua: Seraiah, Jeremiah, Ezra, ² Amariah, Malluch, Hattush, ³ Shecaniah, Rehum, Meremoth, ⁴ Iddo, Ginnethoi, Abijah, ⁵ Mijamin, Maadiah, Bilgah, ⁶ Shemaiah and Joiarib, Jedaiah, ⁷ Sallu, Amok, Hilkiyah, and Jedaiah. These were the heads of the priests and their kinsmen in the days of Jeshua. ⁸ And the Levites were Jeshua, Binnui, Kadmiel, Sherebiah, Judah, and Mattaniah who was in charge of the songs of thanksgiving, he and his brothers. ⁹ Also Bakbukiah and Unni, their brothers, stood opposite them in their service divisions. ¹⁰ Jeshua fathered Joiakim, Joiakim fathered Eliashib, Eliashib fathered Joiada, ¹¹ Joiada fathered Jonathan, and Jonathan fathered Jaddua. ¹² Now in the days of Joiakim, the priests, the heads of fathers' households were: of Seraiah, Meraiah; of Jeremiah, Hananiah; ¹³ of Ezra, Meshullam; of Amariah, Jehohanan; ¹⁴ of Malluchi, Jonathan; of Shebaniah, Joseph; ¹⁵ of Harim, Adna; of Meraioth, Helkai; ¹⁶ of Iddo, Zechariah; of Ginnethon, Meshullam; ¹⁷ of Abijah, Zichri; of Miniamin, of Moadiah, Piltai; ¹⁸ of Bilgah, Shammua; of Shemaiah, Jehonathan; ¹⁹ of Joiarib, Mattenai; of Jedaiah, Uzzi; ²⁰ of Sallai, Kallai; of Amok, Eber; ²¹ of Hilkiyah, Hashabiah; and of Jedaiah, Nethanel. ²² As for the Levites, the heads of fathers' households were registered in the days of Eliashib, Joiada, and Johanan, and Jaddua; so were the priests in the reign of Darius the Persian. ²³ The sons of Levi, the heads of fathers' households, were registered in the Book of the Chronicles up to the days of Johanan the son of Eliashib. ²⁴ And the heads of the Levites were Hashabiah, Sherebiah, and Jeshua the son of Kadmiel, with their brothers opposite them, to praise and give thanks, as prescribed by David the man of God, division corresponding to division. ²⁵ Mattaniah, Bakbukiah, Obadiah, Meshullam, Talmon, and Akkub were gatekeepers keeping watch at the storerooms of the gates. ²⁶ These men served in the days of Joiakim the son of Jeshua, the son of Jozadak, and in the days of Nehemiah the governor and Ezra the priest and scribe.





REFLECT/CONNECT

These questions provide for individual reflection or to connect with others in meaningful conversation.

- If you could live in any city, anywhere in the world, where would you choose and why?
- What's one way someone has sacrificed for your good that left a lasting impact?



GROW IN THE WORD

These questions are designed to guide individual study and foster spiritual conversation in a group.

1. The next step in the restoration of God's people was to repopulate Jerusalem. Leaders settled there first, and lots were cast to bring in one-tenth of the people from the surrounding towns. Some others volunteered to live in Jerusalem. Nehemiah listed the families who returned (v. 11:1-24).
 - What stands out to you about how the people decided who would live in Jerusalem?
 - Why was it necessary to cast lots and to volunteer to live in the city? In other words, what made living in Jerusalem more challenging than living in the surrounding cities? Consider the opposition Nehemiah faced earlier in the book.
 - Are there places in your life where God might be calling you to step out or "move in" sacrificially for the sake of others?



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2. Nehemiah continued by listing the people who remained in the towns and villages surrounding Jerusalem, ensuring that the broader region of Judah was also inhabited and maintained. Nehemiah recorded the heads of the priestly families and Levites who served in the days of Zerubbabel and beyond (v. 11:25-12:26).
 - Why does Nehemiah take time to record so many names and roles? What does that say about God's heart for individuals and faithful service? See also Hebrews 6:10; Romans 16:1-16.
 - How does this passage reflect both the personal sacrifice and community commitment required in God's work of restoration?
 - In what ways does this passage encourage or convict you to work and live for the greater good?

Upcoming Events

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL | JUNE 9 - 13 | REGISTER BY JUNE 1

Grab your friends for the ultimate Alaskan adventure! At True North VBS, kids will trek the tundra and explore how easy it is to lose sight of what's true in our wild world today. You can expect a week full of faith discoveries, memorable music, and epic adventures that help kids grow in faith! Register online today!

FATHER DAUGHTER ROUNDUP | MAY 10 | REGISTER ONLINE

Dads & Daughters (K-12), join us for Texas-sized fun for all at the Father Daughter Roundup at [Hidden Springs Youth Ranch](#). This evening provides a great opportunity for you to invest in your relationship with your daughter by creating a memorable night out with horseback rides, fishing, games, photo ops, food, and great times with her!

