Open English Translation
of the Bible

Nehemyah

(Nehemiah)
rebuilds Yerushalem's walls

Introduction

Nehemyah (Nehemiah) was a servant of Persian King Artahshashta (Artaxerxes) in the city of Shushan. While he was there, he heard an account from some Israelis who'd been allowed to return back to Yerushalem (Jerusalem) about how hard it was to live there. Yahweh's temple had been rebuilt, however the city wall hadn't been fixed yet, so their enemies who surrounded them were easily able to ambush and attack them.
Because of that, Nehemyah requested permission from the king to go personally to Yerushalem to supervise the rebuilding of the city walls.
In this document we read how God helped Nehemyah of organise the rebuild of the city wall in the middle of the opposition from their enemies around them.

Main components of this account

Nehemyah's returning back to Yerushalem *1:1–2:20*
The rebuilding of Yerushalem's city wall *3:1–7:73*
The reading of the law and the renewal of their agreement *8:1–10:39*
Nehemyah's other achievements *11:1–13:31*

Lighter type marks additions. Underscores join parts of a single source word.
Struck words are untranslated. The ◘ sign marks a verse with no text.
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Readers' Version

1:1 The account by Hakalyah's son Nehemyah (Nehemiah).

Nehemyah's prayer for Yerushalem

In the month of Kislev during the twentieth year of the reign of King Artahshashta (Artaxerxes) over the Persian Empire, I was in the capital city of Shushan (Susa). **2** Hanani, one of my brothers, came with some other men from Yehudah (Judah), and I asked them about the Yehudim (Jews) who'd escaped and managed to avoid being exiled, and about Yerushalem (Jerusalem), **3** and he told me, "The ones left behind in the provinces and who avoided the captivity, are in a bad way and feeling depressed. The wall around Yerushalem was torn down, and its gates were burnt."

4 When I heard all that, I sat down and I was upset for days. I fasted and cried and prayed to the god of the heavens, **5** and I said, "Oh Yahweh, God of the heavens, the great and awesome God, who keeps his agreement and is determinedly loyal to those who love him and obey his instructions: **6** Please listen carefully to your servant's prayer that I'm presenting to you today, day and night, on account of your servants the Israelis. On behalf of all Israelis, I'm confessing that we've sinned against you—both my generation and previous generations. **7** We've acted extremely corruptly—disobeying you by not obeying your commands, statutes, and judgements that you instructed through your servant Mosheh (Moses). **8** Please remember that you told your servant Mosheh that if we act unfaithfully, you yourself would scatter us among the nations,[2] **9** but if we'd return to you and obey your instructions, then even if we had been banished to the ends of the earth, you'd gather us back up and bring us back to the place where you've established your name and reputation.[3]

10 "We're your servants and your people that you rescued from slavery with your incredible power. **11** Oh, my master, please listen carefully to your servant's prayer, and to the prayer of your other servants who delight to honour your name. Please cause your servant to succeed today, and give me favour in the king's eyes."

Now as for me, I was the king's cupbearer.

Nehemyah gets sent to Yerushalem

2:1 In the spring of the twentieth year of King Artahshashta's (Artaxerxes') reign, I was serving wine to the king. I'd never looked sad before in his presence, **2** and the king asked me, "Why do you look unhappy? I know that you're not sick so something must be upsetting you."

Literal Version

1:1 The_words/messages_of Nəḥem^{yāh} the_son_of Ḥ$_a$kal^{yāh} and_ _he/it_was in_the_month_of Kişlēv[1] year_of twenty and_I I_was in_Shūshan the_citadel.

2 And_ Ḥ$_a$nānī one of_brothers_of_my he and_people from_ _Yəhūdāh/(Judah) _he_came and_I_asked_them on the_ _Yəhūdī/(Jews) the_escaped_remnant who they_remained from the_captivity and_on Yərūshālaim/(Jerusalem). **3** And_ _they_said to_me those_who_remain who they_have_remained from the_captivity there in_province are_in_trouble great and_ _in_disgrace and_the_wall_of Yərūshālaim/(Jerusalem) is_ _broken_down and_gates_of_its they_have_been_burnt with_ _fire. **4** And_he/it_was just_as_I_heard ᴅᴏᴍ the_ _words/messages the_these I_sat_down and_I_wept and_I_ _mourned days and_I_was fasting and_praying to_(the)_face_ _of/in_front_of/before the_god_of the_heavens. **5** And_I_said please Oh_**YHWH** the_god_of the_heavens the_god (the)_great and_(the)_awesome who_keeps the_covenant and_covenant_ _loyalty to_those_of_who_love_him and_to_those_who_keep_of commands_of_(of)_his. **6** Let_it_be please ear_of_your attentive and_eyes_of_your open[4] to_listen to the_prayer_of your_ _servant_of_your which I am_praying to_your_face the_day by_ _day and_night on the_people_of Yisrā'ēl/(Israel) your_servants and_I_am_confessing on the_sins_of the_people_of Yisrā'ēl/(Israel) which we_have_sinned to/for_you(fs) and_I and_the_house_of my_father_of_my we_have_sinned. **7** Exceedingly_(corruptly) we_have_acted_corruptly to/for_ _you(fs) and_not we_have_kept ᴅᴏᴍ the_commands and_ᴅᴏᴍ the_regulations and_ᴅᴏᴍ the_judgements which you_ _commanded ᴅᴏᴍ Mosheh servant_of_your. **8** Remember please ᴅᴏᴍ the_message which you_commanded ᴅᴏᴍ Mosheh servant_ _of_your to_say you(pl) you(pl)_will_act_unfaithfully I I_will_ _scatter you(pl) among_peoples. **9** And_you(pl)_will_turn_back to_me and_you(pl)_will_keep commands_of_my you(pl)_will_ _observe ᴅᴏᴍ_them if your_banished_of_one it_will_be at_the_ _end_of the_heavens from_there I_will_gather_them will_ _bring_them[5] to the_place where I_have_chosen to_cause_to_ _dwell ᴅᴏᴍ name_of_my there. **10** And_they your_servants and_ _people_of_your whom you_redeemed by_strength_of_your (the)_great and_by_hand_of_your (the)_mighty. **11** Please my_ _master let_it_be please ear_of_your attentive to the_prayer_of your_servant_of_your and_near/to the_prayer_of your_ _servants (the)_delighting to_fear ᴅᴏᴍ your(ms)_name and_ _grant_success please to_servant_of_your the_day and_give_ _him (to)_compassion(s) to_(the)_face_of/in_front_of/before the_man the_this and_I I_was cup_bearer of_king.

2:1 And_he/it_was in_the_month_of Nisan year_of twenty of_ _'Artaḥshashtā' the_king wine was_before_of_him and_I_took ᴅᴏᴍ the_wine and_I_gave_it to/for_the_king and_not I_had_ _been sad before_him. **2** And_he/it_said to_me the_king why face_of_is_your sad and_you(ms) not_you are_sick is_not this if/because (if) sadness_of heart and_I_was_afraid greatly very.

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1 LV 1:1 · Note OSHB variant note: ולסכ: (x-qere) וַיְלַסְּכֵ֑הוּ: lemma_3691 n_0.1.0 morph_HNp id_16LN3 וַיְלַסְּכֵ֑הוּ

2 RV 1:8 · Cross-ref. Lev 26:33.

3 RV 1:9 · Cross-ref. Deu 30:1-5.

4 LV 1:6 · Note OSHB note: We agree with both BHS 1997 and BHQ on an unexpected reading.

5 LV 1:9 · Note OSHB variant note: ם/יתאובה/ו: (x-qere) ם/יתוֹאיְבֵה/ו: lemma_c/935 n_0.2.0 morph_HC/Vhq1cs/Sp3mp id_16sKn ם/יתוֹאיְבֵה/ו

Literal Version

3 And_I_said to/for_the_king the_king forever_perpetuity may_
_he_live why not face_of_my will_they_be_sad that the_city
the_house_of the_tombs_of my_ancestors_of_my is_desolate
and_gates_of_its they_have_been_consumed by_fire. 4 And_
_he/it_said to_me the_king on what this are_you requesting
and_I_prayed to the_god_of the_heavens. 5 And_I_said to/for_
_the_king if is_on the_king good and_if servant_of_your he_is_
_good to_your_face which/who you_will_send_me to
Yəhūdāh/(Judah) to the_city_of the_tombs_of my_ancestors_
_of_my and_I_will_rebuild_it. 6 And_he/it_said to_me the_king
and_the_queen-consort was_sitting beside_him until when
will_it_be journey_of_your and_when will_you_return and_it_
_was_good to_(the)_face_of/in_front_of/before the_king and_
_he_sent_me and_I_gave to_him/it an_appointed_time. 7 And_I_
_said to/for_the_king if is_on the_king good letters let_people_
_give to_me to the_governors_of the_other_side_of the_river
that they_will_allow_me_to_pass_through until that I_will_
_come to Yəhūdāh. 8 And_a_letter to ʾĀṣāf the_one_who_kept_
_of the_forest which to/for_the_king that he_will_give to_me
wood(s) to_make_beams_for ᴅᴏᴍ the_gates_of the_citadel
which belongs_to_house and_for_the_wall_of the_city and_for_
_house which I_will_go to_him/it and_he_gave_them to_me
the_king according_to_the_hand_of my_god_of_my (the)_good
on_me. 9 And_I_went to the_governors_of[7] of_the_other_side_
_of the_river and_I_gave to/for_them ᴅᴏᴍ the_letters_of the_
_king and_he_had_sent with_me the_king commanders_of the_
_army and_horsemen. 10 And_ Ṣanvallaṭ the_Horonite and_
_Ṭōviy^{yāh} the_servant the_ʿAmmōnī _he/it_listened and_it_
_was_displeasing to/for_them displeasure great which/who
someone he_had_come to_seek good for_the_people_of
Yisrāʾēl/(Israel). 11 And_I_came to Yərūshālaim/(Jerusalem)
and_I_was there days three. 12 And_I_arose night I and_men a_
_few with_me and_not I_had_told to/for_ʾĀdām/humankind
what god_of_was_my putting into heart_of_my for_doing for_
_Yərūshālaim/(Jerusalem) and_an_animal there_was_not with_
_me if/because (if) the_cattle/livestock which I was_riding on_
_it. 13 And_I_went_out by_the_gate_of the_valley night and_
_near/to the_face_of the_Well_of the and_near/to the_gate_of
the_dung and_I_was examining (on)_the_walls_of
Yərūshālaim/(Jerusalem) which the[8] and_gates_of_its they_
_had_been_consumed by_fire. 14 And_I_passed_on to the_gate_
_of the_spring and_near/to the_pool_of the_king and_there_
_was_not room for_animal to_pass_through under_me. 15 And_
_I_was going_up in_wadi night and_I_was examining (on)_wall
and_I_turned_back and_I_went in_the_gate_of the_valley and_I_
_returned. 16 And_the_officials not they_knew where had_I_
_gone and_what was_I doing and_to_Yəhūdī/(Jews) and_to_
_priests and_to_nobles and_to_officials and_to_the_rest_of the_
_doer[s]_of the_work until thus not I_had_told. 17 And_I_said
to_them you(pl) are_seeing the_trouble which we are_in_it
which/who Yərūshālaim/(Jerusalem) is_desolate and_gates_of_
_its they_have_been_burnt with_fire come and_let_us_rebuild

Readers' Version

I was very scared 3 and I answered the king, "May the king live forever. I can't help but look unhappy when the city containing my ancestors' graves has had its gates burnt down and it's now abandoned."[6] 4 "So what would you like to happen?" the king asked.

Then I prayed to the god of heaven 5 and answered the king, "If I have your favour, and if it seems good to the king, maybe you'd send me to Yehudah (Judah)—to the city of my ancestors' graves so I could rebuild it."

6 Then the king said to me, with the queen sitting beside him, "How long would your journey be? And when would you return?" So I gave him a date and he seemed happy with it, because he released me to go.

7 Then I made another request, "If it pleases the king, let letters be given to me for the governors of the provinces across the Perat (Euphrates) river to ask them to help me in my travel towards Yehudah. 8 Also a letter to Asaf, the keeper of the king's forest, so he'll give me timber for the beams of the gates of the fortress near the temple, and for the city wall, and for the house that I'll live in." Then the king granted those requests, thanks to God's help on what I was doing.

9 Then I went to the governors of the provinces across the Perat, and I gave them the king's letters. The king had sent army officers and horsemen with me. 10 When Sanvalat the Horoni and the servant Toviyah the Amoni heard my plans, they were very angry that someone would come to help the Israelis.

11 So I got to Yerushalem (Jerusalem) and was there for three days, 12 One night, I got up and took a few men with me, without having told anyone what I felt that my god had been telling me to do for Yerushalem. We only had the one horse that I was riding, 13 and we went out in the dark through the Valley Gate and past the Dragon Well to the Dung Gate. I was carefully inspecting the city walls—noting where they were broken down and which gates had been burnt out. 14 Then I crossed to the Fountain Gate and the Royal Pool, but there was nowhere that we could get my mount through the rubble. 15 So I went up the creek bed in the dark, carefully inspecting the wall, before turning back and returning quietly through the Valley Gate.

16 None of the city officials knew where I'd gone or what I was doing, and up until this point I hadn't yet told my plans to the Jewish leaders or the priests or leading citizens or city officials, or hired any workers. 17 So now I told them, "You call all see the desperate situation that we're in: Yerushalem is in ruins and its gates have been burnt out. So now, let's rebuild the city wall and then we'll no longer be mocked by others." 18 I told them how God had helped me so far and what the king had given me permission to do.

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6 **RV 2:3 · Cross-ref.** 2Ki 25:8-10; 2Ch 36:19; Jer 52:12-14.

7 **LV 2:9 · Note** OSHB note: We read one or more accents in L differently from BHQ.

8 **LV 2:13 · Note** OSHB variant note: **מיצורפמ/ה**: (x-qere) **הֶָּ**': lemma_1992 n_0.0 morph_HPp3mp id_16Nq4 **הֶָּ**ו**מְיצוּרְפִ**': lemma_6555 n_0.1 morph_HVqsmpa id_16rZH **מְיצוּרְפִ**

Readers' Version

"Well, let's get started on the rebuilding," they said, and got ready to work together. **19** But then Sanvalat the Horoni, and the Amoni servant Toviyah, and Geshem the Aravi heard, and they mocked and despised us, saying, "What are you guys all up to? Are you all rebelling against the king?"

20 I answered them by explaining, "The god of the heavens will help us to succeed, and we ourselves, his servants, will do the rebuilding work, but you all will have no part in it, and no rights in Yerushalem."

Rebuilding Yerushalem's wall

3:1 The high priest Elyashiv worked together with his brothers the priests, and they rebuilt the Sheep Gate. They themselves dedicated it and installed the doors on it. In addition, they dedicated the section of the wall as far as the Hundred Tower and beyond that to the Hananel Tower.

2 The men from Yeriho (Jericho) rebuilt the section beside them, and Imri's son Zakur rebuilt the next section again.

3 Hasena'ah's son rebuilt the Fish Gate—laying the beams then installing the doors with their bolts and bars.

4 Uriyah's son Meremot (the son of Hakots's son Uriyah) rebuilt a section, as did Meshulam (son of Mesheyzavel's son Berekyah) and Ba'ana's son Tsadok. **5** The Tekoim worked next to them, but their leaders wouldn't actually help with the work.

6 Paseah's son Yoyada and Besodeyah's son Meshulam rebuilt the Yeshanah Gate—laying the beams then installing the doors with their bolts and bars. **7** Next to them was Melatyah the Givoni, Yadon the Meronoti, and men of Giveon and Mitspah rebuilding the section to the residence of the governor of the regions that side of the Perat (Euphrates).

8 Next again was Harhayah's son Uziel (one of the goldsmiths), then Hananyah (who was a son of the perfumers) rebuilt as far as the Broad Wall. **9** Then it was Hur's son Refayah, the administrator for half of the Yerushalem (Jerusalem) district. **10** Harumaf's son Yedayah repaired the section in front of his house, then Hashavneyah's son Hatush made the next repairs.

11 Harim's son Malkiyah and Pahat-Moav's son Hashuv repaired a section, as well as the Tower of Ovens. **12** Next to them was Halohesh's son Shalum, the administrator for another half of the Yerushalem district, helped by his daughters.

13 Hanun and the inhabitants of Zanoah rebuilt the Valley Gate—installing the doors with their bolts and bars, as well as repairing 500m of wall along to the Dung Gate. **14** Rekav's son Malkiyah, the administrator for the Beyt-Hakerem district, rebuilt the Dung Gate—installing the doors with their bolts and bars.

15 Kal-Hozeh's son Shalun, the administrator for the Mitspah district, rebuilt the Fountain Gate—he built and covered it, in-

Literal Version

~~ĐǾM~~ the_wall_of Yərūshālaim/(Jerusalem) and_not we_will_be again a_reproach. **18** And_I_told to/for_them ~~ĐǾM~~ the_hand_of my_god_of_my which/who it had_been_good on_me and_also the_words/messages_of the_king which he_had_spoken to_me and_they_said let_us_arise and_we_will_rebuild and_they_ _strengthened hands_of_their for_good. **19** And_he/it_listened Ṣanvallaṭ the_Horonite and_Ṭōviy^{yāh} the_servant the_ʿAmmōnī and_Geshem the_ʿArāvī and_they_mocked to/for_us and_they_ _despised (on)_us and_they_said what is_the_thing the_this which you(pl) are_doing on the_king are_you(pl) rebelling. **20** And_I_brought_back them message and_I_said to/for_them the_god_of the_heavens he he_will_grant_success to/for_us and_we servants_of_his we_will_arise and_we_will_rebuild and_ _for_you(pl) there_is_not a_share and_a_right and_a_memorial in_Yərūshālaim/(Jerusalem).

3:1 And_ ʾElyāshiyv the_priest/officer (the)_great and_ _brothers_of_his the_priests _he/it_rose_up and_they_rebuilt ~~ĐǾM~~ the_gate_of the_sheep they they_consecrated_it and_they_ _set_up doors_of_its and_unto the_tower_of the_hundred they_ _consecrated_it to the_tower_of Ḥ$_a$nan^{ʾēl}. **2** And_on his/its_ _hand the_men_of Yərīḥō/(Jericho) they_built and_on his/its_ _hand Zakkūr the_son_of ʾImrī he_built. **3** And_~~ĐǾM~~ the_gate_of the_fish(es) the_sons_of (the)_Senaah they_rebuilt they they_ _made_beams_for_it and_they_set_up doors_of_its bolts_of_its and_bars_of_its. **4** And_on hand_of_their Mərēmōt the_son_of ʾŪriy^{yāh} the_son_of Haqqōṣ he_repaired and_on hand_of_their Məshullām the_son_of Berek^{yāh} the_son_of Məshēyzav^{ʾēl} he_ _repaired and_on hand_of_their Tsādōq/(Zadok) the_son_of Baʿ$_a$nāʾ he_repaired. **5** And_on hand_of_their the_Təqōʿī they_ _repaired and_their_of_nobles not they_brought neck_of_their in_the_work_of their_master(s)_of_their. **6** And_~~ĐǾM~~ the Jeshanah Yōyādāʿ/(Joiada) the_son_of Pāṣēaḥ and_Məshullām the_son_of Bəṣōdə^{yāh} they_repaired they they_made_beams_ _for_it and_they_set_up doors_of_its and_bolts_of_its and_bars_ _of_its. **7** And_on hand_of_their Məlaṭ^{yāh} the_Giv^{ʿ}ōnite and_ _Yādōn/(Jadon) the_Mēronotī the_men_of Giv^{ʿ}ōn and_(the)_ _Mitspāh to_the_seat_of the_governor_of the_other_side_of the_river he_repaired. **8** On his/its_hand ʿUzziy^{ʾēl} the_son_of Ḥarh$_a$^{yāh} goldsmiths he_repaired and_on his/its_hand Ḥ$_a$nan^{yāh} the_son_of the_perfumers he_repaired and_they_restored Yərūshālaim/(Jerusalem) to the_wall (the)_broad. **9** And_on hand_of_their Rəfāyāh the_son_of Ḥūr the_official_of (the)_half_ _of the_district_of Yərūshālaim/(Jerusalem) he_repaired. **10** And_on hand_of_their Yədaʿ^{yāh}/(Jedaiah) the_son_of Ḥ$_a$rūmaf he_repaired and_before house_of_his_own and_on his/its_hand Ḥaṭṭūsh the_son_of Ḥ$_a$shavnə^{yāh} he_repaired. **11** A_measured_portion second Malkīy^{yāh} the_son_of Ḥārim and_Ḥashshūv the_son_of Paḥat- Mōʾāv he_repaired and_~~ĐǾM~~ the_tower_of the_ovens. **12** And_on his/its_hand Shallūm the_ _son_of Hallōḥēsh the_official_of (the)_half_of the_district_of Yərūshālaim/(Jerusalem) he and_daughters_of_his he_repaired. **13** ~~ĐǾM~~ the_gate_of the_valley Ḥānūn and_the_inhabitants_of Zānōaḥ he_repaired they they_rebuilt_it and_they_set_up doors_of_its bolts_of_its and_bars_of_its and_one_thousand cubit[s] in_wall to the_gate_of the_dung. **14** And_~~ĐǾM~~ the_gate_ _of the_dung Malkīy^{yāh} the_son_of Rēkāv the_official_of the_ _district_of Bēyt Hakkerem he_repaired he he_rebuilt_it and_ _he_set_up doors_of_its bolts_of_its and_bars_of_its. **15** And_

Literal Version

_ĐǾM the_gate_of the_spring Shallūn the_son_of Kol/(Col)-Ḥozeh the_official_of the_district_of (the)_Mitspāh he_repaired he he_rebuilt_it and_he_roofed_over_it and[9] doors_of_its bolts_ _of_its and_bars_of_its and_ĐǾM the_wall_of the_pool_of (the)_ _Shēlāh to/for_garden the_king and_unto the_steps which_go_ _down from_the_city_of Dāvid. **16** After_him Nəḥem^{yāh} the_ _son_of ʿAzbūq the_official_of (the)_half_of the_district_of Bēyt Tsūr he_repaired to before the_tombs_of Dāvid and_unto the_ _pool (the)_made and_unto the_house_of the_ _powerful/mighty(pl). **17** After_him the_Lēviyyiy they_repaired Rəḥūm the_son_of Bānī on his/its_hand Ḥ$_a$shav^{yāh} the_official_ _of (the)_half_of the_district_of Qəʿīlāh he_repaired for_ _district_of_his. **18** After_him brothers_of_their they_repaired Bavvay the_son_of Ḥēnādād the_official_of (the)_half_of the_ _district_of Qəʿīlāh. **19** And_he_repaired on his/its_hand ʿĒzer the_son_of Yēshūʿa/(Jeshua) the_official_of (the)_Mitspāh a_ _measured_portion second from_before the_going_up of_the_ _armoury the_buttress. **20** After_him he_kindled he_repaired Bārūk the_son_of Zaccai[10] a_measured_portion second from the_buttress to the_entrance_of the_house_of ʾElyāshiyv the_ _priest/officer (the)_great. **21** After_him Mərēmōt the_son_of ʾŪriy^{yāh} the_son_of Haqqōts he_repaired a_measured_portion second from_the_entrance_of the_house_of ʾElyāshiyv and_ _unto the_end_of the_house_of ʾElyāshiyv. **22** And_after_him the_priests the_men_of the_surrounding_region they_repaired. **23** After_him Binyāmīn and_Ḥashshūv he_repaired before house_of_their_own after_him ʿAzar^{yāh} the_son_of Ma$_a$sē^{yāh} the_son_of ʿAnan^{yāh} he_repaired beside house_of_his_own. **24** After_him Binnūy the_son_of Ḥēnādād he_repaired a_ _measured_portion second from_the_house_of ʿAzar^{yāh} to the_ _buttress and_unto the_corner. **25** Pālāl the_son_of ʾŪzay from_ _before the_buttress and_the_tower which_projects from_the_ _house_of the_king (the)_upper which belongs_to_the_ _courtyard_of the_guard after_him Pədāy^{āh} the_son_of Parʿosh/(Parosh). **26** And_the_temple_servants who_they_were dwelling on_ʿOfel to before the_gate_of the_waters to_east and_ _the_tower which_projects. **27** After_him the_Təqōʿī they_ _repaired a_measured_portion second from_before the_tower (the)_great which_projects and_unto the_wall_of (the)_ʿOfel. **28** From_under the_gate_of the_horses the_priests they_ _repaired each to_before house_of_his_own. **29** After_him Tsādōq/(Zadok) the_son_of ʾImmēr he_repaired before house_ _of_his_own and_after_him Shəmaʿ^{yāh} the_son_of Shəkan^{yāh} the_keeper_of the_gate_of the_east he_repaired. **30** Mmm[11] Ḥ$_a$nan^{yāh} the_son_of Shelem^{yāh} and_Ḥānūn the_son_of Tsālāf/(Zalaph) the_sixth he_repaired a_measured_portion second mmm Məshullām the_son_of Berek^{yāh} he_repaired before room_of_his_own. **31** After_him[12] Malkīy^{yāh} the_son_of the_goldsmith[s] he_repaired to the_house_of the_temple_ _servants and_the_traders before the_gate_of the_muster and_ _unto the_roof-chamber_of the_corner. **32** And_between the_ _roof-chamber_of the_corner and_the_gate_of the_sheep the_

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stalling the doors with their bolts and bars, and repaired the wall of the Shelah Pool from the king's garden as far as the stairs that come down from the City of David. **16** Next to him was Azbuk's son Nehemyah (Nehemiah), the administrator for half of the Beyt-Tsur district

17 Next to him were some Levites: Bani's son Rehum, then Hashavyah (the administrator for half of the Ke'ilah district) did his district, **18** then Henadad's son Bavay the administrator for the other half of the Ke'ilah district.

19 Then there was Yeshua's son Ezer (the administrator of Mitspah) repaired a section opposite the steps up to the armoury where the wall turned at an angle.

20 Then Zakay's son Baruk enthusiastically repaired another section from that angle to the entrance to the house of the high priest Elyashiv. **21** Next to him was Meremot (son of Hakots' son Uriyah) who repaired another section from the doorway of Elyashiv's house to the end of it.

22 Next to them, some priests from the surrounding area made repairs.

23 After them Benyamin and Hashuv repaired a section in front of their house, then Azaryah (son of Ananyah's son Ma'aseyah) repaired beside his house, **24** Henadad's son Binuy repaired another section from Azaryah's house to the corner, **25** Uzay's son Palal did opposite the corner and the tower above the palace by the guards' courtyard, and then Par'osh's son Pedayah.

26 The temple servants who lived in Ofel repaired as far as the eastern side of the Water Gate and its tower. **27** After them, the men from Tekoa repaired another section from opposite that tall tower to the Ofel wall.

28 The priests repaired the section past the Horse Gate—each of them repairing the section in front of his own house. **29** Next to them, Imer's son Tsadok repaired opposite his house, then Shekanyah's son Shemayah the gatekeeper at the Eastern Gate repaired the next section.

30 After him was Shelemyah's son Hananyah with Tsalaf's sixth son Hanun working on a second section, then Berekyah's sib Meshulam repairing a section in front of his quarters. **31** Next was the goldsmiths' son Malkiyah who repaired as far as the house of the temple servants and the merchants, opposite the Inspection Gate, and up to the upper room in the corner, **32** and the other goldsmiths and some merchants repaired the last section of the wall from the upper room in the corner to the Sheep Gate.

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9 LV 3:15 · Note OSHB variant note: **ודימעי/ו**: (x-qere) **ʾדִימָּעִי/וְ**ʾ: lemma_c/5975 n_1.1.0 morph_HC/Vhi3ms id_16BYi **דִימָּעִי/וְ**

10 LV 3:20 · Note OSHB variant note: **יבז**: (x-qere) **ʾיְכַזְ**: lemma_2140 n_1.0 morph_HNp id_16fZA **יְכַזְ**

11 LV 3:30 · Note OSHB variant note: **רחא/י**: (x-qere) **ʾוְיֶרַחַאְ**: lemma_310 a morph_HR/Sp3ms id_16Y6k **וְיֶרַחַא**

12 LV 3:31 · Note OSHB variant note: **ירחא**: (x-qere) **ʾוְיֶרַחַאְ**: lemma_310 a morph_HR/Sp3ms id_166R1 **וְיֶרַחַא**

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The opposition to Nehemyah

4:1 When Sanvalat heard that we were rebuilding the wall, he got really angry. He mocked the Yehudim (Jews) **2** and he spoke before in front of his brothers and the army of Shomron (Samaria), "What are those feeble Yehudim doing? Do they think they'll be able to rebuild that place themselves? Will they sacrifice? Will they get finished one day? Will they form the stones back together from piles of dust, when they've been weakened by the heat of the fires?"

3 Toviyah the Amoni was standing beside him and confirmed, "Yes, even if a fox walked over that stone wall that they're building, it would make it fall down."

4 I prayed, "Our god, listen to how we're mocked and cause their words to return on their own heads and send them away as captives to become the plunder for another country. **5** Don't just cover over their evil, and don't just ignore their sin, because they've repeatedly made the workers get angry."

6 So we kept on at building the wall, and eventually all the segments of wall were joined up together up to about half its full height, and so the people were encouraged to keep persevering.

7 Now when Sanvalat, and Toviyah, and the Aravim, and the Amonim, and the Ashdodim heard that the Yerushalem (Jerusalem) walls were getting repaired and the breaks were beginning to be closed up, it made them extremely angry **8** and they all got together to come to attack Yerushalem and to throw us into confusion. **9** So we prayed to our god, as well as setting up a 24-hour guard to watch out for them.

10 People around Yehudah (Judah) said, "The workers are running out of strength and there's a lot of rubble still to be moved. Maybe we're not up to building this wall."

11 Then those against us said, "We'll rush in among them and kill some of them before they even see us or know that we're coming, then that will bring the work to an end." **12** After that, whenever the Yehudim (Jews) living close to them came, they repeatedly warned us, "They're going to attack us from all directions." **13** So I stationed guards behind the lowest places along the wall and where there were still gaps. I also made sure that

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_goldsmiths and_the_traders they_repaired.

33 13 And_he/it_was just_as Ṣanvallaṭ he_heard if/because_that we were_rebuilding ᴅᴏᴍ the_wall and_it_glowed/burnt to_ _him/it and_he_was_angry greatly and_he_mocked (on) the_ _Yəhūdī/(Jews). **34 14** And_he/it_said to_(the)_face_of/in_front_ _of/before brothers_of_his and_the_army_of Shomrōn and_ _he/it_said what are_the_Yəhūdī (the)_feeble doing will_they_ _restore to/for_them will_they_offer_sacrifices will_they_finish in_day will_they_restore ᴅᴏᴍ the_stones from_the_heaps_of (the)_debris and_they are_burnt. **35 15** And_Ṭōvıy^{yāh} the_ _ʹAmmōnī was_beside_him and_he/it_said also that_which they are_building if a_fox it_will_go_up and_it_will_break_down the_ _wall_of their_stones_of_their. **36 16** Hear our_god_of_Oh if/because we_are contempt and_return reproach_of_their to head_of_their_own and_give_them to_plunder in_land captivity. **37 17** And_do_not cover over iniquity_of_their and_ _sin_of_their from_before_face_of_you not let_it_be_wiped_out if/because they_have_provoked_to_anger to_before the_ _builders. **38 18** And_we_rebuilt ᴅᴏᴍ the_wall and_ all_of the_ _wall _it_was_joined_together to middle_of_its and_ a_heart to_ _people _he/it_was for_doing.

4:1 19 And_he/it_was when_when Ṣanvallaṭ and_Ṭōvıy^{yāh} and_ _the_ʹArāvī and_the_ʹAmmōnī and_the_Ashdodites he_heard if/because_that the_repair of_the_walls_of of_ _Yərūshālaim/(Jerusalem) it_had_gone_up if/because_that the_ _broken_down_parts they_had_begun to_be_stopped_up and_ _it_glowed/burnt to/for_them exceedingly. **2 20** And_ of_them_ _of_all _they_conspired together to_come to_wage_war against_ _Yərūshālaim/(Jerusalem) and_to_make to_him/it confusion. **3 21** And_we_prayed to god_of_our and_we_stationed a_guard on_them by_day and_night because_of_them. **4 22** And_ Yəhūdāh/(Judah) _he/it_said the_strength_of the_ _burden-bearer[s] it_has_failed and_the_debris is_much and_we not we_will_be_able to_rebuild (on)_wall. **5 23** And_ foes_of_our _they_said not they_will_know and_not they_will_see until that we_will_come into of_them_of_the_midst and_we_will_kill_ _them and_we_will_put_an_end_to ᴅᴏᴍ the_work. **6 24** And_ _he/it_was just_as the_Yəhūdī/(Jews) who_were_dwelling beside_them they_came and_they_said to/for_us ten times from_all the_places which/who you(pl)_will_turn to_us. **7 25** And_I_stationed from_the_lower_parts of_place from_behind

13 LV 3:33 · Note Note: KJB: Neh.4.1
14 LV 3:34 · Note Note: KJB: Neh.4.2
15 LV 3:35 · Note Note: KJB: Neh.4.3
16 LV 3:36 · Note Note: KJB: Neh.4.4
17 LV 3:37 · Note Note: KJB: Neh.4.5
18 LV 3:38 · Note Note: KJB: Neh.4.6
19 LV 4:1 · Note Note: KJB: Neh.4.7
20 LV 4:2 · Note Note: KJB: Neh.4.8
21 LV 4:3 · Note Note: KJB: Neh.4.9
22 LV 4:4 · Note Note: KJB: Neh.4.10
23 LV 4:5 · Note Note: KJB: Neh.4.11
24 LV 4:6 · Note Note: KJB: Neh.4.12
25 LV 4:7 · Note Note: KJB: Neh.4.13

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of_wall in/on/at/with[26] and_I_stationed ~~DOM~~ the_people to_
_clans with swords_of_their spears_of_their and_bows_of_their.
8 [27] And_I_saw and_I_arose and_I_said to the_nobles and_
_near/to the_officials and_near/to the_rest_of the_people do_
_not be_afraid from_their_face/front ~~DOM~~ my_master (the)_
great and(the)_awesome remember and_fight on brothers_
_of_your(pl) sons_of_your(pl) and_daughters_of_your(pl)
wives_of_your(pl) and_houses_of_your(pl). 9 [28] And_he/it_was
when_when enemies_of_our they_heard if/because_that it_
_was_known[29] to/for_us and_ the_'Elohīm _he_had_frustrated
~~DOM~~ purpose_of_their and[30] of_us_of_all to the_wall each to
their_property/content. 10 [31] And_he/it_was from the_day
(the)_that (the)_half_of my_young_men_of_my were_doing
(in)_work and_half_of_of_them were_holding and_the_spears
the_shields and_the_bows and_the_body_armour(s) and_the_
_commanders were_behind all_of the_house_of
Yəhūdāh/(Judah). 11 [32] Who_were_rebuilding (on)_wall and_
_those_who_were_carrying in_burden were_carrying_it with_
_the_one_of his/its_hand he_was_doing (in)_work and_one_
_hand was_holding the_weapon. 12 [33] And_the_builders each
sword_of_his were_girded on hips_of_his and_they_were_
_building and_the_one_who_gave_a_blast on_horn was_beside_
_me. 13 [34] And_I_said to the_nobles and_near/to the_officials
and_near/to the_rest_of the_people the_work is_much and_
_extensive and_we are_separated on the_wall are_distant each
from_brother_of_his. 14 [35] In_the_place_of (of)_where you(pl)_
_will_hear ~~DOM~~ the_sound_of the_ram's_horn to_(to) you(pl)_
_will_assemble to_us god_of_our he_will_fight to/for_us. 15 [36]
And_we were_doing (in)_work and_half_of_of_them were_
_keeping_hold on_spears from_ the_dawn _when_came_up
until the_stars came_out. 16 [37] Also at_time (the)_that I_said to_
_people each and_servant_of_his let_them_spend_the_night in_
_the_middle of_Yərūshālaim/(Jerusalem) and_they_will_be
to/for_us the_night a_guard and_the_day work. 17 [38] And_not I
and_brothers_of_my and_servants_of_my and_the_men_of the_
_guard who were_behind_me not we were_stripping_off
clothes_of_our each weapon_of_his the_waters.

5:1 And_it_became (the)_cry_of_distress_of the_people and_
_wives_of_their great against countrymen_of_their the_
_Yəhūdī/(Jews). 2 And_there_were those_who were_saying
sons_of_our and_daughters_of_our we are_many and_let_us_get
grain and_we_eat and_so_that_we_may_live. 3 And_there_were

Readers' Version

the families stood guard with their swords, spears, and bows.

14 I looked then I got organised and told the leading citizens and the prefects, and the rest of the people, "Don't be afraid of their threats. Remember my powerful and fearsome master, and fight for your brothers, your sons and your daughters, your wives, and your houses." 15 After all that, when our enemies realised that we were aware of their intentions and that God had frustrated their surprise attack plan, we all returned to our work on the wall.

16 So from that day onwards, half of my young men would work on the rebuilding, while the other half stood guard with spears, shields, and breastplates, and the officials encouraged them all from behind. 17 Both those who were placing the stones on the wall and those who were carrying the heavy loads to them, always had their weapons with them in case of an attack. 18 The builders had their swords strapped to their sides as they worked, and the man who would sound the trumpet stayed with me. 19 Then I told the leading citizens and prefects, and the rest of the people, "This job is so large and extensive that we're all separated from each other when we work on the wall, 20 so whenever you all hear the trumpet blast, join us at that place. Our god will fight for us." 21 So we continued the work with half of them keeping their hands on their spears from the beginning of the day until the stars came out at night.

22 Also at that time, I told the people, "Every worker including servants should spend the night inside the city, so they double as workers during the day and guards at night." 23 During that period of construction, none of us, not even our servants, stayed undressed or separated from our weapons, even when washing.

The resolution of Nehemyah of problem

5:1 However around then, there was a widespread complaint from the people and their wives against what their fellow Yehudim (Jews) were doing. 2 Some of them complained,

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26 **LV 4:7 · Note** OSHB variant note: **מיחחצ/ב**: (x-qere) '**מְיַחְיְחָצ/ב**': lemma_b/6706 n_1 morph_HRd/Ncmpa id_16j2a **מְיַחְיְחָצ/ב**

27 **LV 4:8 · Note** Note: KJB: Neh.4.14

28 **LV 4:9 · Note** Note: KJB: Neh.4.15

29 **LV 4:9 · Note** OSHB note: We read one or more accents in L differently from BHQ.

30 **LV 4:9 · Note** OSHB variant note: **בושנ/ו**: (x-qere) '**בָּשָׁנָ/ו**': lemma_c/7725 morph_HC/Vqw1cp id_16V8j **בָּשָׁנָ/ו**

31 **LV 4:10 · Note** Note: KJB: Neh.4.16

32 **LV 4:11 · Note** Note: KJB: Neh.4.17

33 **LV 4:12 · Note** Note: KJB: Neh.4.18

34 **LV 4:13 · Note** Note: KJB: Neh.4.19

35 **LV 4:14 · Note** Note: KJB: Neh.4.20

36 **LV 4:15 · Note** Note: KJB: Neh.4.21

37 **LV 4:16 · Note** Note: KJB: Neh.4.22

38 **LV 4:17 · Note** Note: KJB: Neh.4.23

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"There's a lot of us when we include our sons and daughters. We need grain so we can eat and stay alive."

3 Others said, "We are mortgaging our fields and vineyards, and our houses so we can get grain during this famine."

4 Yet others said, "We've borrowed silver to pay the tax on our fields and our vineyards that goes to the tribute to be paid to the foreign king. **5** We're Yehudim just like our countrymen, but we're having to commit our children into bondage as slaves—yes, even our daughters. Now we own nothing at all—not even our fields and vineyards.

6 I got very angry when I heard their complaints and desperation, **7** and I couldn't get it out of my mind. I protested to the leading citizens and the officials, "You guys are charging interest against your own countrymen."[39]

So I called for a gathering of all the people to deal with them, **8** and I told them, "Our brothers, the Yehudim, were sold to other countries as slaves and we've done all we can to bring them back here. But now even you yourselves are buying and selling your own countrymen to make a profit." They couldn't argue against that, so they were just silent.

9 "It's not good what you're doing," I continued. "Shouldn't you all respect and obey our god, because otherwise we'll be despised by the other nations, our enemies. **10** I myself have lent them money and grain, as have my brothers and my young men, but please let's forgo charging interest. **11** Please, even today, return their fields to them, and their vineyards and olive orchards, their houses, and the interest on the money and the grain, the new wine, and the oil that you are charging against them."

12 "Okay, we'll do what you're asking," they responded. "We'll return their property and we won't impose any more charges on them."

So I called the priests to witness those leading citizens and officials making an oath to do what they'd said they would do. **13** Also I shook the folds of my robe and told them, "May God shake you all out of his house like that, and shake every man's business if he doesn't do what he just promised—may he be shaken out like that and lose everything."

Nehemyah's generosity

14 Also, from the day that I was appointed to be their governor in the Yehudah (Judah) region (for the twelve years from the Persian King Artahshashta's (Artaxerxes') 20th year until his 32nd year), I my-

Literal Version

those_who were_saying fields_of_our and_vineyards_of_our and_houses_of_our we are_mortgaging and_we_will_get grain in_famine. **4** And_there_were those_who were_saying we_have_ _borrowed money for_the_tribute_of the_king fields_of_our and_vineyards_of_our. **5** And_now is_like_the_flesh_of our_ _countrymen_of_our flesh_of_our are_like_children_of_their children_of_our and_BEHOLD/LO/SEE we are_forcing_into_ _slavery ~~DOM~~ sons_of_our and_~~DOM~~ daughters_of_our to_slaves and_(there) some_of_our_daughters are_being_forced_into_ _slavery and_there_is_not to_the_power_of our_hand_of_our and_fields_of_our and_vineyards_of_our belong_to_others. **6** And_it_glowed/burnt to_me exceedingly just_as I_heard ~~DOM~~ outcry_of_their and_~~DOM~~ the_words/messages the_these. **7** And_ heart_of_my _it_considered with_me and_I_contended with the_nobles and_~~DOM~~ the_officials and_I_said to/for_them usury[40] each on_brother_of_his you(pl) are_lending[414243] and_ _I_made on_them an_assembly great. **8** And_I_said to/for_them we we_have_bought ~~DOM~~ countrymen_of_our the_ _Yəhūdī/(Jews) who_had_sold_themselves to_nations according_to_the_sufficiency_of in_us and_also you(pl) you(pl)_ _sold ~~DOM~~ countrymen_of_your(pl) and_they_were_sold to/for_ _us and_they_were_silent and_not they_found a_message. **9** And[444546] not is_good the_thing which you(pl) are_doing am_ _not in_the_fear_of our_god_of_our are_you(pl)_walking from_ _the_reproach_of the_nations enemies_of_our. **10** And_also I brothers_of_my and_servants_of_my are_lending (is)_in_them money and_grain let_us_abandon please ~~DOM~~ the_usury (the)_ _this. **11** Return please to/for_them as_this_day fields_of_their vineyards_of_their trees_of_their_olive and_houses_of_their and_one_hundred of_the_money and_the_grain the_new_wine and_the_fresh_oil which you(pl) are_lending to_them. **12** And_ _they_said we_will_return_it and_from_them not we_will_ _require_it so we_will_do just_as you are_saying and_I_ _summoned ~~DOM~~ the_priests and_I_made_them_swear_an_oath for_doing according_the_manner (the)_this. **13** Also bosom_of_ _my I_shook_out and_I_said thus the_'Elohīm may_he_shake_ _out ~~DOM~~ every_of the_man who not he_will_carry_out ~~DOM~~ the_message the_this from_house_of_his and_from_property_ _of_his and_thus may_he_be shaken_out and_empty and_ all_of the_assembly _they_said amen and_they_praised ~~DOM~~ **YHWH** and_ the_people _he/it_made according_the_manner (the)_ _this.

14 Also from_the_day when someone_appointed ~~DOM~~_me to_be governor_of_their in_land of_Yəhūdāh/(Judah) from_year_of twenty and_unto year_of thirty and_two of_'Artaḥshashtā' the_ _king years two_plus ten I and_brothers_of_my the_food_of the_governor not I_ate. **15** And_the_governors (the)_former

39 **RV 5:7 · Cross-ref.** Exo 22:25; Lev 25:35-37; Deu 23:19-20.

40 **LV 5:7 · Note** OSHB note: We read one or more accents in L differently from BHQ.

41 **LV 5:7 · Note** OSHB variant note: **מיאשנ**: (x-qere) **מִיְּשֹׁנ**': lemma_5383 n_1 morph_HVqrmpa id_16kWB **מִיְּשֹׁנ**

42 **LV 5:7 · Note** OSHB note: Marks a place where we agree with BHQ against BHS in reading L.

43 **LV 5:7 · Note** OSHB note: We have abandoned or added a ketib/qere relative to BHS. In doing this we agree with L against BHS.

44 **LV 5:9 · Note** OSHB variant note: **רמאי/ו**: (x-qere) **וַּמֹוא/ו**': lemma_c/559 n_1.1 morph_HC/Vqw1cs id_16TmV **וַּמֹוא/ו**

45 **LV 5:9 · Note** OSHB note: Marks a place where we agree with BHQ against BHS in reading L.

46 **LV 5:9 · Note** OSHB note: We read one or more consonants in L differently from BHS.

Literal Version

who to/for_my_face/front they_made_heavy on the_people and_they_took from_them (in)_food and_wine after silver shekels forty also servants_of_their they_domineered over the_ _people and_I not I_did thus from_face/in_front_of the_fear_of god. **16** And_also on_the_work_of the_wall (the)_this I_kept_ _hold and_a_field not we_acquired and_all servants_of_my were_assembled there on the_work. **17** And_the_Yəhūdī/(Jews) and_the_officials one_hundred and_fifty person[s] and_those_ _who_came to_us from the_nations which were_around_of_us were_at table_of_my. **18** And_which it_was made for_a_day one was_an_ox one sheep six chosen and_poultry they_were_made to_me and_between ten_of days in_all wine to_abundance and_ _with this the_food_of the_governor not I_sought if/because the_service it_was_heavy on the_people (the)_this.
19 Remember to/for_me my_god_of_my for_good all that I_ _have_done on the_people (the)_this.
6:1 And_he/it_was when_when it_was_heard by_Ṣanvallaṭ and_ _Ṭōviy^{yāh} and_by_Geshem the_ʹArāvī and_by_the_rest_of our_ _enemies_of_our if/because_that I_had_rebuilt ᴅᴏᴍ the_wall and_not it_was_left in_it a_breach also until the_time (the)_that doors not I_had_set_up in_gates. **2** And_ Ṣanvallaṭ and_Geshem _he_sent to_me to_say come and_let_us_meet together at_ _Kephirim in_the_plain_of ʾŌnō and_they were_planning for_ _doing to_me harm. **3** And_I_sent to_them messengers to_say a_ _work great I am_doing and_not I_am_able to_go_down to/for_ _what the_work will_it_cease just_as I_will_let_it_drop and_I_ _will_go_down to_you(pl). **4** And_they_sent to_me according_ _the_manner the_this four times and_I_sent_back_to them according_the_manner (the)_this. **5** And_he_sent to_me Ṣanvallaṭ according_the_manner the_this a_time fifth ᴅᴏᴍ servant_of_his and_a_letter_of open in_his/its_hand. **6** Was_ _written in_it among_nations is_heard and_Gashmu is_saying you and_the_Yəhūdī/(Jews) are_planning to_rebel therefore yes/correct/thus/so you are_rebuilding the_wall and_you(ms) are_about_to_become to/for_them (into)_king according_the_ _words/messages the_these. **7** And_also prophets you_have_ _appointed to_call on_you in_Yərūshālaim/(Jerusalem) to_say a_king is_in_Yəhūdāh/(Judah) and_now it_will_be_heard to/for_the_king according_the_words/messages the_these and_ _now come and_let_us_take_counsel together. **8** And_I_sent to_ _him/it to_say not it_has_occurred according_the_ _words/messages the_these which you are_saying if/because from_heart_of_your you are_inventing_of_them.[47] **9** If/because of_them_of_all were_making_afraid us to_say hands_of_their they_will_drop from the_work and_not it_will_be_done and_ _now strengthen ᴅᴏᴍ hands_of_my. **10** And_I I_went the_house_ _of Shəmaʿyāh the_son_of Dəlāyāh the_son_of Məhēyṭav^{ʾēl} and_ _he was_shut_up and_he/it_said let_us_meet to the_house_of the_ʾElohīm to the_middle_of the_temple and_let_us_close the_ _doors_of the_temple if/because people_are_coming to_kill_ _you and_night people_are_coming to_kill_you. **11** And_I_said a_man like_me will_he_flee and_who is_like_me who he_will_go into the_temple and_he_will_live not I_will_go. **12** And_I_ _recognized and_BEHOLD/LO/SEE not god he_had_sent_him if/because the_prophecy he_had_spoken on_me and_Ṭōviy^{yāh}

Readers' Version

self didn't accept the governor's food allowance, nor did my relatives. **15** The governors who preceded me had been very hard on the people—demanding bread and wine and forty silver coins. Even their servants oppressed the people. In contrast, I didn't do that due to desire to honour God. **16** Also I remained focused on rebuilding the wall, and we didn't invest in a farm property, and all my servants also contributed to the work. **17** I regularly fed a hundred and fifty Jewish leaders and city officials, as well as visitors from other countries around us, **18** so in one day we needed one bull, six choice sheep, and various kinds of poultry, as well as various types of wines every ten days. I didn't demand any of this from the people because it would have been a heavy burden for them.

19 My god, remember me for the good that I've done for these people.

The plan of killing Nehemyah

6:1 Although we didn't yet have any doors in the gates, when Sanvalat and Toviyah and Geshem the Aravi and the rest of our enemies heard that we'd finished building the wall so it didn't have any gaps left in it, **2** Sanvalat and Geshem invited me, "We'd like to arrange to meet with you in one of the villages on the Ono plain." But they were intending to harm me. **3** So I sent messengers back to them, "This work is important and extensive, so I can't afford to abandon it and have the work stop if I travelled down to you on the plain."

4 They tried four times to get me to go, but I kept refusing them for those same reasons.

5 Then Sanvalat sent his servant to me a fifth time with the same request, but this time in an unsealed, open letter **6** saying, "There's rumours flying around in nearby countries, and Geshem confirms it, that you and the Yehudim (Jews) are building the wall because you're all plotting thinking to rebel. Then you'd become their king, according to what we're hearing. **7** We've also heard that you've set up 'prophets' to speak out in Yerushalem (Jerusalem) to say about you, 'There's a king in Yehudah (Judah).' By now, all of that will have been heard by the Persian king. So now, come and let's discuss this together."

8 I sent a message straight back, "None of what you're saying is true. It's simply your own imagination at work."

9 We knew that they were just trying to frighten us so that we'd stop the repairs and it would never get finished.

My god, strengthen my hands.

10 After that, I entered Shemayah's house (the son of Meheytavel's son Delayah) who was confined to his house, and he said, "Let's set a time to meet in the temple—we'll shut the temple doors because they'll be coming to kill you—probably in the night."

11 But I disagreed, "Would a man like me run away? Besides that, who's allowed to live inside the temple? I won't do that."

12 Then I suddenly realised that God hadn't told him to say

47 LV 6:8 · Note OSHB note: We agree with both BHS 1997 and BHQ on an unexpected reading.

Readers' Version

that, but rather he was working against me because he'd been paid by Toviyah and Sanvalat. **13** They must have hired him so that I'd be afraid and take that advice and sin. Then they could have ruined my reputation and discredited me.

14 My god, remember what Toviyah and Sanvalat have done, and also the prophetess Noadyah and the other prophets who've been trying to scare me.

The completion of wall

15 So the rebuilding of the wall was finished on the 25th of September in just fifty-two days, **16** and when our enemies heard about it, the surrounding countries were afraid and discouraged because they realised that our god must have helped us.

17 During that time, the Yehudah (Judah) leading citizens were sending many letters to Toviyah, and letters from Toviyah were also coming to them, **18** because many people in Yehudah had ties with him because he was the son-in-law of Arah's son Shekanyah, plus his son Yehohanan had married Berekyah's daughter Meshulam. **19** Those leading citizen kept telling me about the good things he was doing, and they reported my words back to him. Toviyah also sent letters to try to frighten me.

7:1 Once the wall had been rebuilt and the doors hung in the gates, the gatekeepers and the singers and the Levites had been appointed. **2** I put my brother Hanani and the fortress commander Hananyah in charge over Yerushalem (Jerusalem). (Hananyah was a faithful man and respected God more than many others do.) **3** I told them, "Don't open Yerushalem's gates until broad daylight, and then shut and bar them again while the guards are still on full alert. And assign neighbourhood watch groups among the inhabitants to keep an eye on their own areas."

The list of returned exiles[49]

4 Now Yerushalem (Jerusalem) covered a large area but not many people had returned to live there yet, and the houses hadn't yet been rebuilt.

5 So God gave me the idea of gathering the leaders and the people grouped by their ancestors. I found the register of those who'd returned from exile to Yerushalem, with this written in it:

6 "These are the descendants of the people exiled by the Babylonian King Nevukadnetsar (Nebuchadnezzar) , who returned to Yehudah (Judah) and to Yerushalem—each family returning to their own ancestral town. **7** Their leaders were Zerubavel, Yeshua, Nehemyah (Nehemiah), Azaryah, Ra'amyah, Nahamani, Mordekai, Bilshan, Misperet, Bigvay, Nehum, and Ba'anah.

The number of Israeli men:

8 2,172 descendants of Par'osh,

9 372 descendants of Shefatyah,

Literal Version

and_Ṣanvallaṭ he_had_hired_him. **13** So_that he was_hired so_ _that I_may_be_afraid and_I_may_act thus and_I_will_sin and_ _it_was to/for_them (into)_a_name bad so_that they_may_ _reproach_me. **14** Remember my_god_of_my to_Ṭōviy^{yāh} and_ _to_Ṣanvallaṭ according_to_of_his_works these and_also (to)_ _Nō'ad^{yāh} the_prophetess and_to_the_rest_of the_prophets who they_were making_afraid me.

15 And_ the_wall _it_was_complete on_day_twenty and_five of_ _'Elūl to_fifty and_two day[s]. **16** And_he/it_was just_as all_of enemies_of_our they_heard and_ all_of the_nations which were_around_of_us _they_saw and_they_fell exceedingly in_ _their_own_of_eyes and_they_knew if/because_that from_with god_of_our the_work (the)_this it_had_been_done. **17** Also in_ _the_days the_those the_nobles_of Yəhūdāh/(Judah) were_ _multiplying letters_of_their which_were_going to Ṭōviy^{yāh} and_which belonged_to_Ṭōviy^{yāh} were_coming to_them. **18** If/because many_people in_Yəhūdāh were_masters_of oath to_him/it if/because was_a_son-in-law he of_Shəkan^{yāh} the_ _son_of 'Āraḥ and_Yəhōḥānān/(Jehohanan) his/its_son he_ _had_taken ~~DOM~~ the_daughter_of Məshullām the_son_of Berek^{yāh}. **19** Also deeds_of_his_good they_were telling to/for_ _my_face/front and_words/messages_of_my they_were sending_out to_him/it letters Ṭōviy^{yāh} he_sent to_make_me_ _afraid.

7:1 And_he/it_was just_as the_wall it_had_been_rebuilt and_I_ _had_set_up the_doors and_ the_gatekeepers and_the_singers and_the_Lēviyyiy _they_had_been_appointed. **2** And_I_ _appointed ~~DOM~~ Ḥ$_a$nānī my_brother/kindred and_~~DOM~~ Ḥ$_a$nan^{yāh} the_commander_of the_citadel over Yərūshālaim/(Jerusalem) if/because he was_like_a_man_of faithfulness and_fearing ~~DOM~~ the_'Elohīm more_than_many_people. **3** And[48] to/for_them not the_gates_of Yərūshālaim/(Jerusalem) they_will_be_opened until of_the_sun the_heat and_unto they are_standing_guard let_them_shut the_doors and_bolt_them and_appoint the_ _guards_of the_inhabitants_of Yərūshālaim/(Jerusalem) someone at_his_guard_of_post and_someone before house_of_ _his.

4 And_the_city was_broad_of both_sides and_large and_the_ _people were_few in_the_midst_of_of_it and_not houses had_ _been_rebuilt. **5** And_ god_of_my _he/it_gave into heart_of_my and_I_assembled ~~DOM~~ the_nobles and_~~DOM~~ the_officials and_ _~~DOM~~ the_people to_have_themselves_enrolled and_I_found the_document_of the_genealogy those_who_came_up at_first and_I_found written in/on/over_him/it. **6** These are_the_ _children_of the_province who_came_up from_the_captivity_of the_exile whom Nebuchadnezzar the_king_of Bāvel he_had_ _taken_into_exile and_they_returned to_ _Yərūshālaim/(Jerusalem) and_to_Yəhūdāh/(Judah) each to_ _his_own_of_city. **7** The_(ones_who)_went with Zərubāvel Yēshū'a/(Jeshua) Nəḥem^{yāh} 'Azar^{yāh} Ra'am^{yāh} Naḥ$_a$mānī Mordəkay Bilshān Mişperet Bigvay Nəḥūm Ba'$_a$nāh the_ _number_of the_men_of the_people_of Yisrā'^{ēl}/(Israel). **8** The_ _descendants_of Par'osh/(Parosh) two_thousand one_hundred and_seventy and_two. **9** The_descendants_of Shəfaṭ^{yāh} three

48 **LV 7:3 · Note** OSHB variant note: רמאי/ו: (x-qere) רָמְאָ֥ו: lemma_c/559 morph_HC/Vqw1cs id_16EAA רָמְאָ֥ו

49 **RV 7:4 · Parallel** Ezra 2:1-70

Literal Version

hundred(s) seventy and_two. **10** The_descendants_of ’Āraḥ six hundred(s) fifty and_two. **11** The_descendants_of Paḥat- Mō’āvʿ of_the_descendants_of of_Yēshūʿa and_Yō’āvʿ/(Joab) two_ _thousand and_eight hundred(s) eight- teen. **12** The_ _descendants_of ʿĒylām one_thousand two_hundred fifty and_ _four. **13** The_descendants_of Zattū’ eight hundred(s) forty and_ _five. **14** The_descendants_of Zakkay seven hundred(s) and_ _sixty. **15** The_descendants_of Binnūy six hundred(s) forty and_ _eight. **16** The_descendants_of Bēvʿay six hundred(s) twenty and_eight. **17** The_descendants_of ʿAzgād two_thousand three hundred(s) twenty and_two. **18** The_descendants_of ’Adonīqām six hundred(s) sixty and_seven. **19** The_descendants_of Bigvay two_thousand sixty and_seven. **20** The_descendants_of ʿĀdīn six hundred(s) fifty and_five. **21** The_descendants_of ’Āṭēr of_ _Ḥizqiy^{yāh} ninety and_eight. **22** The_descendants_of Ḥāshum three hundred(s) twenty and_eight. **23** The_descendants_of Bētsay three hundred(s) twenty and_four. **24** The_descendants_ _of Ḥārīf one_hundred two_plus ten. **25** The_descendants_of Givʿōn[52] ninety and_five. **26** The_men_of Bēyt- leḥem and_ _Nəṭofāh one_hundred eighty and_eight. **27** The_men_of ʿAnātōt one_hundred twenty and_eight. **28** The_men_of Bēyt ʿAzmāvet forty and_two. **29** The_men_of Qiryat Kəfīrāh and_ _Bə’ērōt seven hundred(s) forty and_three. **30** The_men_of (the)_Rāmāh and_Gevʿaʿ six hundred(s) twenty and_one. **31** The_men_of Mikmāṣ one_hundred and_twenty and_two. **32** The_men_of Bēyt- ^{ʾēl} and_(the)_ʿAy one_hundred twenty and_three. **33** The_men_of Nəvʿō the_other fifty and_two. **34** The_descendants_of ʿĒylām the_other one_thousand two_ _hundred fifty and_four. **35** The_descendants_of Ḥārim three hundred(s) and_twenty. **36** The_descendants_of Yərīḥō/(Jericho) three hundred(s) forty and_five. **37** The_ _descendants_of Lod Ḥādīd and_’Ōnō seven hundred(s) and_ _twenty and_one. **38** The_descendants_of Ṣənā’āh three_of thousand(s) nine hundred(s) and_thirty. **39** The_priests the_ _descendants_of Yədaʿ^{yāh}/(Jedaiah) of_the_house_of of_ _Yēshūʿa/(Jeshua) nine hundred(s) seventy and_three. **40** The_ _descendants_of ’Immēr one_thousand fifty and_two. **41** The_ _descendants_of Pashḥūr one_thousand two_hundred forty and_seven. **42** The_descendants_of Ḥārim one_thousand seven- teen. **43** The_Lēviyyiy the_descendants_of Yēshūʿa of_Qadmī^{ʾēl} of_the_descendants_of of_Hodaviah seventy and_four. **44** The_ _singers the_descendants_of ’Āṣāf one_hundred forty and_ _eight. **45** The_gatekeepers the_descendants_of Shallūm the_ _descendants_of ’Āṭēr the_descendants_of Ṭalmōn the_ _descendants_of ʿAqqūvʿ the_descendants_of Ḥ$_a$ṭīṭā’ the_ _descendants_of Shovʿāy one_hundred thirty and_eight. **46** The_temple_servants the_descendants_of Tsīḥā’/(Ziha) the_ _descendants_of Ḥ$_a$sūfā’ the_descendants_of Ṭabāʿōt. **47** The_ _descendants_of Qēyroṣ the_descendants_of Ṣīʿā’ the_ _descendants_of Pādōn. **48** The_descendants_of Ləvānā’ the_ _descendants_of Ḥ$_a$gāvā’ the_descendants_of Salmay. **49** The_ _descendants_of Ḥānān the_descendants_of Giddēl the_ _descendants_of Gaḥar. **50** The_descendants_of Rə’āy^{yāh} the_ _descendants_of Rətsīn the_descendants_of Nəqōdā’. **51** The_ _descendants_of Gazzām the_descendants_of ʿUzzā’ the_ _descendants_of Pāṣēaḥ. **52** The_descendants_of Bēṣay the_

Readers' Version

10 652 descendants of Arah,
11 2,818 descendants of Pahat-Moav (descendants of Yeshua and Yoav (Joab)),
12 1,254 descendants of Eylam,
13 845 descendants of Zatu,
14 760 descendants of Zakay,
15 648 descendants of Binuy,
16 628 descendants of Bevay,
17 2,322 descendants of Azgad,
18 667 descendants of Adonikam,
19 2,067 descendants of Bigvay,
20 655 descendants of Adin,
21 98 descendants of Ater (from Hizkiyah (Hezekiah)),
22 328 descendants of Hashum,
23 324 descendants of Betsay,
24 112 descendants of Harif,
25 and 95 descendants of Giveon.
26 Other men from these towns:
188 from Beyt-Lehem (Bethlehem) and Netofah,
27 128 from Anatot,
28 42 from Beyt-Azmavet,
29 743 from Kiryat-Yearim, Kefirah, and Be’erot,
30 621 from Ramah and Geva,
31 122 from Mikmas,
32 123 from Beyt-El (Bethel) and Ay,
33 52 from Nevo,
34 1,254 descendants of the other Eylam,
35 320 descendants of Harim,
36 345 descendants of Yeriho (Jericho),
37 721 descendants of Lod, Hadid, and Ono,
38 and 3,930 descendants of Sena’ah.
39 The priests who returned:
973 descendants of Yedayah (a descendant of Yeshua),
40 1,052 descendants of Imer,
41 1,247 descendants of Pashhur,
42 and 1,017 descendants of Harim.
43 The Levites who returned:
74 descendants of Yeshua and Kadmiel (descendants of Hodevah).
44 The singers:
148 descendants of Asaf.
45 The gatekeepers:
138 descendants of Shalum, Ater, Talmon, Akuv, Hatita, and Shovay.
46 The temple servants:
the descendants of Tsiha, Hasufa, and Tabaeot,
47 the descendants of Keyros, Siea, and Padon,
48 the descendants of Levana, Hagava, and Shalmay,
49 the descendants of Hanan, Gidel, and Gahar,
50 the descendants of Reayah, Retsin, and Nekoda,

52 LV 7:25 · Note OSHB note: We read one or more accents in L differently from BHQ.

Readers' Version

51 the descendants of Gazam, Uza, and Paseah,
52 the descendants of Besay, Meunim, and Nefisim,
53 the descendants of Bakbuk, Hakufa, and Harhur,
54 the descendants of Batslut, Mehida, and Harsha,
55 the descendants of Barkos, Sisera, and Temah,
56 and the descendants of Netsiah and Hatifa.
57 The descendants of Shelomoh's (Solomon's) servants who returned:
the descendants of Sotay, Soferet, and Perida.
58 the descendants of Ya'ala, Darkon, and Gidel,
59 and the descendants of Shefatyah, Hatil, Pokeret-Hatsvayim, and Amon.
60 Altogether, there were 392 descendants of the temple workers and conscripted labourers.
61 There were also some who returned from Tel-Melah, Tel-Harsha, Keruv, Adan, and Imer, even though they couldn't prove who their ancestors were, or even that they were descendants of Israelis:
62 There were also 642 descendants of Delayah, Toviyah, and Nekoda, 63 plus some priests:
the descendants of Havayah, Hakots, and Barzilay. (Barzilay had married a descendant of a man named Barzilay from Gilead, and had taken his wife's family name.)
64 They had search the genealogical records for their family histories, but didn't find them, so they were ineligible to serve as priests. 65 The governor had disallowed them from eating the priests' food until a recognised priest could consult the Urim and Tumim.[50]
66 Altogether, 42,360 people returned to Yehudah (Judah), 67 not counting their 7,337 male and female servants, and 245 male and female singers. 68 They had 736 horses, 245 mules, 69 435 camels, and 6,720 donkeys. 70 Some of the leaders of the ancestral clans gave to the work. The governor donated 8kg of gold, 50 bowls, and 530 robes for the priests, 71 and some of the leaders donated 150kg of gold and 1,500kg of silver. 72 The rest of the people donated 150kg of gold, 1,300kg of silver, and 67 robes for the priests.
73 So the priests and the Levites, the gatekeepers and the singers, the temple workers and the rest of the Israelis, all settled in their various ancestral cities.[51]

Literal Version

_descendants_of Mə'ūnāy the_descendants_of Nephissim[53].
53 The_descendants_of Baqbūq the_descendants_of Ḥaqūfā' the_descendants_of Ḥarḥūr. 54 The_descendants_of Bazluth the_descendants_of Məḥīdā' the_descendants_of Ḥarshā'.
55 The_descendants_of Barqōş the_descendants_of Şīşərā' the_descendants_of Temaḥ. 56 The_descendants_of Nətsīaḥ the_descendants_of Ḥaṭīfā'. 57 The_descendants_of the_servants_of Shəlomoh/(Solomon) the_descendants_of Şōṭay the_descendants_of Şoferet the_descendants_of Pərīdā'. 58 The_descendants_of Ya'ₐlā'/(Jaala) the_descendants_of Darqōn the_descendants_of Giddēl. 59 The_descendants_of Shəfaṭʸᵃʰ the_descendants_of Ḥaṭṭīl the_descendants_of Pokeret- Tsəvāyīm the_descendants_of 'Āmōn. 60 All_of the_temple_servants and_the_sons of_the_servants_of of_Shəlomoh three hundred(s) ninety and_two. 61 And_these are_the_ones_who_came_up from_Tēl- melaḥ Tēl Harsha Kərūv Addon and_'Immēr and_not they_were_able to_announce the_house_of their_ancestors_of_their and_offspring_of_their if were_from_Yisrā'ēl/(Israel) they. 62 The_descendants_of Dəlāʸᵃʰ the_descendants_of Ṭōviyʸᵃʰ the_descendants_of Nəqōdā' six hundred(s) and_forty and_two. 63 And_from the_priests the_descendants_of Ḥavayʸᵃʰ the_descendants_of Haqqōṣ the_descendants_of Barzillay who he_had_taken one_of_the_daughters_of Barzillay the_Gil'ādite a_wife and_he_was_called on their_name. 64 These they_sought document_of_their those_who_had_had_themselves_enrolled and_not it_was_found and_they_were_defiled from the_priesthood. 65 And_ the_governor _he/it_said to/for_them which/who not they_will_eat any_of_the_holy_thing_of the_holy_things until the_priest/officer will_arise to_Urim and_Thummim. 66 All_of the_assembly as_one four ten_thousand two_thousand three hundred(s) and_sixty. 67 (From)_besides_of servants_of_their_male and_their_female_of_servants these were_seven_of thousand(s) three hundred(s) thirty and_seven and_belonged_to_them male_singers and_female_singers two_hundred and_forty and_five.
No LV counterpart for RV 7:68. 68 [54] Camels four hundred(s) thirty and_five donkeys six_of thousand(s) seven hundred(s) and_twenty. 69 [55] And_from_(the)_sum of_the_heads_of of_the_fathers they_gave for_work the_governor he_gave to_treasury gold drachmas one_thousand bowls fifty garments_of priests thirty and_five hundred(s). 70 [56] And_some_of_the_heads_of the_fathers they_gave to_the_treasury_of the_work gold drachmas two_of ten_thousands and_silver minas two_thousand and_two_hundred. 71 [57] And_which the_remainder_of the_people they_gave was_gold drachmas two_of ten_thousand and_silver minas two_thousand and_tunics_of priests sixty and_seven. 72 [58] And_ the_priests and_the_

50 RV 7:65 · Cross-ref. Exo 28:30; Deu 33:8.
51 RV 7:73 · Cross-ref. 1Ch 9:2; Neh 11:3.
53 LV 7:52 · Note OSHB variant note: **מיסשופנ**: (x-qere) **מְיָסְשֻׁיְפְנ'**: lemma_5304 n_0 morph_HNgmpa id_16t2f **מְיָסְשֻׁיְפְנ**
54 LV 7:68 · Note Note: KJB: Neh.7.69
55 LV 7:69 · Note Note: KJB: Neh.7.70
56 LV 7:70 · Note Note: KJB: Neh.7.71
57 LV 7:71 · Note Note: KJB: Neh.7.72
58 LV 7:72 · Note Note: KJB: Neh.7.73

Literal Version

_Lēviyyiy and_the_gatekeepers and_the_singers and_from the_ _people and_the_temple_servants and_all Yisrā'ēl/(Israel) _ _they_lived in_their_own_of_cities and_ the_month the_ _seventh _it_arrived and_the_sons of_Yisrā'ēl/(Israel) were_in_ _cities_of_their.

8:1 And_ all_of the_people _they_gathered like_a_person one to the_open_space which to_(the)_face_of/in_front_of/before the_ _gate_of the_waters and_they_said to_ʿEzrā' the_scribe to_bring ᴅᴏᴍ the_scroll_of the_law_of Mosheh which **YHWH** he_had_ _commanded ᴅᴏᴍ Yisrā'ēl/(Israel). **2** And_ ʿEzrā' the_ _priest/officer _he_brought ᴅᴏᴍ the_law to_(the)_face_of/in_ _front_of/before the_assembly from_man and_unto woman and_all/each/any/every one_who_understood to_listen in/on_ _day one of_month the_seventh. **3** And_he/it_called in_him/it to_(the)_face_of/in_front_of/before the_open_space which to_ _(the)_face_of/in_front_of/before the_gate_of the_waters from the_light until the_middle_of the_day before the_men and_the_ _women and_those_who_understood and_the_ears_of all_of the_people were_to the_scroll_of the_law. **4** And_ ʿEzrā' the_ _scribe _he_stood on a_high_platform_of wood which people_ _had_made to_the_message/thing/matter and_he_stood beside_him Mattitʸāh and_Shemaʿ and_ʿAnāʸāh and_'Ūriyʸāh and_Ḥilqiyʸāh and_Maʿₐsēʸāh on hand_of_his_right and_were_ _from_left_of_his Pədāʸāh and_Mīshā'ēl and_MalkīʸāH and_ _Ḥāshum and_Ḥashbaddānāh ZəkarʸāH Məshullām. **5** And_ ʿEzrā' _he_opened the_scroll to_the_eyes_of all_of the_people if/because from_under all_of the_people he_was and_just_as_ _he_opened_it all_of the_people they_stood_up. **6** And_ ʿEzrā' _ _he/it_blessed ᴅᴏᴍ **YHWH** the_'Elohīm (the)_great and_ all_of the_people _they_answered amen amen in_the_raising_of their_hands_of_their and_they_bowed_low and_they_bowed_ _down to/for_**YHWH** face ground_to_the. **7** And_ _Yēshūʿa/(Jeshua) and_Bānī and_Shērēvəʸāh[59][60] Yāmīn/(Jamin) ʿAqqūv Shabtay HōdiyʸāH MaʿₐsēʸāH QəlīṭāʾAzarʸāH Yōzāvād/(Jozabad) ḤānānPəlāʸāH and_the_Lēviyyiy were_ _causing_to_understand ᴅᴏᴍ the_people (to)_law and_the_ _people were_at place_of_their. **8** And_they_read_aloud in_ _scroll in_the_law_of the_'Elohīm making_clear and_they_gave the_sense and_they_understood (in)_reading. **9** And_he/it_said NəḥemʸāH he was_the_governor and_ʿEzrā' the_priest/officer the_scribe and_the_Lēviyyiy who_were_causing_to_understand ᴅᴏᴍ the_people to/from_all/each/any/every the_people the_ _day is_holy it to/for_**YHWH** god_of_your(pl) do_not mourn and_do_not weep if/because all_of the_people were_weeping just_as_they_heard ᴅᴏᴍ the_words/messages_of the_law. **10** And_he/it_said to/for_them go eat fat_foods and_drink sweet_things and_send portions to_there_is_not a_thing_ _prepared to_him/it if/because is_holy the_day to_master(s)_ _of_our and_do_not be_grieved if/because the_joy_of **YHWH** it refuge_of_is_your(pl). **11** And_the_Lēviyyiy were_making_quiet to/from_all/each/any/every the_people to_say hush if/because the_day is_holy and_do_not be_grieved. **12** And_ all_ _of the_people _they_went to_eat and_to_drink and_to_send portions and_to_make joy great if/because they_had_

Readers' Version

Ezra reads God's instructions to the people

8:1 All the people gathered together in the plaza near the Water Gate and asked Ezra the scribe to bring the scroll with Yahweh's instructions to Yisrael (Israel) given through Mosheh (Moses). **2** So it was the beginning of October when Ezra the priest brought the scroll to the gathering of men and women and everyone who wanted to understand it, **3** and he read it aloud in the plaza near the Water Gate—reading from dawn until the middle of the day in front of those men and women and interested people, who all listened intently.

4 Ezra the scribe stood on a raised wooden platform that they had made especially for this purpose. Standing on his right were Matityah, Shema, Anayah, Uriyah, Hilkiyah, and Ma'aseyah, and on his left stood Pedayah, Mishael, Malkiyah, Hashum, Hashbadanah, Zekaryah (Zechariah), and Meshulam.

5 Up on the platform, Ezra opened the scroll in front of all the people, and as he did so, all the people stood up. **6** Ezra blessed the great God Yahweh and the people raised their arms and responded, "May it be so." Then they knelt down and bowed to Yahweh with their faces to the ground.

7 Then Yeshua, Bani, Shereveyah, Yamin, Akuv, Shabtay, Hodiyah, Ma'aseyah, Kelita, Azaryah, Yozavad, Hanan, Pelayah, who were all Levites, explained what had been read to the people standing there. **8** They read the scroll containing God's instructions, explaining how it applied so the people could understand it.

9 Then Nehemyah (Nehemiah) the governor and Ezra the priest & scribe, and the Levites who were explaining it, said to all the people, "Today is a sacred day—it belongs to your god Yahweh. Don't mourn or weep." That was because all the people were weeping after they heard Yahweh's instructions to them. **10** Then Nehemyah told them, "Go home and eat some special food with sweet drink, and share some with those who can't afford such things because today is a sacred day that belongs to our master. And don't grieve, because the happiness from Yahweh will make you all strong."

11 The Levites told the people to quieten down, saying, "Don't grieve today because it's a sacred day. Stay quiet." **12** So all the people went to eat and drink and to take plates of food to others, and to have a big celebration because they understood what had been read to them.

59 LV 8:7 · Note OSHB note: We read one or more accents in L differently from BHQ.

60 LV 8:7 · Note OSHB note: We read one or more accents in L differently than BHS. Often this notation indicates a typographical error in BHS.

Readers' Version

The celebration in shelters

13 The next day, all the clan leaders, and the priests and Levites, met with Ezra the scribe to study the instructions on the scroll. 14 They discovered that it was written in the instructions that Yahweh had given through Mosheh (Moses), that the Israelis should live in temporary shelters during the celebration in their seventh month (our September-October).[61] 15 They should publicly proclaim in Yerushalem (Jerusalem) and in all their towns that the people should go into the hills and bring back branches from olive or wild olive trees, myrtle or palm trees, and/or other leafy trees to make shelters as it's written.

16 So the people went out and brought back branches to make shelters for themselves on their roofs or in their courtyards, or in the temple courtyard or in the plazas near the Water Gate and the Efrayim Gate. 17 Then the whole assembly of people who'd come back from captivity made shelters and lived in them for one week. The Israelis hadn't done that since the time of Yehoshua's (Joshua's) leadership, and they did it with a lot of celebration. 18 Ezra read aloud from the scroll of God's instructions each day of the seven days of celebration, then on the eighth day they all gathered together as per the instructions.

The people confess their sins

9:1 On the 24th of that month, the Israelis dressed in sackcloth, put dust on their heads, fasted, and gathered together. 2 Those of Jewish descent stood separately from the descendants of foreigners, and they confessed their own sins, as well as those of their ancestors. 3 They stood and listened to the scroll with Yahweh's instructions being read for three hours, then for another three hours they confessed and bowed down to Yahweh their god. 4 Then Yeshua went up the Levites' stairs with Bani, Kadmiel, Shevanyah, Buni, Shereveyah, another Bani, and Kenani, and they called out loudly to their god Yahweh.

5 Then some Levites (Yeshua, Kadmiel, Bani, Hashavneyah, Shereveyah, Hodiyah, Shevanyah, and Petahyah) said, "Stand up and bless your eternal God Yahweh: May the peoples bless your wonderful reputation which is greater than anything else that we bless or praise. 6 Yahweh, you alone are God. You yourself made the heavens, the galaxies in the heavens and all their stars, the earth and all that is on it, the seas and all that is in them. You give life to everything, and all the stars bow down to you.

7 "You are Yahweh, the god who chose Avram. Then you brought him out from Ur in the Chaldean region, then you re-

Literal Version

_understood (in)_words/messages which they_had_made_ _known to/for_them.

13 And_on_day the_second the_heads_of the_fathers to/from_ _all/each/any/every the_people the_priests and_the_Lēviyyiy they_gathered to ʹEzrāʾ the_scribe and_to_gain_insight into the_words/messages_of the_law. 14 And_they_found written in_law which **YHWH** he_had_commanded by_the_hand_of Mosheh which/who the_people_of Yisrāʾēl/(Israel) they_will_ _dwell in_booths at_festival in_month the_seventh. 15 And_ _which they_will_make_proclamation and_they_will_cause_to_ _pass a_proclamation in_all cities_of_their and_in_ _Yərūshālaim/(Jerusalem) to_say go_out the_hill_country and_ _bring leaves_of olive and_leaves_of tree[s]_of oil and_leaves_of myrtle_tree[s] and_leaves_of palm_trees and_leaves_of tree[s]_ _of leafy to_make booths according_what_is_written. 16 And_ the_people _they_went_out and_they_brought_leaves and_ _they_made to/for_them booths each on roof_his_own and_in_ _courtyards_of_their and_in_the_courtyards_of the_house_of the_ʾElohīm and_in_the_open_space_of the_gate_of the_waters and_in_the_open_space_of the_gate_of ʾEfrayim. 17 And_ all_of the_assembly which_had_returned from the_captivity _they_ _made booths and_they_lived in_booths if/because not they_ _had_done since_the_days_of Yēshūʿa/(Jeshua) the_son_of Nun thus the_people_of Yisrāʾēl/(Israel) until the_day (the)_that and_it_became joy great very. 18 And_he/it_called in_the_ _scroll_of the_law_of the_ʾElohīm a_day in/on_day from the_ _day (the)_first until the_day (the)_last and_they_observed a_ _festival seven_of days and_was_on_day (the)_eighth an_ _assembly according_the_ordinance.

9:1 And_on_day_of twenty and_four of_month the_this the_ _people_of Yisrāʾēl/(Israel) they_gathered with_fasting and_in_ _sackcloth(s) and_earth was_on_them. 2 And_ the_offspring_of Yisrāʾēl/(Israel) _they_separated_themselves from_all sons_of foreignness and_they_stood and_they_confessed on sins_of_ _their and_the_iniquities_of their_ancestors_of_their. 3 And_ _they_stood at place_of_their and_they_read_aloud in_the_ _scroll_of the_law_of **YHWH** god_of_their the_fourth_of the_ _day and_a_fourth they_were_confessing and_they_were_ _bowing_down to/for_**YHWH** god_of_their. 4 And_he/it_rose_ _up on the_platform_of the_Lēviyyiy Yēshūʿa and_Bānī Qadmīʾēl Shəvanʸāh Bunniy Shērēvəʸāh Bānī Kənānī/(Chenani) and_ _they_cried_out with_a_voice great to **YHWH** god_of_their. 5 And_ the_Lēviyyiy Yēshūʿa/(Jeshua) and_Qadmīʾēl Bānī Ḥashavnəʸāh Shērēvəʸāh Hōdiyʸāh Shəvanʸāh Pətaḥʸāh _they_ _said arise bless ~~DOM~~ **YHWH** god_of_your(pl) from (the)_ _antiquity until (the)_perpetuity and_may_people_bless the_ _name_of your_glory_of_your and_may_it_be_exalted above all_ _of blessing and_praise. 6 You(ms) he are_**YHWH** you_alone wwww[84] you_made ~~DOM~~ the_heavens the_heavens_of the_ _heavens and_all their_group/army/objects the_earth/land and_all that on/upon_it(f) the_seas and_all that (is)_in_them and_you(ms) are_preserving_alive ~~DOM~~ of_them_of_all and_the_ _soldier/messenger_of the_heavens to/for_yourself(m) are_ _bowing_down. 7 You he are_**YHWH** the_ʾElohīm who you_

61 **RV 8:14-15 · Cross-ref.** Lev 23:33-36,39-43; Deu 16:13-15.

84 **LV 9:6 · Note** OSHB variant note: תא: (x-qere) הָתָא: lemma_859 a morph_HPp2ms id_1662m הָתָא

Literal Version

chose (in)'Avrām and_you_brought_him_out from_'Ūr of_
_the_ones_from_Kasdiy and_you_made name_of_his 'Avrāhām.
8 And_you_found ᴅᴏᴍ heart_of_his faithful to_your_face and_
_you_made with_him/it the_covenant to_give ᴅᴏᴍ the_land_of
the_Kəna'ₐnī the_Ḥittiy[s] the_'Amorī and_the_Pərizzī[s] and_
_the_Yəvūşī/(Jebusite)[s] and_the_Girgāshiy[s] to_give to_
_offspring_of_his and_you_fulfilled ᴅᴏᴍ words/messages_of_
_your if/because are_righteous you. **9** And_she/it_saw ᴅᴏᴍ the_
_affliction_of our_ancestors_of_our in_Mitsrayim/(Egypt) and_
_ᴅᴏᴍ outcry_of_their you_heard at the_sea_of reed[s]. **10** And_
_she/it_gave signs and_wonders on_Par'oh and_on/over_all
servants_of_his and_on/over_all the_people_of his_land_of_his
if/because you_knew if/because_that they_had_acted_
_presumptuously on_them and_you_made to/for_yourself(m)
a_name as_the_day (the)_this. **11** And_the_sea you_split_open
before_them and_they_passed in_the_middle_of the_sea on_
_ground and_ᴅᴏᴍ pursuers_of_their you_threw in_the_depths
like a_stone in_waters mighty. **12** And_in_a_pillar_of cloud you_
_led_them by_day and_in_a_pillar_of fire night to_give_light
to/for_them ᴅᴏᴍ the_way which they_walked in_it. **13** And_on
the_mountain_of Ṣīnay you_came_down and_you_spoke with_
_them from_heaven and_she/it_gave to/for_them judgements
upright and_laws_of faithfulness regulations and_commands
good. **14** And_ᴅᴏᴍ the_sabbath_of your_holiness_of_your you_
_made_known[85] to/for_them and_commands and_regulations
and_the_law you_commanded to/for_them by_the_hand_of
Mosheh servant_of_your. **15** And_bread from_heaven you_gave
to/for_them for_hunger_of_their and_water from_a_rock you_
_brought_forth to/for_them for_thirst_of_their and_she/it_said
to/for_them to_go to_take_possession_of ᴅᴏᴍ the_earth/land
which you_had_lifted ᴅᴏᴍ hand_of_your to_give to/for_them.
16 And_they and_ancestors_of_our they_acted_presumptuously
and_they_stiffened ᴅᴏᴍ neck_of_their and_not they_listened to
commands_of_your. **17** And_they_refused to_listen and_not
they_remembered wonders_of_your which you_had_done with_
_them and_they_stiffened ᴅᴏᴍ neck_of_their and_they_
_appointed a_leader to_return to_servitude_of_their in_
_rebellion_of_their and_you(ms) are_a_god_of forgiveness(es)
gracious and_compassionate long_of anger(s) and_great_of
and[86][87] and_not you_abandoned_them. **18** Even if/because

Readers' Version

named him to Avraham (meaning 'father of many'). **8** You discovered that he was sincere and faithful to you, and made an agreement with him—to give the Kena'ani (Canaanite), Hiti, Amori, Perizi, Yevusi, and the Girgashi regions to his descendants,[62] and you have ensured that it's all come to be because you're righteous. **9** You noticed the suffering of our ancestors enslaved in Mitsrayim (Egypt), and then you heard their cry for help at the edge of the Red Sea.

10 "You displayed miracles to Par'oh (Pharaoh), and to all his servants and to all the Mitsri (Egyptian) people, because you knew that they were acting as if you weren't real, so you got yourself a reputation which you still have to this day.[63] **11** Then you split the sea open the sea right in front of their eyes, and they walked through the middle of it on dry land.[64] After that, you drowned their pursuers into the deep sea like a stone in a huge lake.[65] **12** You led them during the day with a pillar of cloud, and during the night with a pillar of fire to illuminate the way that they should go.[66]

13 "Then you came down to Mt. Sinay and spoke with them from the sky, and you gave to them principles of justice and laws of truth—good statutes and instructions.[67] **14** You revealed the concept of a rest day to them, and you gave them rules and instructions and laws via your servant Mosheh (Moses).

15 "You gave them bread from the sky when they were hungry,[68] and you made water come out of a rock when they were thirsty,[69] then eventually you told them to go ahead to possess the land that you had said that you'd give to them.[70]

16 "But our ancestors were proud and stubborn and they refused to obey your instructions.[71] **17** Not only did they refuse to listen, they forgot about all the miracles that you'd done for them and they became stubborn and appointed a leader to take them back to their slavery. But you are a god of forgiveness—gracious and compassionate, slow to get angry and generously showing loyal affection, and you didn't abandon them.[72] **18** Even when they molded a metal calf for themselves and said, 'This is your god who brought you out of Mitsrayim' (Egypt),[73]

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62 **RV 9:8 · Cross-ref.** Gen 15:18-21.

63 **RV 9:10 · Cross-ref.** Exo 7:8–12:32.

64 **RV 9:11 · Cross-ref.** Exo 14:21-29.

65 **RV 9:11 · Cross-ref.** Exo 15:4-5.

66 **RV 9:12 · Cross-ref.** Exo 13:21-22.

67 **RV 9:13-14 · Cross-ref.** Exo 19:18–23:33.

68 **RV 9:15 · Cross-ref.** Exo 16:4-15.

69 **RV 9:15 · Cross-ref.** Exo 17:1-7.

70 **RV 9:15 · Cross-ref.** Deu 1:21.

71 **RV 9:16-17 · Cross-ref.** Num 14:1-4; Deu 1:26-33.

72 **RV 9:17 · Cross-ref.** Exo 34:6; Num 14:18.

73 **RV 9:18 · Cross-ref.** Exo 32:1-4.

85 **LV 9:14 · Note** OSHB note: We agree with both BHS 1997 and BHQ on an unexpected reading.

86 **LV 9:17 · Note** OSHB variant note: דסח/ו: (x-qere) 'דֶּסֶח': lemma_2617 a n_0.0 morph_HNcmsa id_161pu דֶּסֶח

87 **LV 9:17 · Note** OSHB note: Yathir readings in L which we have designated as Qeres when both Dothan and BHS list a Qere.

Readers' Version

and they badly insulted you, **19** you didn't abandon them in the wilderness because you're so merciful. You didn't remove the pillar of cloud that led them on the way during the day, or remove the pillar of fire that shone at night for them to show them which way they should go.[74] **20** You gave them your good spirit to give them insight. You didn't withhold your manna for them to eat, and you still gave them water to drink, **21** yes, you sustained them in the wilderness for forty years—they had everything they needed—their clothes didn't wear out, and their feet didn't swell.

22 "Then you handed kingdoms and people groups over to them, and you let them settle in even the far corners of the regions. They took possession of the King Sihon's Heshbon region, and King Og's Bashan region.[75] **23** You gave our ancestors lots of children so they were like the many stars in the sky,[76] then you brought them into this land[77] which you'd told their ancestors to enter and take ownership of. **24** Their children went in and took over the land after you went ahead of them and subdued the previous inhabitants, the Kena'anim (Canaanites). You allowed them to defeat them and their kings, and the people groups in the land—letting them do whatever they wanted to do with them.[78] **25** They captured fortified cities and productive land, and they took over houses full of all good things, stone cisterns, vineyards and olive orchards, and lots of fruit trees.[79] They ate and were satisfied, and grew fat and enjoyed themselves as a result of your amazing goodness.

26 "But they disobeyed and rebelled against you, and they turned their backs on your instructions.[80] They killed your prophets who testified against them in order to bring them back to you and they badly insulted you. **27** So you allowed their enemies to harass and conquer them. Then in the time of their distress, they cried out to you, and you yourself heard from heaven. Because you're so merciful, you sent saviours to them who rescued them from their enemies. **28** After they'd returned to an era of peace, they reverted to doing evil again in front of you and you left them to submit to their enemies and the oppression that followed. Then they'd return and cry out to you, and you heard from heaven and delivered them many times because you're merciful. **29** You showed them their errors so they'd return to following your instructions, but instead they ignored you and didn't obey your commands. They ignored your values which would have helped them if they'd lived by them[81] and they turned a stubborn shoulder, stiffened their necks, and re-

Literal Version

they_had_made to/for_them a_calf_of molten_metal and_they_ _said this god_of_is_your who he_brought_you_up from_ _Mitsrayim/(Egypt) and_they_made blasphemies great. **19** And_ _you(ms) in_compassion(s)_of_your (the)_great not you_ _abandoned_them in_wilderness ~~DOM~~ the_pillar_of (the)_cloud not it_departed from_over_them in_daytime to_lead_them in_ _the_way and_~~DOM~~ the_pillar_of (the)_fire at_night to_give_ _light to/for_them and_~~DOM~~ the_way which they_walked in_it. **20** And_spirit_of_your (the)_good you_gave to_instruct_them and_manna_of_your not you_withheld from_mouth_of_their and_water you_gave to/for_them for_thirst_of_their. **21** And_ _forty year[s] you_sustained_them in_wilderness not they_ _were_lacking clothes_of_their not they_wore_out and_feet_of_ _their not they_swelled. **22** And_she/it_gave to/for_them kingdoms and_peoples and_you_apportioned_them to_a_ _corner and_they_took_possession_of ~~DOM~~ the_land_of Ṣiḥōn and_~~DOM~~ the_land_of the_king_of Ḥeshbōn and_~~DOM~~ the_land_ _of ʿŌg the_king_of (the)_Bāshān. **23** And_children_of_their you_increased like_the_stars_of the_heavens and_you_brought_ _them into the_earth/land which you_had_said to_ancestors_ _of_their to_go to_take_possession_of. **24** And_ the_children _ _they_came and_they_took_possession_of ~~DOM~~ the_earth/land and_you_subdued before_them ~~DOM~~ the_inhabitants_of the_ _earth/land the_Kəna'ₐnī/(Kəna'ₐnī/(Canaanite)s) and_you_ _gave_them in_hand_of_their and_~~DOM~~ kings_of_their and_~~DOM~~ the_peoples_of the_earth/land for_doing (is)_in_them according_to_of_their_will. **25** And_they_captured cities fortified and_ground fertile and_they_took_possession_of houses full every_of good_thing wells dug_out vineyards and_ _olive_trees and_tree food to_increase_in_number and_they_ _ate and_they_were_satisfied and_they_grew_fat and_they_ _luxuriated in_goodness_of_your (the)_great. **26** And_they_ _were_disobedient and_they_rebelled on/over_you(fs) and_ _they_threw ~~DOM~~ law_of_your behind back_of_their and_~~DOM~~ prophets_of_your they_killed who they_had_warned (in)_them to_bring_them_back to_you and_they_made blasphemies great. **27** And_you_gave_them in_the_hand_of their_foes_of_their and_they_caused_distress to/for_them and_in_the_time_of their_distress_of_their they_cried_out to_you and_you(ms) from_heaven you_heard and_according_to_of_your_ _compassion(s) (the)_great you_gave to/for_them deliverers and_they_delivered_them from_the_hand_of their_foes_of_ _their. **28** And_just_as_was_rest to/for_them they_returned for_ _doing evil to_your_face and_you_abandoned_them in_the_ _hand_of their_enemies_of_their and_they_ruled in/among_ _them and_they_returned and_they_cried_out_to_you and_ _you(ms) from_heaven you_heard and_you_rescued_them according_to_of_your_compassion(s) many times. **29** And_you_

74 **RV 9:19-21 · Cross-ref.** Deu 8:2-4.

75 **RV 9:22 · Cross-ref.** Num 21:21-35.

76 **RV 9:23 · Cross-ref.** Gen 15:5; 22:17.

77 **RV 9:23 · Cross-ref.** Josh 3:14-17.

78 **RV 9:24 · Cross-ref.** Josh 11:23.

79 **RV 9:25 · Cross-ref.** Deu 6:10-11.

80 **RV 9:26-28 · Cross-ref.** Jdg 2:11-16.

81 **RV 9:29 · Cross-ref.** Lev 18:5.

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_warned (is)_in_them to_bring_them_back to law_of_your and_
_they they_acted_presumptuously and_not they_listened to_
_commands_of_your and_in_judgements_of_your they_sinned
in_them which anyone he_will_do and_he_will_live in/among_
_them and_they_gave a_shoulder stubborn and_neck_of_their
they_stiffened and_not they_listened. **30** And_you_prolonged
towards_them years many and_you_warned (in)_them by_
_spirit_of_your by_the_hand_of your(pl)_prophets_of_your
and_not they_gave_ear and_you_gave_them in_the_hand_of
the_peoples_of the_lands. **31** And_in_compassion(s)_of_your
(the)_great not you_made_them complete_destruction and_not
you_abandoned_them if/because are_a_god gracious and_
_compassionate you. **32** And_now our_god_of_Oh (the)_god
(the)_great (the)_mighty and_(the)_awesome who_keeps the_
covenant and(the)_covenant_loyalty not let_it_be_small to_
_your_face ~~ĐOM~~ all_of the_hardship which it_has_come_upon_
_us to_kings_of_our to_leaders_of_our and_to_priests_of_our
and_to_prophets_of_our and_to_ancestors_of_our and_to/for_
_all people_of_your since_the_days_of the_kings_of ʾAshshūr
until the_day (the)_this. **33** And_you(ms) are_righteous on
every_of (the)_thing_which_has_come on_us if/because
faithfulness you_have_acted and_we we_have_acted_wickedly.
34 And_~~ĐOM~~ kings_of_our leaders_of_our priests_of_our and_
_ancestors_of_our not they_did law_of_your and_not they_
_paid_attention to commands_of_your and_to_testimonies_of_
_your which you_admonished (in)_them. **35** And_they in_their_
_own_of_kingdom and_in_goodness_of_your (the)_great which
you_had_given to/for_them and_in_the_land_of (the)_broad
and_(the)_fertile which you_had_set before_them not they_
_served_you and_not they_turned_back from_deeds_of_their
(the)_evil. **36** HERE we the_day are_slaves and_the_earth which
you_gave to_ancestors_of_our to_eat ~~ĐOM~~ fruit_of_its and_~~ĐOM~~
thing[s]_of_its_good HERE we are_slaves on_it. **37** And_produce_
_of_its is_increasing for_kings whom you_have_appointed over_
_us in_sins_of_our and_over bodies_of_our they_are_ruling
and_over_cattle_of_our according_to_of_their_will and_are_in_
_distress great we.

10:1 **88** And_on/over_all this we are_making a_trustworthy_
_agreement and_we_are_writing_it and_are_on the_sealed_
_document leaders_of_our Lēviyyiy_of_our priests_of_our.

2 **89** And_were_on the_sealed_documents Nəḥem^{yāh} the_
_governor the_son_of Hacaliah and_Tsidqiy^{yāh}/(Zedekiah). **3** **90**
Sərā^{yāh} ʿAzar^{yāh} Yirmə^{yāh}/(Jeremiah). **4** **91** Pashḥūr ʾAmar^{yāh}
Malkīy^{yāh}. **5** **92** Ḫaṯṯūsh Shəvan^{yāh} Mallūk. **6** **93** Ḥārim Mərēmōt
ʿOvad^{yāh}. **7** **94** Dāniyy^{ʾēl} Ginnətōn Bārūk. **8** **95** Məshullām ʾAviy^{yāh}

Readers' Version

fused to listen. **30** Yet you put up with them for many years, and you testified against them with your spirit through the messages of your prophets, but they still didn't take any notice, so you allowed the other people groups to conquer them.[82] **31** However, because you're so merciful, you didn't abandon them and you didn't wipe them out completely. Yes, you're a god who's gracious and merciful.

32 "So now God, our amazing, powerful, and awesome God who keeps his agreements due to his loyal commitment, don't just ignore all our current hardships affecting us, our kings and our leaders, our priests and our prophets, and our ancestors and all your people, from the period of the Assyrian kings until today.[83] **33** You are totally fair in allowing all that to happen to us, because you have behaved faithfully, but in contrast, we have behaved wickedly— **34** and our kings, our leaders, our priests, and our ancestors haven't obeyed your instructions and they haven't bothered with following your commands or taking notice of your complaints that you made know to them. **35** They served in their own kingdom and enjoyed the incredible goodness that you poured on them and the wide and prosperous land that you gave them, but they didn't serve you, and they didn't turn away from their evil actions.

36 "Take notice of us today—we're servants, and the land that you gave to our ancestors so we could eat its fruit and its produce, but look at us now—we're servants in our own land. **37** Now its plentiful produce belongs to the kings who you've placed over us due to our sins, and who rule over our bodies and over our livestock just however they want to, so we're terribly distressed.

38 "So now in all of this, we're faithfully making an agreement, and our leaders, our Levites, and our priests will even write it down on a document and sign it."

Signing the agreement

10:1 The ones who signed the document were:

Nehemyah (Nehemiah) the governor, Hakalyah's son, and Tsidkiyah (Zedekiah).

82 **RV 9:30 · Cross-ref.** 2Ki 17:13-18; 2Ch 36:15-16.

83 **RV 9:32 · Cross-ref.** 2Ki 15:19-29; 17:3-6; Ezr 4:2,10.

88 **LV 10:1 · Note** Note: KJB: Neh.9.38

89 **LV 10:2 · Note** Note: KJB: Neh.10.1

90 **LV 10:3 · Note** Note: KJB: Neh.10.2

91 **LV 10:4 · Note** Note: KJB: Neh.10.3

92 **LV 10:5 · Note** Note: KJB: Neh.10.4

93 **LV 10:6 · Note** Note: KJB: Neh.10.5

94 **LV 10:7 · Note** Note: KJB: Neh.10.6

95 **LV 10:8 · Note** Note: KJB: Neh.10.7

Readers' Version

2 The priests who signed:
Serayah, Azaryah, and Yirmiyah (Jeremiah),
3 Pashhur, Amaryah, and Malkiyah,
4 Hatush, Shevanyah, and Malkiyah,
5 Harim, Meremot, and Ovadyah (Obadiah),
6 Daniyel, Gineton, and Baruk,
7 Meshulam, Aviyah, and Miyamin,
8 Ma'azyah, Bilgay, and Shemayah. (All priests.)
9 The Levites who signed:
Azanyah's son Yeshua, Henadad's son Binuy, and Kadmiel,
10 their brothers Shevanyah, Hodiyah, Kelita, Pelayah, and Hanan,
11 Mika, Rehov, and Hashavyah,
12 Zakur, Shereveyah, and Shevanyah,
13 Hodiyah, Bani, and Beninu,
14 The leaders who signed:
Par'osh, Pahat-Moav, Eylam, Zatu, and Bani,
15 Buni, Azgad, and Bevay,
16 Adoniyah, Bigvay, and Adin,
17 Ater, Hizkiyah (Hezekiah), and Azur,
18 Hodiyah, Hashum, and Betsay,
19 Harif, Anatot, and Novay,
20 Magpiyeash, Meshulam, and Hezir,
21 Mesheyzavel, Tsadok, and Yadua,
22 Pelatyah, Hanan, and Anayah,
23 Hoshea, Hananyah, and Hashuv,
24 Halohesh, Pilha, and Shovek,
25 Rehum, Hashavnah, and Ma'aseyah,
26 Ahiyah, Hanan, and Anan,
27 Maluk, Harim, and Ba'anah.

The Levites

Literal Version

Miyyāmin. 9 [96] Maaziah Bilgai Shəma'^{yāh} these were_the_ _priests.

10 [97] And_the_Lēviyyiy and_Yēshū'a/(Jeshua) the_son_of Azaniah Binnūy from_(the)_sons of_Ḥēnādād Qadmī'^{ēl}. 11 [98] And_brothers_of_their Shəvan^{yāh} Hodiah Qəlīṭā' Pəlā^{yāh} Ḥānān. 12 [99] Mīkā' Rəḥov Ḥashav^{yāh}. 13 [100] Zakkūr Shērēvə^{yāh} Shəvan^{yāh}. 14 [101] Hodiah Bānī Beninu. 15 [102] The_leaders_of the_people Par'osh/(Parosh) Paḥat- Mō'āv 'Ēylām Zattū' Bānī. 16 [103] Bunniy 'Azgād Bēvay. 17 [104] Adonijah Bigvay 'Ādīn. 18 [105] 'Āṭēr Ḥizqiy^{yāh} 'Azzūr. 19 [106] Hodiah Ḥāshum Bētsay. 20 [107] Hariph 'Anātōt Nebai[108]. 21 [109] Magpiash Məshullām Hezir. 22 [110] Məshēyzav'^{ēl} Tsādōq/(Zadok) Yaddū'a/(Jaddua). 23 [111] Pəlaṭ^{yāh} Ḥānān Anaiah. 24 [112] Hōshē'a Ḥ$_a$nan^{yāh} Ḥashshūv. 25 [113] Hallohesh Pilha Shobek. 26 [114] Rəḥūm Hashabnah Ma'$_a$sē^{yāh}. 27 [115] And_Ahiah Ḥānān Anan. 28 [116] Mallūk Ḥārim Ba'$_a$nāh.

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96 **LV 10:9 · Note** Note: KJB: Neh.10.8
97 **LV 10:10 · Note** Note: KJB: Neh.10.9
98 **LV 10:11 · Note** Note: KJB: Neh.10.10
99 **LV 10:12 · Note** Note: KJB: Neh.10.11
100 **LV 10:13 · Note** Note: KJB: Neh.10.12
101 **LV 10:14 · Note** Note: KJB: Neh.10.13
102 **LV 10:15 · Note** Note: KJB: Neh.10.14
103 **LV 10:16 · Note** Note: KJB: Neh.10.15
104 **LV 10:17 · Note** Note: KJB: Neh.10.16
105 **LV 10:18 · Note** Note: KJB: Neh.10.17
106 **LV 10:19 · Note** Note: KJB: Neh.10.18
107 **LV 10:20 · Note** Note: KJB: Neh.10.19
108 **LV 10:20 · Note** OSHB variant note: יבוֹנ: (x-qere) יְבִינִי: lemma_5109 n_0 morph_HNp id_16B4V יְבִינִי
109 **LV 10:21 · Note** Note: KJB: Neh.10.20
110 **LV 10:22 · Note** Note: KJB: Neh.10.21
111 **LV 10:23 · Note** Note: KJB: Neh.10.22
112 **LV 10:24 · Note** Note: KJB: Neh.10.23
113 **LV 10:25 · Note** Note: KJB: Neh.10.24
114 **LV 10:26 · Note** Note: KJB: Neh.10.25
115 **LV 10:27 · Note** Note: KJB: Neh.10.26
116 **LV 10:28 · Note** Note: KJB: Neh.10.27

Literal Version

29 [125] And_the_rest_of the_people the_priests the_Lēviyyiy the_ _gatekeepers the_singers the_temple_servants and_all (the)_ _one_who_has_separated_himself from_the_peoples_of the_ _lands to the_law_of the_'Elohīm wives_of_their sons_of_their and_daughters_of_their every one_who_knows one_who_ _understands. **30** [126] Are_holding on countrymen_of_their their_noble_of_ones and_they_are_going in_a_curse and_in_an_ _oath to_go in_the_law_of the_'Elohīm which it_was_given by_ _the_hand_of Mosheh the_servant_of the_'Elohīm and_to_take_ _care and_to_do ᴅᴏᴍ all_of the_commands_of **YHWH** master(s)_ _of_our and_judgements_of_his and_regulations_of_his. **31** [127] And_which not we_will_give daughters_of_our to_the_peoples_ _of the_earth/land and_ᴅᴏᴍ daughters_of_their not we_will_ _take for_sons_of_our. **32** [128] And_the_peoples_of the_ _earth/land who_bring ᴅᴏᴍ (the)_wares and_all grain in/on_ _day of_the_sabbath to_sell not we_will_take from_them on_ _sabbath and_on_a_day_of holiness and_we_will_leave ᴅᴏᴍ the_ _year (the)_seventh and_usury_of every_of hand. **33** [129] And_ _we_establish on_ourselves commands to_put on_ourselves the_third_of the_shekel in_year for_the_service_of the_house_ _of our_god_of_our. **34** [130] For_the_bread_of the_row and_the_ _grain_offering_of (the)_regularity and_for_the_burnt_ _offering_of (the)_regularity the_sabbaths the_new_moons for_ _feasts and_for_offerings and_for_offerings to_make_ _atonement on Yisrā'ēl/(Israel) and_all/each/any/every the_ _work_of the_house_of our_god_of_our. **35** [131] And_the_lots we_ _have_throw on the_offering_of the_wood(s) the_priests the_ _Lēviyyiy and_the_people to_bring to_the_house_of our_god_ _of_our to_the_house_of our_ancestors_of_our to_times appointed a_year in_year to_burn_it on the_altar_of **YHWH** god_of_our according_what_is_written in_law. **36** [132] And_to_ _bring ᴅᴏᴍ the_first-fruits_of our_ground_of_our and_the_ _first-fruits_of all_of the_fruit_of every_of tree a_year in_year to_the_house_of **YHWH**. **37** [133] And_ᴅᴏᴍ the_firstborn(s)_of our_sons_of_our and_cattle_of_our according_what_is_written in_law and_ᴅᴏᴍ the_firstborn(s)_of our_herds_of_our and_ _flocks_of_our to_bring to_the_house_of our_god_of_our to_ _priests who_serve in_house_of our_god_of_our. **38** [134] And_ᴅᴏᴍ the_first_of our_dough(s)_of_our and_contributions_of_our

Readers' Version

The agreement

28 The rest of the people, the priests, the Levites, the gatekeepers, the singers, the gatekeepers, and all the people who were prepared to dedicate themselves to obeying God rather than the customs of the former inhabitants of the land, their wives, their sons and their daughters, and everyone who was old enough to understand, **29** were joining with their brothers, their leading citizens, and were committing to a promise which also had a curse: to obey God's instructions as given by God's servant Mosheh (Moses), and to keep and to do all the commands of Yahweh our master, accepting his judgements and his statutes.

30 They committed to not giving their daughters to the other people groups in the land, and to not taking their daughters for their sons.[117]

31 On the rest day or other holy day, we won't buy goods or grain from the peoples of the land (even if they bring it to sell it to us), and we won't plant or harvest,[118] or reclaim debts,[119] in the seventh year.

32 We will also pledge to each donate a week's wages each year to support the temple functions[120] **33** including the bread displayed in rows, the continual offering and the continual burnt offering, for the rest day offerings and the new moons, for the appointed times and for the holy things, for the sin offerings to cover over Yisrael's (Israel's) guilt, and for all the operation of God's residence.

34 Then we threw dice to choose from among the priests, the Levites, and the people to create the roster for bringing firewood to the temple as an offering to be used at the appointed times each year for burning on the altar of Yahweh our god as written in the scrolls.

35 Every year we will also bring the early produce from our soil and the first harvest from every fruit tree to Yahweh's temple.[121] **36** We will dedicate our eldest male sons at the temple, and bring the eldest offspring of our herds and our flocks to the priests who serve at God's residence.[122]

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117 **RV 10:30 · Cross-ref.** Exo 34:16; Deu 7:3.

118 **RV 10:31 · Cross-ref.** Exo 23:10-11; Lev 25:1-7.

119 **RV 10:31 · Cross-ref.** Deu 15:1-2.

120 **RV 10:32 · Cross-ref.** Exo 30:11-16.

121 **RV 10:35 · Cross-ref.** Exo 23:19; 34:26; Deu 26:2.

122 **RV 10:36 · Cross-ref.** Exo 13:2.

125 **LV 10:29 · Note** Note: KJB: Neh.10.28

126 **LV 10:30 · Note** Note: KJB: Neh.10.29

127 **LV 10:31 · Note** Note: KJB: Neh.10.30

128 **LV 10:32 · Note** Note: KJB: Neh.10.31

129 **LV 10:33 · Note** Note: KJB: Neh.10.32

130 **LV 10:34 · Note** Note: KJB: Neh.10.33

131 **LV 10:35 · Note** Note: KJB: Neh.10.34

132 **LV 10:36 · Note** Note: KJB: Neh.10.35

133 **LV 10:37 · Note** Note: KJB: Neh.10.36

134 **LV 10:38 · Note** Note: KJB: Neh.10.37

Readers' Version

37 We will bring our offerings and the first of our flour, and the fruit of every tree, wine, and oil, for the priests, to the temple storerooms, and a tenth of our produce for the Levites.

The Levites will be the ones receiving a tenth of our cash income in all the towns where we work.[123] 38 A priest who's a descendant of Aharon (Aaron) must be with them when they collect the tenths, then the Levites must take a tenth of that to the temple to be placed in their treasury rooms.[124] 39 The Israelis and the Levites must bring the offerings of grain, wine, and oil to the storerooms. There must also be utensils for the sanctuary and the priests, for the ones who are ministering and the gatekeepers, and for the singers.

We mustn't neglect our god's house.

The people living in Yerushalem

11:1 The people's leaders lived in Yerushalem (Jerusalem), but the rest of the people drew straws to select one out of ten families to reside in Yerushalem the holy city—the other nine settled in the towns, 2 then the people blessed the ones who'd freely offered to live there in Yerushalem. 3 In the towns in Yehudah (Judah), everyone lived on their own property. That included the Israelis, the priests and Levites, the temple servants, and the descendants of Shelomoh's (Solomon's) servants. The provincial officials lived in Yerushalem,[137] 4 as well as some of Yehudah's and Benyamin's descendants.

Yehudah's descendants in Yerushalem included:

Atayah (son of Uziyah, son of Zekaryah (Zechariah), son of Amaryah, son of Shefatyah, son of Mahalalel, a descendant of Perets),

5 Ma'aseyah (son of Baruk, son of Kal-Hozeh, son of Hazayah, son of Adayah, son of Yoyariv, son of Zekaryah, son of Shiloni).

6 Altogether 468 strong men who were Perets' descendants lived in Yerushalem.

7 Benyamin's descendants in Yerushalem included:

Salu (son of Meshulam, son of Yoed, son of Pedayah, son of Kolayah, son of Ma'aseyah, son of Itiel, son of Yeshayah (Isaiah)).

8 Gabay and Salu.

A total of 928. 9 Zikri's son Yoel (Joel) was their overseer in the city, and Senuah's son Yehudah (Judah) was his second-in-command.

10 The priests in Yerushalem included:

Yoyariv's son Yedayah and Yakin,

11 Serayah (son of Hilkiyah, son of Meshulam, son of Tsadok, son of Merayot, son of Ahituv) who was the leader in the temple. 12 There were 822 of them when their brothers who work in the

Literal Version

and_the_fruit_of every_of tree new_wine and_fresh_oil we_will_ _bring to_priests to the_store-rooms_of the_house_of our_god_ _of_our and_the_tithe_of our_ground_of_our to_Lēviyyiy and_ _they the_Lēviyyiy are_the_ones_who_receive_the_tithes in_ _all_of the_cities_of our_labour_of_our. 39 135 And_it_was the_ _priest/officer the_descendant_of 'Ah$_a$ron with the_Lēviyyiy when_ the_Lēviyyiy _receive_the_tithes and_the_Lēviyyiy they_ _will_bring_up ᴅᴏᴍ the_tenth_of the_tithe to_the_house_of our_god_of_our into the_store-rooms of_the_house_of of_the_ _treasury. 40 136 If/because to the_store-rooms the_people_of Yisrā'ēl/(Israel) and_the_sons of_the_Lēviyyiy they_will_bring ᴅᴏᴍ the_contribution_of (the)_grain the_new_wine and_the_ _fresh_oil and_there the_utensils_of the_sanctuary and_the_ _priests who_serve and_the_gatekeepers and_the_singers and_ _not we_will_neglect ᴅᴏᴍ the_house_of our_god_of_our.

11:1 And_ the_leaders_of the_people _they_lived in_ _Yərūshālaim/(Jerusalem) and_the_rest_of the_people they_ _throw lots to_bring one of the_ten to_dwell in_ _Yərūshālaim/(Jerusalem) the_city_of (the)_holiness and_nine the_hands were_in_cities. 2 And_ the_people _they_blessed to_ _all/each/any/every the_men who_volunteered to_dwell in_ _Yərūshālaim/(Jerusalem). 3 And_these are_the_leaders_of the_ _province who they_dwelt in_Yərūshālaim/(Jerusalem) and_in_ _the_cities_of Yəhūdāh/(Judah) they_dwelt each on_his_own_ _of_property in_their_own_of_cities Yisrā'ēl/(Israel) the_priests and_the_Lēviyyiy and_the_temple_servants and_the_sons of_ _the_servants_of of_Shəlomoh/(Solomon). 4 And_in_ _Yərūshālaim/(Jerusalem) from_(the)_sons of_Yəhūdāh and_ _some_of_the_descendants_of Binyāmīn they_dwelt from_ _(the)_sons of_Yəhūdāh ʻAtā^{yāh} the_son_of ʻUzziy^{yāh} the_son_of Zəkar^{yāh} the_son_of 'Amar^{yāh} the_son_of Shəfaṭ^{yāh} the_son_of Mah$_a$lal'ēl from_(the)_sons of_Perets. 5 And_Ma'$_a$sē^{yāh} the_son_ _of Bārūk the_son_of Kol/(Col)- Ḥozeh the_son_of Ḥ$_a$zā^{yāh} the_ _son_of ʻAdā^{yāh} the_son_of Yōyārīv/(Joiarib) the_son_of Zəkar^{yāh} the_son_of the_Shilonite.[138] 6 All_of the_descendants_ _of Perets who_were_dwelling in_Yərūshālaim/(Jerusalem) four hundred(s) sixty and_eight men_of strength. 7 And_these are_ _the_descendants_of Binyāmīn Şallū the_son_of Məshullām the_son_of Yō'ēd/(Joed) the_son_of Pədā^{yāh} the_son_of Qōlā^{yāh} the_son_of Ma'$_a$sē^{yāh} the_son_of 'Ītī'ēl the_son_of Yəshaʻ^{yāh}/(Jeshaiah). 8 And_after_him Gabay Şallū nine hundred(s) twenty and_eight. 9 And_Yō'ēl/(Joel) the_son_of Zikrī was_overseer over_them and_Yəhūdāh/(Yihudah) the_ _son_of Şənū'āh over the_city was_second_in_command. 10 Of the_priests Yədaʻ^{yāh}/(Jedaiah) the_son_of Yōyārīv Yākīn/(Jakin). 11 Sərā^{yāh} the_son_of Ḥilqiy^{yāh} the_son_of Məshullām the_son_of Tsādōq/(Zadok) the_son_of Mərāyōt the_son_of 'Aḥītūv the_supervisor_of the_house_of the_ _'Elohīm. 12 And_brothers_of_their who_did_of (of)_the_work of_house eight hundred(s) twenty and_two and_ʻAdā^{yāh} the_

123 **RV 10:37 · Cross-ref.** Num 18:21.

124 **RV 10:38 · Cross-ref.** Num 18:26.

135 **LV 10:39 · Note** Note: KJB: Neh.10.38

136 **LV 10:40 · Note** Note: KJB: Neh.10.39

137 **RV 11:3-4 · Cross-ref.** Neh 7:73.

138 **LV 11:5 · Note** OSHB note: We read one or more accents in L differently from BHQ.

Literal Version

_son_of Yəroḥām/(Jeroham) the_son_of Pəlal^{yāh} the_son_of
'Amtsī the_son_of Zəkar^{yāh} the_son_of Pashḥūr the_son_of
Malkīy^{yāh}. **13** And_brothers_of_his heads of_fathers two_
_hundred forty and_two and_ʹAmashşay the_son_of ʹAzar^{ʾēl} the_
_son_of 'Aḥzay the_son_of Məshillēmōt the_son_of 'Immēr.
14 And_brothers_of_their mighty_men_of strength one_
_hundred twenty and_eight and_was_overseer over_them
Zavdiy^{ʾēl} the_son_of the_great_ones. **15** And_from the_Lēviyyiy
Shəmaʹ^{yāh} the_son_of Ḥashshūv the_son_of ʹAzrīqām the_son_
_of Ḥ$_a$shav^{yāh} the_son_of Bunniy. **16** And_Shabtay and_
_Yōzāvād/(Jozabad) were_over the_work (the)_external of_the_
_house_of the_'Elohīm of_the_leaders_of of_the_Lēviyyiy.
17 And_Mattan^{yāh} the_son_of Mīkāh the_son_of Zavdiy the_
_son_of 'Āṣāf the_leader_of the_beginning he_gave_thanks to_
_prayer and_Baqbuq^{yāh} the_second of_brothers_of_his and_
_ʹAvdā' the_son_of Shammūʹa the_son_of Gālāl the_son_of
Yədūtūn/(Jeduthun)[139]. **18** All_of the_Lēviyyiy in_the_city_of
(the)_holiness two_hundred eighty and_four. **19** And_the_
_gatekeepers ʹAqqūv Ţalmōn and_brothers_of_their who_kept_
_watch at_gates one_hundred seventy and_two. **20** And_the_
_rest_of Yisrā^{ʾēl}/(Israel) the_priests the_Lēviyyiy in_all the_
_cities_of Yəhūdāh/(Judah) each on_his_own_of_inheritance.
21 And_the_temple_servants were_dwelling on_ʹOfel and_
_Tsīḥā'/(Ziha) and_Gishpā' were_over the_temple_servants.
22 And_the_overseer_of the_Lēviyyiy in_
_Yərūshālaim/(Jerusalem) was_ʹUzziy the_son_of Bānī the_son_
_of Ḥ$_a$shav^{yāh} the_son_of Mattan^{yāh} the_son_of Mīkā' from_
_(the)_sons of_'Āṣāf the_singers to_before the_work_of the_
_house_of the_'Elohīm. **23** If/because the_command_of the_
_king was_on_them and_a_fixed_provision was_on the_singers
the_matter_of a_day in_its_day. **24** And_Pətaḥy^{āh} the_son_of
Məshēyzav^{ʾēl} from_(the)_sons of_Zeraḥ the_son_of Yəhūdāh
was_to_the_side_of the_king to/from_all/each/any/every
matter of_people.

25 And_near/to the_villages with_fields_of_their from_(the)_
_sons of_Yəhūdāh they_dwelt in_Qiryat- 'arbaʹ and_daughters_
_of_its and_in_Diyvvōn and_daughters_of_its and_in_
_Yəqavtsə^{ʾēl}/(Jekabzeel) and_villages_of_its. **26** And_in_
_Yēshūʹa/(Jeshua) and_in_Mōlādāh and_in_Bēyt- pelet. **27** And_
_in_ Ḥ$_a$tsar- shūʹāl and_in_Beer- seven and_daughters_of_its.
28 And_in_Tsiqlag/(Ziklag) and_in_Məkonāh and_in_daughters_
_of_its. **29** And_in_ ʹĒyn- rimmōn and_in_Tsorʹāh/(Zorah) and_
_in_Yarmūt/(Jarmuth). **30** Zānōaḥ ʹAdullām and_villages_of_
_their Lākīsh and_fields_of_its ʹAzēqāh and_daughters_of_its
and_they_encamped from_Beer- seven to the_valley_of_Ben
Hinnom. **31** And_the_sons of_Binyāmīn were_from_Gevaʹ
Mikmāş and_Aija and_Bēyt- ^{ʾēl} and_daughters_of_its. **32** ʹAnātōt
Nov ʹAnan^{yāh}. **33** Ḥātsōr Rāmāh Gittayim. **34** Ḥādīd
Tsəvoʹīm/(Zeboim) Nəvallāţ. **35** Lod and_'Ōnō Ge Harashim.
36 And_from the_Lēviyyiy the_divisions_of Yəhūdāh/(Judah)
belonged_to_Binyāmīn.

Readers' Version

temple were included.

Adayah (son of Yeroham, son of Pelalyah, son of Amtsi, son of Zekaryah (Zechariah), son of Pashhur, son of Malkiyah). **13** There were 242 of them when their brothers and family heads were included.

Amashsay (son of Azarel, son of Ahzay, son of Meshilemot, son of Imer), **14** and his brothers who were strong warriors, came to a total of 128.

Haggedolim's son Zavdiyel was their overseer.

15 The Levites in Yerushalem (Jerusalem) included:

Shemayah (son of Hashuv, son of Azrikam, son of Hashavyah, son of Buni),

16 Shabtay and Yozavad from the Levite leaders who supervised the work outside the temple,

17 Matanyah (son of Mikah, son of Zavdi, son of Asaf) the leader who offered the thanksgiving prayer,

Bakbukyah who was the assistant leader, and Avda (son of Shamua, son of Galal, the son of Yedutun).

18 The total number of Levites in the sacred city were 284.

19 The gatekeepers in Yerushalem (Jerusalem) included:

Akuv, Talmon, and their brothers.

A total of 172.

20 The rest of Yisrael (Israel) and the other priests and Levites, all lived their ancestral towns across Yehudah (Judah). **21** The temple workers lived on Ofel hill, and Tsiha and Gishpa supervised them.

22 The overseer of the Levites in Yerushalem was Uzi (son of Bani, son of Hashavyah, son of Matanyah, son of Mika)—a descendant of Asaf's sons who were the temple singers **23** because the Persian king had ordered that the singers should have daily provisions supplied.

24 Petahyah (son of Mesheyzavel, from the sons of Zerah, the son of Yehudah) was the intermediary with the king for any matter that the people raised.

The people in other cities and towns

25 Most of Yehudah's (Judah's) descendants settled in the villages with their fields nearby: in Kiryat-Arba and the surrounding villages, in Divon and the surrounding villages, and in Yekavtse'el and the surrounding villages, **26** in Yeshua, in Moladah, and in Beyt-Pelet, **27** in Hatsar-Shual, and in Be'er-Sheva (Beersheba) and the surrounding villages, **28** in Tsiklag, and in Mekonah and the surrounding villages, **29** in Eyn-Rimon, in Tsor'ah, and in Yarmut, **30** in Zanoah and Adulam and their villages, in Azekah and its villages. So they settled from Be'er-Sheva all the way to the Hinom valley.

31 Benyamin's descendants settled in Geva, Mikmas, Ayah, and Beyt-El (Bethel) and its villages, **32** in Anatot, Nov, and Anayah, **33** in Hatsor, Ramah, and Gitayim, **34** in Hadid, Tsevoim, and Nevalat, **35** in Lod, Ono, and in the Craftsmen's valley. **36** Also some Levites previously connected with Yehudah (Judah) settled in Benyamin.

139 LV 11:17 · Note OSHB variant note: וְיִתְיְדִי: (x-qere) וְיִתְוּדִי: lemma_3038 n_0 morph_HNp id_16v9T וְיִתְוּדִי

Readers' Version

The priests and Levites

12:1 These are the priests and the Levites who came back with Shealtiyel's son Zerubavel and with Yeshua:
Serayah, Yirmiyah (Jeremiah), and Ezra,
2 Amaryah, Maluk, and Hatush,
3 Shekanyah, Rehum, and Meremot,
4 Ido, Gineton, and Aviyah,
5 Miyamin, Moeadyah, and Bilgah,
6 Shemayah, Yoyariv, and Yedayah,
7 Salu, Amok, Hilkiyah, and another Yedayah.
Those were the leaders of the priests and their brothers in Yeshua's time.
8 The Levites were:
Yeshua, Binuy, Kadmiel, Shereveyah, Yehudah (Judah), and Matanyah who led the thanksgiving songs along with his brothers,
9 Bakbukyah and Uni—their brothers who stood opposite them in the services.

The high priest Yeshua's descendants

10 Yeshua fathered Yoyakim who then fathered Elyashiv, and Elyashiv fathered Yoyada. **11** Then Yoyada fathered Yonatan (Jonathan) who then fathered Yadua.

Leaders of priestly families

12 In Yoyakim's time, these were the heads of the priestly families:
Merayah was the head of Serayah's family,
Hananyah for Yirmiyah's (Jeremiah's),
13 Meshulam for Ezra's family,
Yehohanan for Amaryah's,
14 Yonatan (Jonathan) for Maluk's family,
Yosef (Joseph) for Shevanyah's,
15 Adna for Harim's family,
Helkay for Merayot's,
16 Zekaryah (Zechariah) for Ido's family,
Meshulam for Gineton's,
17 Zikri for Aviyah's family,
Piltay for Moeadyah's,
18 Shamua for Bilgah's family,
Yonatan (Jonathan) for Shemayah's,
19 Matenay for Yoyariv's family,
Uzi for Yedayah's,
20 Kalay for Salu's family,
Ever for Amok's,
21 Hashavyah for Hilkiyah's family,
and Netanel for Yedayah's.

The records of priests and Levites

22 In the days of Elyashiv, Yoyada, Yohanan, and Yadua, during the reign of Persian King Dareyavesh (Darius), the heads of the families of

Literal Version

12:1 And_these are_the_priests and_the_Lēviyyiy who they_
_came_up with Zərubāvel the_son_of Shə'altiy'ēl and_Yēshū'a
Sərāyāh Yirməyāh/(Jeremiah) 'Ezrā'. **2** 'Amaryāh Mallūk Ḥaṭṭūsh.
3 Shəkanyāh Rəḥūm Mərēmōt. **4** 'Iddō Ginnətōn 'Aviyyāh.
5 Miyyāmin Moadiah Bilgah. **6** Shəma'yāh and_Yōyārīv/(Joiarib)
Yəda'yāh/(Jedaiah). **7** Ṣallū 'Āmōq Ḥilqiyyāh Yəda'yāh these were_
_the_leaders_of the_priests and_brothers_of_their in_the_days_
_of Yēshū'a. **8** And_the_Lēviyyiy Yēshū'a Binnūy Qadmī'ēl
Shērēvəyāh Yəhūdāh Mattanyāh were_over songs_of_
_thanksgiving he and_brothers_of_his. **9** And_Baqbuqyāh and[140]
brothers_of_their were_to_before_them to_duties.

10 And_Yēshū'a/(Jeshua) he_fathered ~~DOM~~ Yōyāqīm/(Joiakim)
and_Yōyāqīm he_fathered ~~DOM~~ 'Elyāshiyv and_'Elyāshiyv ~~DOM~~
Yōyādā'/(Joiada). **11** And_Yōyādā' he_fathered ~~DOM~~
Yəhōnātān/(Jonathan) and_Yəhōnātān he_fathered ~~DOM~~
Yaddū'a/(Jaddua).

12 And_in_the_days_of Yōyāqīm priests the_heads_of the_
_fathers they_were of_Sərāyāh Mərāyāh of_Yirməyāh Ḥ$_a$nanyāh.
13 Of_'Ezrā' Məshullām of_'Amaryāh Yəhōḥānān/(Jehohanan).
14 Mmm[141] Yəhōnātān Shəvanyāh Yōṣēf/(Joseph). **15** Of_Ḥārim
'Adnā' of_Mərāyōt Ḥelqay. **16** Mmm[142] Zəkaryāh Ginnətōn
Məshullām. **17** Of_'Aviyyāh Zikrī of_Minyāmīn of_Mō'adyāh
Pilṭāy. **18** Of_Bilgah Shammū'a of_Shəma'yāh Yəhōnātān. **19** And_
_of_Yōyārīv Mattənay of_Yəda'yāh 'Uzziy. **20** Of_Ṣallū Qallay of_
_'Āmōq 'Ēvēr. **21** Of_Ḥilqiyyāh Ḥ$_a$shavyāh of_Yəda'yāh Nətan'ēl.

22 The_Lēviyyiy in_the_days_of 'Elyāshiyv Yōyādā' and_
_Yōḥānān/(Johanan) and_Yaddū'a heads_of fathers were_
_recorded and_the_priests on the_reign_of Dārəyāvesh the_
_Persian. **23** The_descendants_of Lēvī the_heads_of the_fathers

140 LV 12:9 · Note OSHB variant note: ונע/ו: (x-qere) יְנַ֫ע/וְ': lemma_c/6042 morph_HC/Np id_16ZT8 יְנַ֫ע/וְ
141 LV 12:14 · Note OSHB variant note: יכולמ/ל: (x-qere) וְכִילְמַ֫/לְ': lemma_l/4409 b n_0.1.0 morph_HR/Np id_16mHM וְכִילְמַ֫/ל
142 LV 12:16 · Note OSHB variant note: אירד/ל: (x-qere) אְוֹדִיעָ֫/לְ': lemma_l/5714 morph_HR/Np id_16rRa אְוֹדִיעָ֫/ל

Literal Version

were_recorded on the_scroll_of the_matters_of the_days and_
_unto the_days_of Yōḥānān the_son_of 'Elyāshiyʿ.

24 And_the_leaders_of the_Lēviyyiy were_Ḥ$_a$shavʿ^{yāh} Shērēvə^{yāh}
and_Yēshūʿa/(Jeshua) the_son_of Qadmī^{ēl} and_brothers_of_
_their were_to_before_them to_praise to_give_thanks by_the_
_command_of Dāvid the_man_of the_'Elohīm division
corresponding_to_of division. **25** Mattan^{yāh} and_Baqbuq^{yāh}
ʿOvʿad^{yāh} Məshullām Ṭalmōn ʿAqqūvʿ who_kept were_
_gatekeepers guard at_the_storerooms_of the_gates. **26** These
were_in_the_days_of Yōyāqīm/(Joiakim) the_son_of Yēshūʿa
the_son_of Yōṭsādāq/(Jozadak) and_in_the_days_of Nəḥem^{yāh}
the_governor and_ʿEzrā' the_priest/officer the_scribe.

27 And_at_the_dedication_of the_wall_of
Yərūshālaim/(Jerusalem) people_sought ĐOM the_Lēviyyiy
from_all places_of_their to_bring_them to_
_Yərūshālaim/(Jerusalem) to_observe dedication and_joy and_
_with_thanksgivings and_with_song cymbals lyres and_with_
harps. **28** And the_sons_of the_singers _they_gathered and_
_from the_district around Yərūshālaim/(Jerusalem) and_from
the_villages_of the_Nəṭofātī[s]. **29** And_from_household gilgal
and_from_the_fields_of Gevʿaʿ and_ʿAzmāvet if/because villages
they_had_built to/for_them the_singers around
Yərūshālaim/(Jerusalem). **30** And_ the_priests and_the_
_Lēviyyiy _they_purified_themselves and_they_purified ĐOM
the_people and_ĐOM the_gates and_ĐOM the_wall. **31** And_I_
_caused_to_go_up ĐOM the_leaders_of Yəhūdāh/(Judah) from_
_under to_wall and_I_appointed two_of thanksgiving_choirs
large and_processions to_right from_under to_wall to_the_
_gate_of the_dung. **32** And_he/it_went behind_them Hōshaʿ$_a^{yāh}$
and_(the)_half_of the_leaders_of Yəhūdāh. **33** And_ʿAzar^{yāh}
ʿEzrā' and_Məshullām. **34** Yəhūdāh and_Binyāmīn and_
_Shəmaʿ^{yāh} and_Yirmə^{yāh}/(Jeremiah). **35** And_some_of_the_
_sons_of the_priests with_trumpets Zəkar^{yāh} the_son_of
Yəhōnātān/(Jonathan) the_son_of Shəmaʿ^{yāh} the_son_of
Mattan^{yāh} the_son_of Mīkā^{yāh} the_son_of Zakkūr the_son_of
'Āṣāf. **36** And_brothers_of_his Shəmaʿ^{yāh} and_ʿAzar$^{'ēl}$ Mil$_a$lay
Gil$_a$lay Māʿay Nətan$^{'ēl}$ and_Yəhūdāh/(Yihudah) Ḥ$_a$nānī with_
_the_instruments_of (the)_song_of Dāvid the_man_of the_
_'Elohīm and_ʿEzrā' the_scribe was_before_of_them. **37** And_
_over the_gate_of the_spring and_before_themselves they_
_went_up on the_steps_of the_city_of Dāvid at_ascent to_wall
from_under to_the_house_of Dāvid and_unto the_gate_of the_
_waters east. **38** And_the_thanksgiving_choir the_second(fs)
was_the_one_which_was_going to_the_front and_I was_behind_
it and(the)_half_of the_people from_under to_the_wall from_
_under to_the_tower_of the_ovens and_unto the_wall (the)_
_broad. **39** And_from_over to_the_gate_of 'Efrayim and_over Old
gate and_over the_gate_of the_fish(es) and_the_tower_of
Ḥ$_a$nan$^{'ēl}$ and_the_tower_of the_hundred and_unto the_gate_of
the_sheep[143][144] and_they_stopped at_the_gate_of the_guard.

Readers' Version

the Levites and priests were recorded. **23** The names of the descendants of Levi who were heads of families were written in the official history records up till the time of Elyashiv's son Yohanan.

Various helper roles in the temple

24 The Levites' leaders were Hashavyah, Shereveyah, and Kadmiel's son Yeshua with their brothers serving opposite them in each service to praise and give thanks as had been commanded by David, the man of God.

25 Matanyah, Bakbukyah, Ovadyah (Obadiah), Meshulam, Talmon, and Akuv were gatekeepers who stood guard at the storerooms near the temple gates.

26 That was at the time of Yoyakim (son of Yeshua, son of Yotsadak), and at the time of Nehemyah (Nehemiah) the governor and Ezra the priest and scribe.

The dedication of Yerushalem's wall

27 At the dedication of the wall around Yerushalem (Jerusalem), they summoned Levites from all over the region to come to Yerushalem to perform the dedication with rejoicing and thanksgiving, and with musical instruments and singing, **28** plus the next generation of singers came both from Yerushalem and its surrounds, and from the Netofati villages. **29** They also came from Beyt-Hagilgal, and from the fields of Geva and Azmavet, because the singers had built villages near Yerushalem to live in. **30** The priests and Levites held a purification ceremony for themselves, then they purified the people and the gates and the wall.

31 Then I assembled Yehudah's (Judah's) leaders together up on top of the wall, and I assigned them into two large groups who would give thanks as they walked around it.

The first group headed towards the Dung Gate on the right. **32** Hoshayah and half of Yehudah's officials were in that group **33** along with Azaryah, Ezra, and Meshulam, **34** Yehudah, Benyamin, Shemayah, and Yirmiyah (Jeremiah), **35** plus some of the next generation of priests with trumpets: Zekaryah (Zechariah) (son of Yonatan (Jonathan), son of Shemayah, son of Matanyah, son of Mikayah, son of Zakur, son of Asaf) **36** and his brothers Shemayah, Azarel, Milalay, Gilalay, Ma'ay, Netanel, Yehudah, and Hanani. They used the instruments as per the instructions of the late King David, the man of God. Ezra the scribe went in front of them. **37** When they got to the Fountain Gate, they went up the stairs at the City of David, and along the higher portion of the wall by David's palace as far as the Water Gate (on the east side of the city).

38 The other group giving thanks with the other half of the people went in the opposite direction around the top of the wall—going past the Ovens Tower to the wider part of the wall. **39** We passed Efrayim Gate, the Old Gate, Fish Gate, and Hananel Tower, the Hundred Tower, and all the way to the Sheep Gate, and we stopped at the Guard Gate.

143 **LV 12:39 · Note** OSHB note: Marks a place where we agree with BHQ against BHS in reading L.

144 **LV 12:39 · Note** OSHB note: We read one or more consonants in L differently from BHS.

Readers' Version

40 Then both groups ended up at the temple and stood there. I was there with the half of the city officials who'd accompanied me, 41 as well as the priests with their trumpets: Elyakim, Ma'aseyah, Minyamin, Mikayah, Elyehoeynay, Zekaryah, Hananyah, 42 another Ma'aseyah, Shemayah, Eleazar, Uzi, Yehohanan, Malkiyah, Eylam, and Ezer. The singers sang loudly with their leader Yizrahyah.

43 Then that same day they offered many sacrifices, and they celebrated because God had made them very pleased. The women and children also celebrated, in fact the sound of the celebrations in Yerushalem (Jerusalem) was so loud that it can be heard far away.

Supporting the temple operation

44 Then still on that same day, men were appointed to be in charge of the storerooms for the tithes and offerings. The percentages for the priests and the Levites were gathered from the fields around the cities as per the written law, because the people of Yehudah (Judah) were happy to have the priests and the Levites serving. 45 They served God with their daily duties and the purification ceremonies, as well as the duties of the singers[145] and gatekeepers[146]—all done according to the instructions left by King David and his son Shelomoh (Solomon), 46 because it was handed down from the original singers who sang songs of praise and thanksgiving to God in the time of David and Asaf. 47 In Zerubavel and Nehemyah's (Nehemiah's) times, all Yisrael (Israel) contributed the daily food allowance for the singers and gatekeepers. They also gave a percentage to the Levites who then gave a percentage of that to the priests (Aharon's (Aaron's) descendants).

Separating out the foreigners

13:1 That day, the Mosheh (Moses) scroll was read out aloud to the people, and it was discovered that it had been written that no Amoni or Moavi is ever allowed to join the congregation[150] 2 because instead of helping the travelling Israelis with food and water, they had hired Bil'am (Balaam) to curse them[151] (even though God had turned that curse into blessing). 3 After hearing that, they separated out all of the foreigners.

Nehemyah's reforms

4 Prior to that time, the high priest Elyashiv (closely related to Toviyah) had been in charge of the temple storerooms 5 and he'd allowed Toviyah to have a large room that had previously been used to store offerings: the frankincense, the utensils, and donated grain, wine, and oil, (the percentage commanded to be given to the Levites, the singers, and the gatekeepers), and the offerings for the priests. 6 During

Literal Version

40 And_ the_two_of the_thanksgiving_choirs _they_took_their_ _stand in_house_of the_'Elohīm and_I and_(the)_half_of the_ _officials with_me. 41 And_the_priests 'Elyāqīm Ma'ₐsēʸᵃʰ Minyāmīn Mīkāʸᵃʰ 'Elyəhō'ēynay Zəkarʸᵃʰ Ḥₐnanʸᵃʰ with_ _trumpets. 42 And_Ma'ₐsēʸᵃʰ and_Shəma'ʸᵃʰ and_'El'āzār and_ _'Uzziy and_Yəhōḥānān/(Jehohanan) and_Malkīʸᵃʰ and_ _'Ēylām and_'Ēzer and_ the_singers _they_caused_to_hear and_ _Izrahiah was_the_overseer. 43 And_they_sacrificed on_day (the)_that sacrifices great and_they_rejoiced if/because the_ _'Elohīm he_had_made_them_rejoice joy great and_also the_ _women and_the_youths they_rejoiced and_ the_rejoicing_of Yərūshālaim/(Jerusalem) _it_was_heard from_a_distance.

44 And_they_were_appointed on_day (the)_that men over the_ _rooms for_stores for_contributions for_fruit and_for_tithes to_ _gather (is)_in_them to_the_fields_of the_cities the_portions_of the_law for_priests and_for_Lēviyyiy if/because the_joy_of Yəhūdāh/(Judah) was_on the_priests and_on the_Lēviyyiy who_were_standing. 45 And_they_kept the_service_of their_ _god_of_their and_the_service_of (the)_purification[147][148] and_ _the_singers and_the_gatekeepers according_to_the_ _command_of Dāvid Shəlomoh/(Solomon) son_of_his.
46 If/because in_the_days_of Dāvid and_'Āṣāf from_east the_ _leaders_of[149] of_the_singers and_the_song_of praise and_ _thanksgiving to_god. 47 And_all Yisrā'ēl/(Israel) in_the_days_of Zərubāvel and_in_the_days_of Nəḥemʸᵃʰ were_giving the_ _portions_of the_singers and_the_gatekeepers the_matter_of a_ _day in_its_day and_they_were_setting_apart for_Lēviyyiy and_ _the_Lēviyyiy were_setting_apart for_the_descendants_of 'Ahₐron.

13:1 In_the_day (the)_that it_was_read_aloud in_the_scroll_of Mosheh in_the_ears_of the_people and_it_was_found written in/on/over_him/it which/who not an_'Ammōnī and_a_ _Mō'āvite he_will_come in_the_assembly_of the_'Elohīm until perpetuity. 2 If/because not they_had_met ᴅᴏᴍ the_people_of Yisrā'ēl/(Israel) with_food and_with_water and_he_had_hired on/upon/above_him/it ᴅᴏᴍ Bil'ām to_curse_it and_ god_of_our _he_turned the_curse into_blessing. 3 And_he/it_was just_as_ _they_heard ᴅᴏᴍ the_law and_they_separated every_of person_ _of_mixed_ancestry from_Yisrā'ēl/(Israel).
4 And_before_of from_this 'Elyāshiyv the_priest/officer was_ _appointed over_the_store-room_of the_house_of our_god_of_ _our one_near to_Ṭōviyʸᵃʰ. 5 And_he/it_made to_him/it a_ _room large and_there people_were formerly_formerly putting ᴅᴏᴍ the_grain_offering the_frankincense and_the_utensils and_ _the_tithe_of the_grain the_new_wine and_the_fresh_oil the_ _command_of the_Lēviyyiy and_the_singers and_the_ _gatekeepers and_the_contribution_of the_priests. 6 And_

145 **RV 12:45 · Cross-ref.** 1Ch 25:1-8.

146 **RV 12:45 · Cross-ref.** 1Ch 26:12.

147 **LV 12:45 · Note** OSHB note: We read one or more accents in L differently from BHQ.

148 **LV 12:45 · Note** OSHB note: We read one or more accents in L differently than BHS. Often this notation indicates a typographical error in BHS.

149 **LV 12:46 · Note** OSHB variant note: שאר: (x-qere) 'יִשְׁאָר: lemma_7218 a n_0.1.0 morph_HNcmpc id_16EUu יִשְׁאָר

150 **RV 13:1-2 · Cross-ref.** Deu 23:3-5.

151 **RV 13:2 · Cross-ref.** Num 22:1-6.

Literal Version

_on/over_all this not I_was in_Yərūshālaim/(Jerusalem) if/because in_year thirty and_two of_'Artaḥshashtā' the_king_ _of Bāvel I_had_gone to the_king and_to_the_end_of days I_ _requested_leave_of_absence from the_king. **7** And_I_came to_ _Yərūshālaim/(Jerusalem) and_I_perceived (in)_the_thing which 'Elyāshiyv he_had_done for_Ṭōviy^{yāh} for_doing to_ _him/it a_room in_the_courtyards_of the_house_of the_ _'Elohīm. **8** And_it_was_displeasing to_me exceedingly and_I_ _threw ᴅᴏᴍ all_of the_articles_of the_household_of Ṭōviy^{yāh} the_outside from the_room. **9** And_I_said and_people_purified the_store-rooms and_I_brought_back there the_utensils_of the_ _house_of the_'Elohīm ᴅᴏᴍ the_grain_offering and_the_ _frankincense. **10** And_I_perceived if/because_that the_ _portions_of the_Lēviyyiy not it_had_been_given and_they_ _had_fled each to_his_own_of_field the_Lēviyyiy and_the_ _singers who_did_of (of)_the_work. **11** And_I_contended with the_officials and_I_said why the_house_of the_'Elohīm has_it_ _been_neglected and_I_assembled_them[154] and_I_made_them_ _stand at place_of_their. **12** And_all Yəhūdāh/(Judah) they_ _brought the_tithe_of the_grain and_the_new_wine and_the_ _fresh_oil to_storerooms. **13** And_I_appointed_as_treasurers over the_storerooms Shelem^{yāh} the_priest/officer and_ _Tsādōq/(Zadok) the_scribe and_Pədā^{yāh} one_of the_Lēviyyiy and_was_on hand_of_their Ḥānān the_son_of Zakkūr the_son_ _of Mattan^{yāh} if/because reliable they_were_thought and_was_ _on_them to_distribute to_brothers_of_their. **14** Remember to/for_me my_god_of_my on this and_do_not wipe_out loyalti(es)_of_my which I_have_done in_house_of my_god_of_ _my and_in_services_of_its.

15 In_the_days (the)_those I_saw in_Yəhūdāh those_who_trod winepresses[156] on_sabbath and_those_who_brought (the)_ _heaps and_those_who_loaded_them on (the)_donkeys and_ _also wine grapes and_figs and_all load and_those_who_ _brought_them Yərūshālaim/(Jerusalem) in/on_day of_the_ _sabbath and_I_protested in/on_day sold_they food. **16** And_ _the_Tsorī/(Tyrians) who_they_dwelt in_it were_bringing fish and_all merchandise and_they_were_selling_it on_sabbath to_ _the_people_of Yəhūdāh and_in_Yərūshālaim/(Jerusalem). **17** And_I_contended with the_nobles_of Yəhūdāh/(Judah) and_ _I_said to/for_them what is_the_thing (the)_evil the_this which you(pl) are_doing and_you(pl)_are_profaning ᴅᴏᴍ the_day_of the_sabbath. **18** Am_not thus ancestors_of_your(pl) did_they_do and_ god_of_our _he/it_brought on_us ᴅᴏᴍ all_of the_trouble (the)_this and_on the_city (the)_this and_you(pl) are_ _increasing anger toward Yisrā'ēl/(Israel) by_profaning ᴅᴏᴍ the_sabbath. **19** And_he/it_was just_as the_gates_of Yərūshālaim/(Jerusalem) they_became_shady to_(the)_face_ _of/in_front_of/before the_sabbath and_I_said and_ the_doors _ _they_were_closed and_I_said which/who not people_will_ _open_them until after the_sabbath and_some_of_my_servants I_stationed at the_gates not a_load it_will_come in/on_day of_

Readers' Version

all that period, I hadn't been in Yerushalem (Jerusalem) because I'd returned to the Babylonian king in the 32nd year of Artahshashta's (Artaxerxes') reign (Artaxerxes). However, after a while I requested leave again from the king **7** and I came back to Yerushalem. It was then that I discovered how evil Elyashiv had been by making a storeroom for Toviyah in the courtyards of God's residence. **8** It made me very upset and I threw everything of Toviyah's out of the room. **9** Then I ordered the storerooms to be purified by the priests before I returned the temple utensils to the room, along with the grain offerings and the incense.

10 I found out that the Levites and the singers weren't being given their percentage, so they'd left their duties and returned to cultivate their own fields.[152] **11** I made a complaint to the officials asking why the operation of the temple had been neglected, and then I rounded up the Levites and the singers and sent them back to their duties. **12** After that, the people of Yehudah (Judah) started bringing a tenth of their grain and wine and oil to the storerooms.[153] **13** I appointed book-keepers over the storerooms: the priest Shelemyah, the scribe Tsadok, and the Levite Pedayah with Hanan (the son of Zakur, the son of Matanyah) helping. They were all considered trustworthy, and their job included distributing the produce among their colleagues.

14 My god, remember me handling all these issues and don't wipe out my loyal kindness for your temple and its operation that I've shown.

The rest day

15 In those days I saw people in Yehudah (Judah) working on the rest day—treading wine, bringing in grain, and loading donkeys, yes, even bringing wine, grapes, figs, and all kinds of loads into Yerushalem (Jerusalem) on the rest day. I complained to them when they were selling the goods.[155] **16** Also, people from Tsor (Tyre) were bringing in fish and all kinds of merchandise and were selling it on the rest day to the Israelis, even in Yerushalem. **17** I rebuked the Yehudah business leaders, asking them, "What's this evil thing that you're all doing—profaning the rest day by treating it like a regular day? **18** Wasn't that what your ancestors did—the very reason our god brought all this evil on us and on this city? Now you're all making God angry with Yisrael (Israel) again by profaning the rest day."

19 So after that, when it started to get dark on Friday evenings, I ordered that the city gates be closed, and not to be opened until after the rest day. I also stationed some of my young men to stand at the gates to ensure that no load could enter on the rest day. **20** Some traders and merchants selling various goods

152 RV 13:10 · Cross-ref. Deu 12:19.

153 RV 13:12 · Cross-ref. Mal 3:10.

154 LV 13:11 · Note OSHB note: We read one or more accents in L differently from BHQ.

155 RV 13:15 · Cross-ref. Exo 20:8-10; Deu 5:12-14; Jer 17:21-22.

156 LV 13:15 · Note OSHB note: We read the punctuation in L differently from BHQ.

Readers' Version

camped outside the city walls once or twice, **21** but I warned them, "Why are you camping there outside the wall? If you do it again, I'll have you all removed." After that, they no longer came on the rest days. **22** Then I told the Levites that they should purify themselves and then come to the gates to monitor them on the rest day.

My god, remember me having to deal with this, and show your amazing loyal faithfulness towards me.

The scolding of marriage of foreigner

23 During that time, I also saw Yehudim (Jews) who'd married women from Ashdod, Amon, and Moav (Moab), **24** and half of their children spoke a foreign language from those other people groups and couldn't speak Hebrew. **25** So I scolded those men and cursed them and hit some of them and pulled out their hair. Then I forced them to promise in front on God that they wouldn't allow their daughters to marry foreign men, or their sons to take foreign wives. **26** I explained, "Didn't Yisrael's (Israel's) own King Shelomoh (Solomon) sin concerning that same matter? Among all the countries in the world, there wasn't any other king like, and he was loved by his god who'd placed him there as king over all Yisrael. But even then, the foreign women caused him to sin. **27** So do we need to hear about all of you doing this terrible evil of being unfaithful to God by marrying foreign wives?"

28 Also one of Yoyada's sons (grandson of the high priest Elyashiv) was a son-in-law of Sanvalat the Horoni,[157] so I banished him from my sight.

29 My god, remember them for bringing shame to the priesthood and dishonouring the vows made by the priests and the Levites.

30 Then I purified them from everything foreign, established regulations for each part of the work done by the priests and the Levites, **31** and organised the firewood supply at certain times, including for the first-fruits celebrations.

Literal Version

_the_sabbath. **20** And_ the_traders and_the_sellers_of every_of thing_sold _they_passed_the_night from_the_outside of_ _Yərūshālaim/(Jerusalem) a_time and_two_times. **21** And_I_ _warned in/among_them and_I_said to_them why are_you(pl) passing_the_night before the_wall if you(pl)_will_do_it_again a_ _hand I_will_stretch_out on_you(pl) from the_time (the)_that not they_came on_sabbath. **22** And_I_said to_Lēviyyiy which/who they_will_be purifying_themselves and_coming guarding the_gates to_keep_holy ~~ĐOM~~ the_day_of the_sabbath also this remember to/for_me my_god_of_my and_have_mercy on_me according_to_the_greatness_of your_covenant_loyalty_ _of_your.

23 Also in_the_days the_those I_saw ~~ĐOM~~ the_Yəhūdī/(Jews) who_they_had_married women Ashdodite[158][159] ʼAmmōnī[160][161] Mō'āvites. **24** And_children_of_their half was_speaking Ashdodite and_not_they were_knowing to_speak Yəhūdī/(Judean) and_according_to_the_language_of people and_people. **25** And_I_contended with_them and_I_cursed_ _them and_I_struck from_them men and_I_pulled_out_their_ _beard and_I_made_them_take_an_oath by_god if you(pl)_will_ _give daughters_of_your(pl) to_sons_of_their and_if you(pl)_ _will_take any_of_their_daughters for_sons_of_your(pl) and_ _for_yourselves. **26** Am_not on these Shəlomoh/(Solomon) the_ _king_of Yisrā'ēl/(Israel) did_he_sin and_among_nations (the)_ _many not he_was a_king like_him and_loved by_god_of_his he_ _was and_he_made_him god king over all_of Yisrā'ēl/(Israel) also him the_wives (the)_foreign they_caused_to_sin. **27** And_ _to_you(pl) will_we_listen to_do ~~ĐOM~~ all_of the_evil (the)_great (the)_this to_act_unfaithfully against_god_of_our by_marrying wives foreign. **28** And_one_of_the_sons_of Yōyādāʼ/(Joiada) the_son_of 'Elyāshiyv the_priest/officer (the)_great was_a_ _son-in-law of_Ṣanvallaṭ the_Horonite and_I_drove_him_away from_with_me. **29** Remember to/for_them my_god_of_my on the_defilement(s)_of the_priesthood and_the_covenant_of the_ _priesthood and_the_Lēviyyiy. **30** And_I_purified_them from_all foreignness and_I_assigned duties to_priests and_to_Lēviyyiy each in_his_own_of_work. **31** And_for_the_offering_of the_ _wood(s) at_times appointed and_for_first-fruits[162] remember to/for_me my_god_of_my for_good.

157 RV 13:28 · Cross-ref. Neh 4:1.

158 LV 13:23 · Note OSHB variant note: **תוידודשא**: (x-qere) 'תֹּוֹיְדֻדְשַׁא': lemma_796 n_0.1 morph_HNgfpa id_16TsQ תֹּוֹיְדֻדְשַׁא

159 LV 13:23 · Note OSHB note: Yathir readings in L which we have designated as Qeres when both Dothan and BHS list a Qere.

160 LV 13:23 · Note OSHB variant note: **תוינומע**: (x-qere) 'תֹּוֹינֲמַע': lemma_5984 n_0.0 morph_HNgfpa id_16HAP תֹּוֹינֲמַע

161 LV 13:23 · Note OSHB note: Yathir readings in L which we have designated as Qeres when both Dothan and BHS list a Qere.

162 LV 13:31 · Note OSHB note: We read one or more accents in L differently from BHQ.

Literal Version

Readers' Version

My god, remember me for good.

NEH · OET-LV v0.2.0 (OT set)

NEH · OET-RV v0.2.3

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