



# REBUILD

a study of Ezra and Nehemiah



# REBUILD

## Chronology of Ezra and Nehemiah

Cyrus	Darius	Xerxes I	Artaxerxes
1st Return under <b>Zerubbabel</b> (Temple)	Events of the book of Esther	2 <sup>nd</sup> Return under <b>Ezra</b> (People)	3 <sup>rd</sup> Return under <b>Nehemiah</b> (Wall)
<b>Ezra 1-6</b>	Book of Esther	<b>Ezra 7-10</b>	<b>Book of Nehemiah</b>
<b>538-515 B.C.</b>	475 B.C.	<b>458-457 B. C.</b>	<b>445-430 B.C.</b>
<b>Zechariah Haggai</b>		<b>Malachi</b>	

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**REBUILD**

*Nehemiah chapters 1-2*

***When life is difficult,  
our dialogue becomes  
upward and outward.***



**REBUILD**

*Nehemiah chapters 3-4*

***Be like elephants:***

***united like a family and***

***courageous for what is right.***





**REBUILD**

*Nehemiah chapters 5-6*

***Compassion, integrity, and discernment  
will carry the day  
in the 'economy' of God.***



**REBUILD**

## *Nehemiah chapters 7-8*

***Our worship of God  
is rooted in a willful offering of our  
time, talent, and treasures  
while blossoming in a wholistic love for  
who He has revealed Himself to be.***



**REBUILD**

*Nehemiah chapters 9-10*

***Our worship of God  
drives us to confession  
and  
moves us to commitment.***





**REBUILD**

# *Nehemiah chapters 11-13*



**REBUILD**

*Nehemiah chapters 11-13*

***Life is often a mixture  
of great celebration  
and tragic failure.***



# Nehemiah 11

- 1 Now the leaders of the people lived in Jerusalem. And the rest of the people cast lots to **bring one out of ten to live in Jerusalem** the holy city, while nine out of ten remained in the other towns.
- 2 And the people blessed all the men who willingly offered to live in Jerusalem.
- 3 These are the chiefs of the province who lived in Jerusalem;  
but in the towns of Judah everyone lived on his property in their towns:  
Israel, the priests, the Levites, the temple servants, and the descendants of Solomon's servants.
- 4 And in Jerusalem lived certain of the sons of Judah and of the sons of Benjamin.  
Of **the sons of Judah**: Athaiah the son of Uzziah, son of Zechariah, son of Amariah, son of Shephatiah, son of Mahalalel, of the sons of Perez;  
5 and Maaseiah the son of Baruch, son of Col-hozeh, son of Hazaiah, son of Adaiah, son of Joiarib, son of Zechariah, son of the Shilonite.  
6 All the sons of Perez who lived in Jerusalem were **468** valiant men.



7 And these are **the sons of Benjamin**: Sallu the son of Meshullam, son of Joed,  
son of Pedaiah, son of Kolaiah, son of Maaseiah, son of Ithiel,  
son of Jeshaiiah,  
8 and his brothers, men of valor, **928**.  
9 Joel the son of Zichri was their overseer;  
and Judah the son of Hassenuah was second over the city.

10 Of **the priests**: Jedaiah the son of Joiarib, Jachin,  
11 Seraiah the son of Hilkiah, son of Meshullam, son of Zadok,  
son of Meraioth, son of Ahitub, ruler of the house of God,  
12 and their brothers who did the work of the house, 822;  
and Adaiah the son of Jeroham, son of Pelaliah, son of Amzi,  
son of Zechariah, son of Pashhur, son of Malchijah,  
13 and his brothers, heads of fathers' houses, 242;  
and Amashsai, the son of Azarel, son of Ahzai, son of Meshillemoth,  
son of Immer,  
14 and their brothers, mighty men of valor, 128;  
their overseer was Zabdiel the son of Hagedolim. **(1,192)**



- 15** And **of the Levites**: Shemaiah the son of Hasshub, son of Azrikam,  
son of Hashabiah, son of Bunni;
- 16** and Shabbethai and Jozabad, of the chiefs of the Levites,  
who were over the outside work of the house of God;
- 17** and Mattaniah the son of Mica, son of Zabdi, son of Asaph,  
who was the leader of the praise, who gave thanks, and Bakbukiah,  
the second among his brothers;  
and Abda the son of Shammua, son of Galal, son of Jeduthun.
- 18** All the Levites in the holy city were **284**.
- 19** **The gatekeepers**, Akkub, Talmon and their brothers, who kept watch at the  
gates, were **172**.
- 20** **And the rest of Israel**, and of the priests and the Levites,  
**were in all the towns of Judah**, every one in his inheritance.
- 21** **But the temple servants** lived on Ophel;  
and Ziha and Gishpa were over the temple servants.



- 22** The overseer of the Levites in Jerusalem was Uzzi the son of Bani, son of Hashabiah, son of Mattaniah, son of Mica, of the sons of Asaph, the singers, over the work of the house of God.
- 23** For there was a command from the king concerning them, and a fixed provision for the singers, as every day required.
- 24** And Pethahiah the son of Meshezabel, of the sons of Zerah the son of Judah, was at the king's side in all matters concerning the people.
- 25** And as for **the villages**, with their fields, some of **the people of Judah** lived in Kiriath-arba and its villages, and in Dibon and its villages, and in Jekabzeel and its villages,
- 26** and in Jeshua and in Moladah and Beth-pelet,
- 27** in Hazar-shual, in Beersheba and its villages,
- 28** in Ziklag, in Meconah and its villages,
- 29** in En-rimmon, in Zorah, in Jarmuth,
- 30** Zanoah, Adullam, and their villages, Lachish and its fields, and Azekah and its villages. So they encamped from Beersheba to the Valley of Hinnom.



**31**     **The people of Benjamin** also lived from Geba onward, at Michmash, Aija,  
Bethel and its villages,  
**32**     Anathoth, Nob, Ananiah,  
**33**     Hazor, Ramah, Gittaim,  
**34**     Hadid, Zeboim, Neballat,  
**35**     Lod, and Ono, the valley of craftsmen.  
**36**     And certain divisions of the Levites in Judah were assigned to Benjamin.



# Nehemiah 12

## Priests and Levites

1 **These are the priests** and the Levites who came up with Zerubbabel the son of  
Shealtiel, and Jeshua: Seraiah, Jeremiah, Ezra,  
2 Amariah, Malluch, Hattush,  
3 Shecaniah, Rehum, Meremoth,  
4 Iddo, Ginnethoi, Abijah,  
5 Mijamin, Maadiah, Bilgah,  
6 Shemaiah, Joiarib, Jedaiah,  
7 Sallu, Amok, Hilkiah, Jedaiah.

These were the chiefs of the priests and of their brothers in the days of Jeshua.

8 And **the Levites**: Jeshua, Binnui, Kadmiel, Sherebiah, Judah, and Mattaniah,  
who with his brothers was in charge of the songs of thanksgiving.  
9 And Bakbukiah and Unni and their brothers stood opposite them in the  
service.



**10** And Jeshua was the father of Joiakim, Joiakim the father of Eliashib,  
Eliashib the father of Joiada,

**11** Joiada the father of Jonathan, and Jonathan the father of Jaddua.

**12** And in the days of Joiakim were priests, heads of fathers' houses:

of Seraiah, Meraiah; of Jeremiah, Hananiah;

**13** of Ezra, Meshullam; of Amariah, Jehohanan;

**14** of Malluchi, Jonathan; of Shebaniah, Joseph;

**15** of Harim, Adna; of Meraioth, Helkai;

**16** of Iddo, Zechariah; of Ginnethon, Meshullam;

**17** of Abijah, Zichri; of Miniamin, of Moadiah, Piltai;

**18** of Bilgah, Shammua; of Shemaiah, Jehonathan;

**19** of Joiarib, Mattenai; of Jedaiah, Uzzi;

**20** of Sallai, Kallai; of Amok, Eber;

**21** of Hilkiah, Hashabiah; of Jedaiah, Nethanel.



- 22** In the days of Eliashib, Joiada, Johanan, and Jaddua, the Levites were recorded as heads of fathers' houses; so too were the priests in the reign of Darius the Persian.
- 23** As for the sons of Levi, their heads of fathers' houses were written in the Book of the Chronicles until the days of Johanan the son of Eliashib.
- 24** And the chiefs of the Levites: Hashabiah, Sherebiah, and Jeshua the son of Kadmiel, with their brothers who stood opposite them, **to praise and to give thanks, according to the commandment of David the man of God, watch by watch.**
- 25** Mattaniah, Bakbukiah, Obadiah, Meshullam, Talmon, and Akkub were gatekeepers standing guard at the storehouses of the gates.
- 26** These were in the days of Joiakim the son of Jeshua son of Jozadak, and in the days of Nehemiah the governor and of Ezra, the priest and scribe.



## Dedication of the Wall

- 27** And at the dedication of the wall of Jerusalem they sought the Levites in all their places, to bring them to Jerusalem to celebrate the dedication with gladness, with thanksgivings and with singing, with cymbals, harps, and lyres.
- 28** And the sons of the singers gathered together from the district surrounding Jerusalem and from the villages of the Netophathites;
- 29** also from Beth-gilgal and from the region of Geba and Azmaveth, for the singers had built for themselves villages around Jerusalem.
- 30** And the priests and the Levites purified themselves, and they purified the people and the gates and the wall.
- 31** Then I brought the leaders of Judah up onto the wall and appointed **two great choirs** that gave thanks.
- One went to the south** on the wall to the Dung Gate.
- 32** And after them went Hoshaiah and half of the leaders of Judah,
- 33** and Azariah, Ezra, Meshullam,
- 34** Judah, Benjamin, Shemaiah, and Jeremiah,

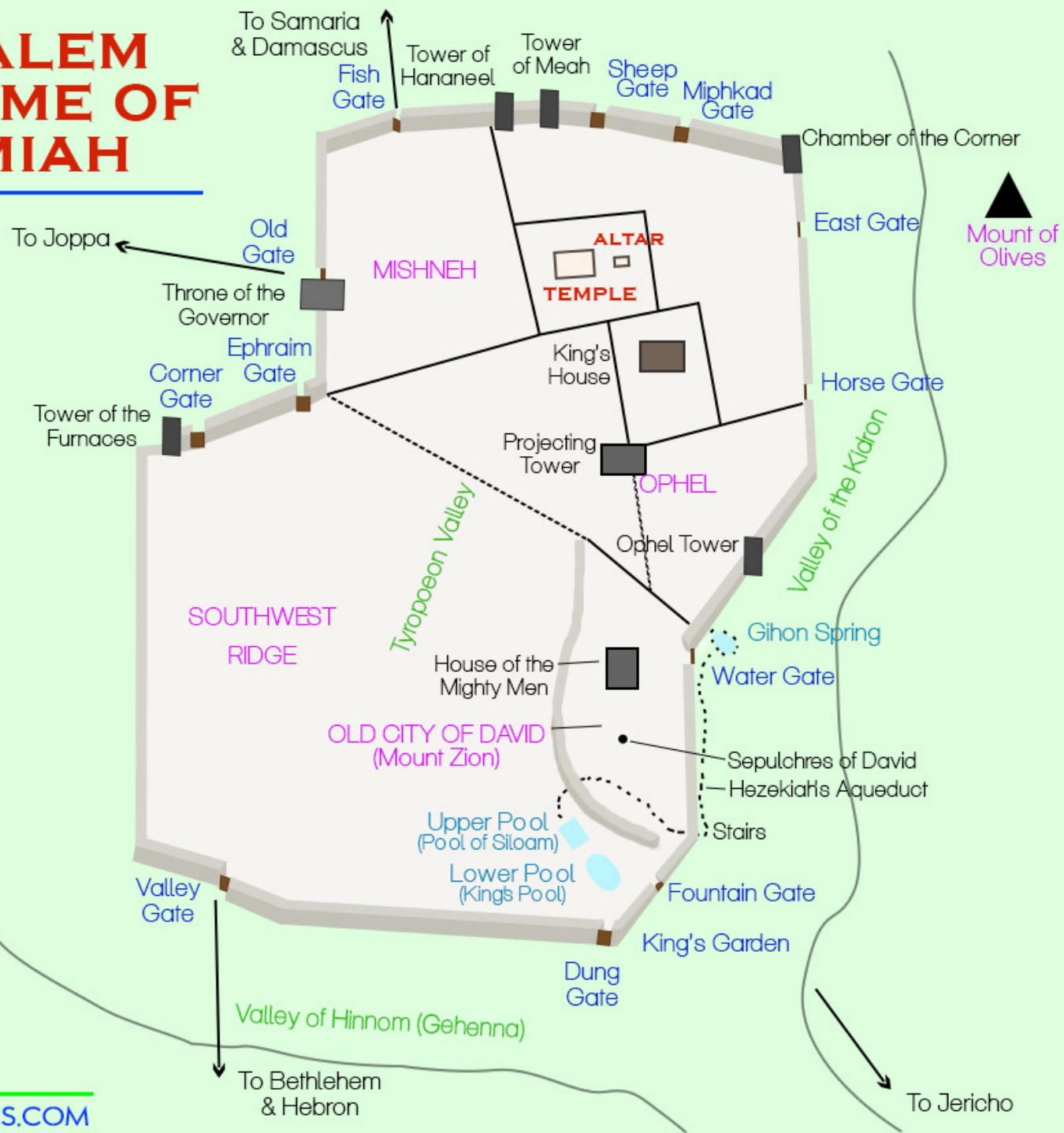


# JERUSALEM IN THE TIME OF NEHEMIAH

C. 445 B.C.

## BOOK OF NEHEMIAH

Nehemiah was  
governor of  
Judah under  
Artaxerxes I  
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He rebuilt  
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during the  
Second Temple  
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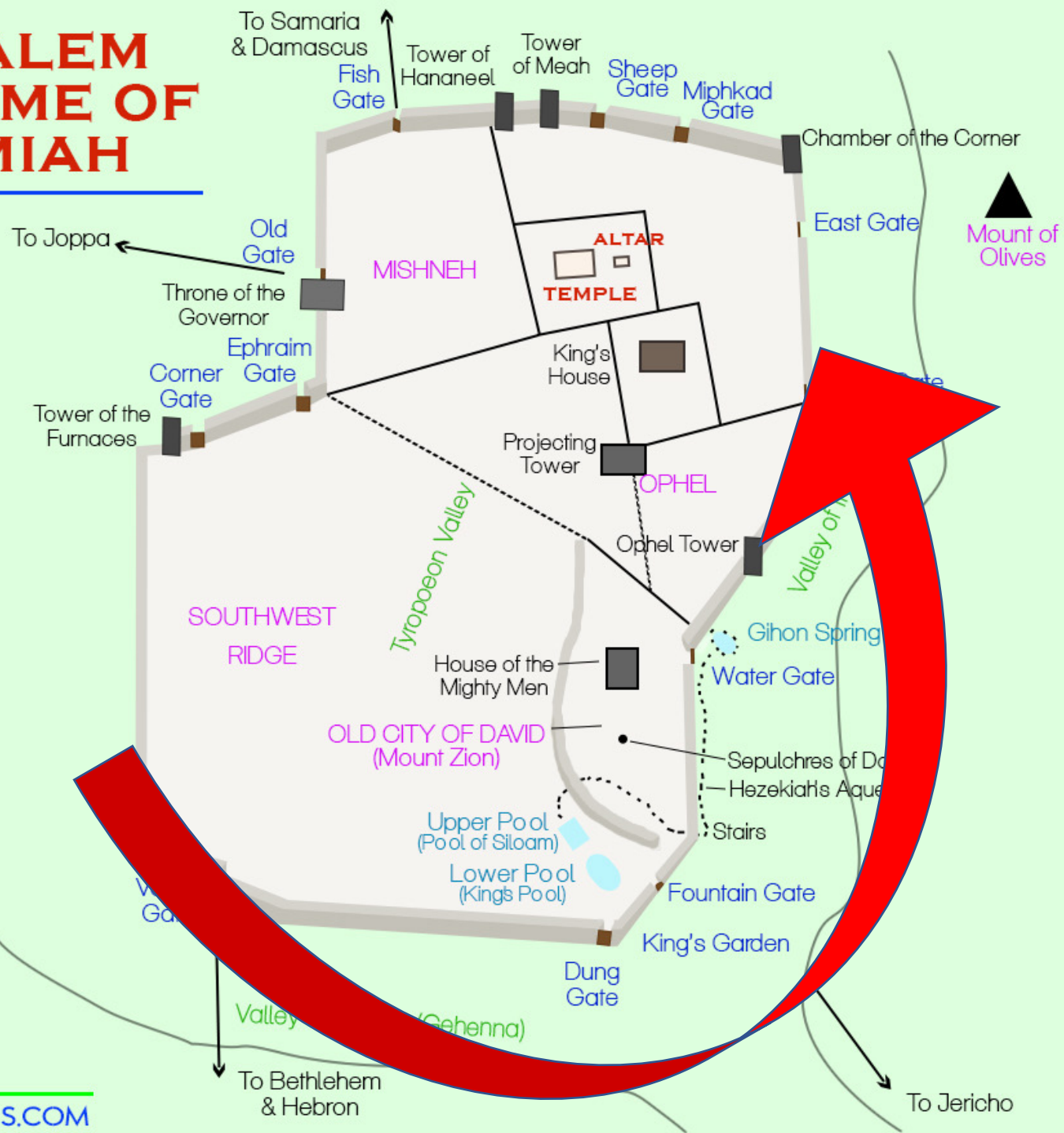


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**35** and certain of the priests' sons with trumpets: Zechariah the son of Jonathan, son of Shemaiah, son of Mattaniah, son of Micaiah, son of Zaccur, son of Asaph;

**36** and his relatives, Shemaiah, Azarel, Milalai, Gilalai, Maai, Nethanel, Judah, and Hanani, with the musical instruments of David the man of God. And Ezra the scribe went before them.

**37** At the Fountain Gate they went up straight before them by the stairs of the city of David, at the ascent of the wall, above the house of David, to the Water Gate on the east.

**38** **The other choir of those who gave thanks went to the north,** and I followed them with half of the people, on the wall, above the Tower of the Ovens, to the Broad Wall,

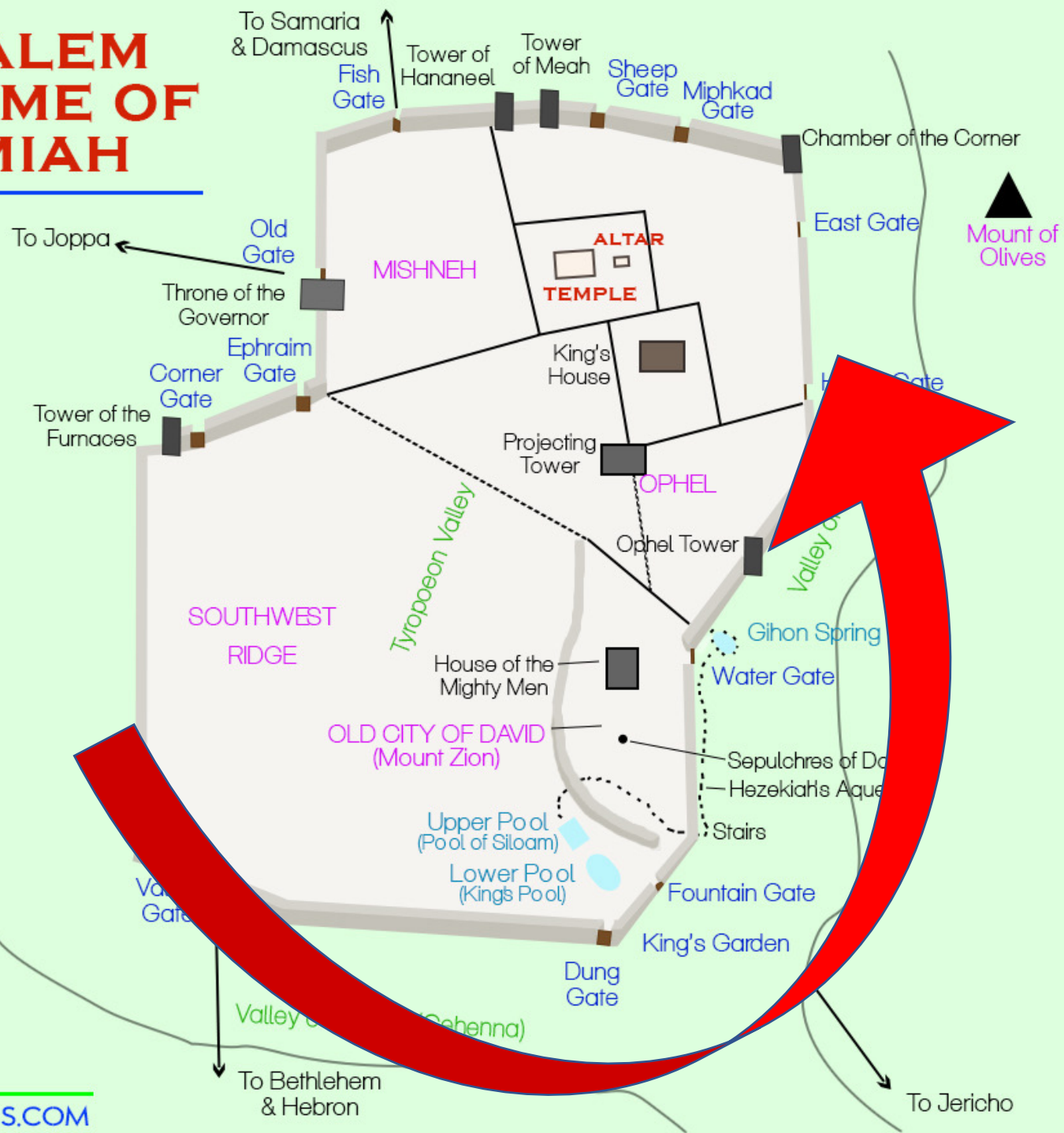
**39** and above the Gate of Ephraim, and by the Gate of Yeshanah, and by the Fish Gate and the Tower of Hananel and the Tower of the Hundred, to the Sheep Gate; and they came to a halt at the Gate of the Guard.

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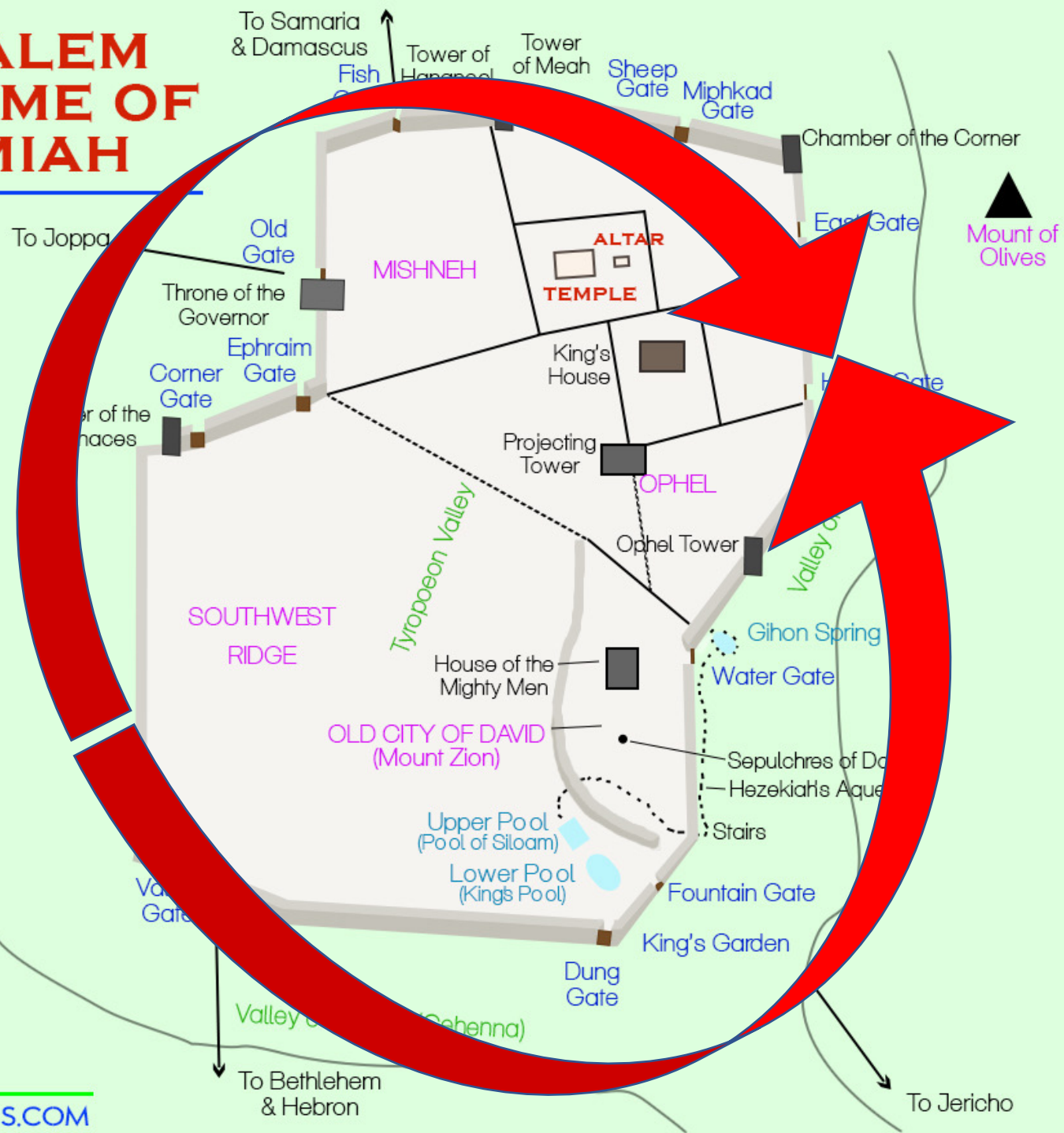


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- 40** So both choirs of those who gave thanks stood in the house of God,  
and I and half of the officials with me;
- 41** and the priests Eliakim, Maaseiah, Miniamin, Micaiah, Elioenai, Zechariah, and  
Hananiah, with trumpets;
- 42** and Maaseiah, Shemaiah, Eleazar, Uzzi, Jehohanan, Malchijah, Elam, and Ezer.  
And the singers sang with Jezrahiah as their leader.
- 43** And they offered great sacrifices that day and rejoiced, for God had made them  
rejoice with great joy;  
the women and children also rejoiced.  
And the joy of Jerusalem was heard far away.



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**And the joy of Jerusalem was heard far away.**



## Service at the Temple

- 44** On that day men were appointed over the storerooms, the contributions, the first fruits, and the tithes, to gather into them the portions required by the Law for the priests and for the Levites according to the fields of the towns, for **Judah rejoiced over the priests and the Levites who ministered.**
- 45** And they performed the service of their God and the service of purification, as did the singers and the gatekeepers, according to the command of David and his son Solomon.
- 46** For long ago in the days of David and Asaph there were directors of the singers, and **there were songs of praise and thanksgiving to God.**
- 47** And all Israel in the days of Zerubbabel and in the days of Nehemiah gave the daily portions for the singers and the gatekeepers;  
and they set apart that which was for the Levites;  
and the Levites set apart that which was for the sons of Aaron.



# Nehemiah 13

**1** On that day they read from the Book of Moses in the hearing of the people.

And in it was found written that no Ammonite or Moabite should ever enter the assembly of God,

**2** for they did not meet the people of Israel with bread and water, but hired Balaam against them to curse them--yet our God turned the curse into a blessing.

**3** As soon as the people heard the law, they separated from Israel all those of foreign descent.



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**But not all is well in Jerusalem....**



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*Nepotism in the Temple- pleasing man rather than God*

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## *Nepotism in the Temple- pleasing man rather than God*

- 4 Now before this, Eliashib the priest, who was appointed over the chambers of the house of our God, and who was related to Tobiah,
- 5 prepared for Tobiah a large chamber where they had previously put the grain offering, the frankincense, the vessels, and the tithes of grain, wine, and oil, which were given by commandment to the Levites, singers, and gatekeepers, and the contributions for the priests.



**6** While this was taking place, I was not in Jerusalem, for in the thirty-second year of Artaxerxes king of Babylon I went to the king.

And after some time I asked leave of the king

**7** and came to Jerusalem, and I then discovered the evil that Eliashib had done for Tobiah, preparing for him a chamber in the courts of the house of God.

**8** And I was very angry, and I threw all the household furniture of Tobiah out of the chamber.

**9** Then I gave orders, and they cleansed the chambers, and I brought back there the vessels of the house of God, with the grain offering and the frankincense.

**10** I also found out that the portions of the Levites had not been given to them, so that the Levites and the singers, who did the work, had fled each to his field.

**11** So I confronted the officials and said,

***"Why is the house of God forsaken?"***

And I gathered them together and set them in their stations.

**12** Then all Judah brought the tithe of the grain, wine, and oil into the storehouses.



- 13** And I appointed as treasurers over the storehouses Shelemiah the priest, Zadok the scribe, and Pedaiah of the Levites, and as their assistant Hanan the son of Zaccur, son of Mattaniah, for they were considered reliable, and their duty was to distribute to their brothers.
- 14 Remember me, O my God, concerning this, and do not wipe out my good deeds that I have done for the house of my God and for His service.**



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*Violation of the Sabbath- lack of trust in and obedience to God*

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*Violation of the Sabbath- lack of trust in and obedience to God*

**15** In those days I saw in Judah people treading winepresses on the Sabbath, and bringing in heaps of grain and loading them on donkeys, and also wine, grapes, figs, and all kinds of loads, which they brought into Jerusalem on the Sabbath day. And I warned them on the day when they sold food.

**16** Tyrians also, who lived in the city, brought in fish and all kinds of goods and sold them on the Sabbath to the people of Judah, in Jerusalem itself!



**17** Then I confronted the nobles of Judah and said to them,

***"What is this evil thing that you are doing,  
profaning the Sabbath day?"***

**18** ***Did not your fathers act in this way, and did not our God bring all this disaster on us and on this city? Now you are bringing more wrath on Israel by profaning the Sabbath."***

**19** As soon as it began to grow dark at the gates of Jerusalem before the Sabbath, I commanded that the doors should be shut and gave orders that they should not be opened until after the Sabbath. And I stationed some of my servants at the gates, that no load might be brought in on the Sabbath day.

**20** Then the merchants and sellers of all kinds of wares lodged outside Jerusalem once or twice.

**21** But I warned them and said to them,

***"Why do you lodge outside the wall?"***

***If you do so again, I will lay hands on you."***

From that time on they did not come on the Sabbath.



**22** Then I commanded the Levites that they should purify themselves and come and guard the gates, to keep the Sabbath day holy.

**Remember this also in my favor, O my God,  
and spare me according to the greatness of your steadfast love.**



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*Unequally yoked-  
Making unbreakable commitments with others who answer to a different King*

**But not all is well in Jerusalem....**



***Unequally yoked-  
Making unbreakable commitments to others who answer to a different King***

- 23** In those days also I saw the Jews who had married women of Ashdod, Ammon, and Moab.
- 24** And half of their children spoke the language of Ashdod, and they could not speak the language of Judah, but only the language of each people.
- 25** And I confronted them and cursed them and beat some of them and pulled out their hair. And I made them take oath in the name of God, saying,  
***"You shall not give your daughters to their sons,  
or take their daughters for your sons or for yourselves.***
- 26** ***Did not Solomon king of Israel sin on account of such women?  
Among the many nations there was no king like him, and he  
was beloved by his God, and God made him king over all Israel.  
Nevertheless, foreign women made even him to sin.***
- 27** ***Shall we then listen to you and do all this great evil and act  
treacherously against our God by marrying foreign women?"***



**28** And one of the sons of Jehoiada, the son of Eliashib the high priest, was the son-in-law of Sanballat the Horonite.

Therefore I chased him from me.

**29** **Remember them, O my God, because they have desecrated the priesthood and the covenant of the priesthood and the Levites.**

**30** Thus I cleansed them from everything foreign, and I established the duties of the priests and Levites, each in his work;

**31** and I provided for the wood offering at appointed times, and for the first fruits.

**Remember me, O my God, for good.**





**REBUILD**

*Nehemiah chapters 11-13*

***Life is often a mixture  
of great celebration  
and tragic failure...***





**REBUILD**

*Nehemiah chapters 11-13*

*Life is often a mixture  
of great celebration  
and tragic failure...*

*...dealt with by redemption.*



*So...therefore...what now?*



*So....therefore....what now?*

What great joys, great thanks  
and great celebration do you  
bring to the Lord today?



*So...therefore...what now?*

**What tragic failures  
do you bring to the Lord today?**