

Ezra-Nehemiah Part 14

Major Theme

We repent because of who our God is

Confession/Repentance leads to forgiveness

- If we say, “We have no sin,” we are deceiving ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. // 1 John 1:8-9 (CSB)
- Or do you despise the riches of his kindness, restraint, and patience, not recognizing that God’s kindness is intended to lead you to repentance? // Romans 2:4 (CSB)

Preparing for Worship - Nehemiah 9:1-4

- The first day of the seventh month is a holy convocation, the Festival of Trumpets (Lev 23:24).
- The tenth day of the seventh month is the Day of Atonement (Lev 23:26-28).
- Beginning on the fifteenth day of the seventh month they celebrate the Festival of Booths for seven days (Lev 23:33-36).
- The twenty-fourth day of the month is the first day not part of a festival. On the twenty-fourth day they pick up with their grieving over their sin in response to God’s word from Chapter 8.

“Nehemiah will highlight these key moments in his retelling of the biblical narrative: creation, Abraham, exodus, wilderness,

conquest, judges, prophets, and exile” // James Hamilton, Exalting Jesus in Ezra-Nehemiah

Creation to Abraham - Nehemiah 9:5-8

- They begin with a reference to the Shema from Deuteronomy 6:4 - “Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one.”
- Genesis 11, 12, 15, 17 (Abraham)

Exodus and Wilderness - Nehemiah 9:9-21

- A common theme throughout the Old Testament is God “hearing” the cry of His people.
- During those many days the king of Egypt died, and the people of Israel groaned because of their slavery and cried out for help. Their cry for rescue from slavery came up to God. And God heard their groaning, and God remembered his covenant with Abraham, with Isaac, and with Jacob. God saw the people of Israel—and God knew. // Exodus 2:23-25 (ESV)

Conquest to Exile - Nehemiah 9:22-31

- “So the land had rest forty years. Then Othniel the son of Kenaz died.” // Judges 3:11 (ESV)

Confession and Plea for Mercy - Nehemiah 9:32-37