

**Lesson 16**  
The Concern and Prayer of Nehemiah  
( Nehemiah 1:1-11 )

**Questions**

1. What did Nehemiah ask about and what answer did he get (1:1-3)?
  
2. How did Nehemiah respond to the report he received concerning his brethren and Jerusalem (1:4)?
  
3. How did Nehemiah describe God (1:5)?
  
4. What did Nehemiah confess to God (1:6-7)?
  
5. What did Nehemiah ask God to remember (1:8-9)?
  
6. How did Nehemiah describe God's people (1:10)?
  
7. What did Nehemiah ask God concerning himself (1:11)?

**Digging Deeper**

1. What month is Chislev in the Hebrew calendar and what is the approximate date for "the twentieth year" of Artaxerxes (1:1; see also 2:1 and Zech. 7:1)?
  
2. Where is "Shushan the palace" (1:1) located on a map and what role does this place have in the story of Esther?

3. How was Hanani related to Nehemiah (1:2; see 7:2).
4. How was Nehemiah's reaction and prayer in Nehemiah 1:4-11 similar to that of Ezra in Ezra 9:3-15?
5. Where in the law of Moses is it written that God would punish his guilty people with captivity and that he would later reward his repentant people with restoration (1:8-9)?
6. Who is "this man" in Nehemiah 1:11 and what was the role of a "cupbearer to the king"?
7. What qualities and characteristics of Nehemiah's leadership can be found in Nehemiah 1?

### **Applications for Today**

1. Show enough concern for your brethren to ask about their condition and then do something to help if possible (1:2; 1 Thess. 5:13).
2. God will always have a remnant who desire to serve and obey him (1:3; Rom. 11:5).
3. Brethren in great affliction need our help (1:3; 2 Cor. 1:4; Phil. 4:14; Jas. 1:27).
4. Take time to mourn over the condition of your brethren and pray about it (1:4; Ezra 9:3; 10:1; 2 Cor. 7:7; Jas. 4:9).
5. Pray to God for help in doing what needs to be done for your brethren (1:5-11; Phil. 4:4-7; 1 Pet. 5:7).
6. Always remember that the God you pray to is a great and awesome God (1:5; Deut. 7:21; 10:17; Neh. 9:32).
7. God keeps his word, but do we keep his word (1:5; Jn. 15:10; 1 Jn. 2:3-4; 3:22, 24; 5:3)?

8. God hears the prayers of the righteous (1:6, 11; 1 Pet. 3:11-12).
9. Pray day and night without ceasing (1:6; 1 Thess. 3:10; 5:17; 1 Tim. 5:5).
10. Confess your sins to God (1:6-7; 1 Jn. 1:7-9).
11. God's commandments are meant to be kept (1:7; 1 Cor. 7:19; Rev. 14:12).
12. Disobedience toward God brings his punishment / captivity, while obedience toward God brings his reward / restoration (1:8-10; Mt. 25:46; 2 Thess. 1:9-10).
13. God wants his name to dwell with his people (1:9; Deut. 12:11; 1 K. 8:43).
14. We are redeemed by God in order to serve God (1:10; Tit. 2:14).
15. Delight to fear the name of the Lord (1:11; Psa. 112:1; Isa. 11:3).
16. Be bold in making your petitions and supplications made known to God (1:11; Heb. 5:7; 1 Jn. 5:15).