

Lesson 22
The Book of the Law Read and Obeyed
(Nehemiah 8:1-18)

Questions

1. What did the people gather together and ask Ezra to do (8:1-2)?

2. What did Ezra do from early morning until midday (8:3-4)?

3. What did the people and Ezra do when the book of the law was opened (8:5-6)?

4. What did the Levites do for the people (8:7-9, 12)?

5. What were the people doing after they heard the law read and what were they told to do (8:9-12).

6. What feast was celebrated in the seventh month and why (8:13-18)?

Digging Deeper

1. When was the seven month in the Hebrew calendar and what was the purpose for the feast of booths or tabernacles (8:2, 14)?

2. Who was Jeshua the son of Nun (8:17)?

Applications for Today

1. There needs to be the reading of God's word – examination (8:1-6, 18), the teaching of God's word – explanation (8:7-9, 12), and, the obeying of God's word – application (8:9-18; Mt. 13:22; Lk. 6:47; Jn. 8:47; 2 Thess. 3:14; Jas. 1:22-25; Rev. 1:3; 22:18).
2. The public reading of scripture in the worship assembly is important (8:1-6; 1 Tim. 4:13).
3. It is good to listen attentively and reverently to the word of God (8:3, 5, 13; Lk. 8:18; Acts 17:11).
4. We need more teachers of God's word (8:7-9; 2 Tim. 2:2; Heb. 5:12).
5. Understanding leads to joy. Do you understand what you are reading in God's word (8:7-8, 12; Ac. 8:30, 39)?
6. The joy of the Lord is your strength (8:12; Ezra 6:22; Hab. 3:18; Philemon 20).
7. When you find something in God's law that you are supposed to be doing, do it (8:14, 18; Deut. 27:10; 1 Jn. 5:2).