Lesson 11:
Discord and Conspiracy
Nehemiah 5-7
• 539 B.C.
  – Zerubbabel (and Joshua)
  – Temple

• 457 B.C.
  – Ezra
  – People

• 444 B.C.
  – Nehemiah
  – Wall
Ezra

Restoration and Reform

First Return of Exiles
539 B.C.

Restoration under Zerubbabel

3
The Journey
The Work

Rebuilding the Temple

Book of Esther Dated Here
516

Second Return of Exiles
458

Reforms under Ezra

7
The Journey

8:33
The Work

Dissolving Mixed Marriages

457 B.C.

Cyrus
The King

4:5
Darius
The King

Artaxerxes
The King

Key words and phrases: went up, Jerusalem, decree, house of the Lord, Law of the Lord

Key verses: 6:21-22; 2:1; 7:10
# Nehemiah

## Building for Security

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- **Prayer**
  - Building for Physical Security
    - Work — Builders
    - Key: Wall
    - Leadership by a man

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- **Prayer**
  - Building for Spiritual Security
    - Worship — Dwellers
    - Key: Law
    - Revival of a Nation

Key words: build, remember, pray, wall, work, mercy

Key verses: 2:17b; 6:3
Ezra-Nehemiah

Ezra
I. Restoration under Zerubbabel (1-6)
II. Reforms under Ezra (7-10)

Nehemiah
III. Building for Physical Security (1-7)
IV. Building for Spiritual Security (8-13)
A Pattern Repeated in
Ezra 1-6; Ezra 7-10; and Nehemiah 1-7

• God stirs up the heart of a faithful Jewish leader in captivity.
• God grants his people favor in the eyes of a Persian king who authorizes a return to the land for a rebuilding project.
• The rebuilding project is threatened by many obstacles.
• All obstacles are overcome through the providential help of God and the wise leadership of the faithful Jewish leader, so that the rebuilding project results in success.
“Reproach”

• Nehemiah 1:3; 2:17; 4:4; 5:9; 6:13

• 1 Samuel 17—Goliath

• 2 Kings 19-20—Sennacherib (and Rabshakeh)
Nehemiah 4-7

Nehemiah 4  
External Obstacle:  
- Rumors of War

Nehemiah 5  
Internal Obstacle:  
- Oppression of the Poor

Nehemiah 6  
External Obstacle:  
- Nehemiah’s Life Threatened

Nehemiah 7  
Obstacle:  
- An Unpopulated City Is Vulnerable to Attack