

Nehemiah 10:28

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And the rest of the people, the priests, the Levites, the porters, the singers, the Nethinims, and all they that had separated themselves from the people of the lands unto the law of God, their wives, their sons, and their daughters, every one having knowledge, and having understanding;

Analysis

And the rest of the people, the priests, the Levites, the porters, the singers, the Nethinims, and all they that had separated themselves from the people of the lands unto the law of God, their wives, their sons, and their daughters, every one having knowledge, and having understanding;

This verse within Nehemiah 10 addresses themes of covenant renewal, specific commitments, accountability. General confession leads to specific commitments regarding temple support, Sabbath observance, and separation from paganism. This passage demonstrates biblical principles applicable across both testaments—God's sovereignty combined with human responsibility, faith expressed through obedient action, and the necessity of both individual and corporate commitment to covenant faithfulness. Nehemiah models leadership that combines vision, prayer, courage, integrity, and perseverance amid sustained opposition.

Historical Context

Nehemiah's account occurs during Persian imperial dominance (539-331 BC), specifically 445-433 BC under Artaxerxes I. The spiritual reforms under Ezra and Nehemiah shaped Judaism for centuries, establishing Scripture's centrality and

patterns of worship continuing into the intertestamental period and beyond. The Persian period was crucial transitional time when Jewish identity shifted from monarchical nationalism to Torah-centered covenantal community. Without political independence, the people's cohesion depended on shared scripture, temple worship, and covenant obedience. This established patterns persisting through the Second Temple period into New Testament times. Understanding this context illuminates Jesus's ministry among a people shaped by these reforms and challenges.

Related Passages

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Study Questions

1. How does regular engagement with Scripture transform understanding of God and His will for your life?
2. What specific commitments do you need to make (or renew) regarding Bible reading, worship, and obedience?
3. How can the principles demonstrated in this passage inform your response to current challenges in your life or church?

Interlinear Text

וְשָׂא ר	מֵעַמִּי י	הַכֹּהֲנִים	הַלְוִיִּם	הַשּׁוֹעֲרִים	הַמְּשֻׁכְּרִים
And the rest	of the people	the priests	the Levites	the porters	the singers
H7605	H5971	H3548	H3881	H7778	H7891
הַנֶּתִּינִים	וְכָל	הַנִּבְדָּל ל	מֵעַמִּי י	הָאֲרָצוֹת	
the Nethinims	H3605	and all they that had separated	of the people	of the lands	
H5411		H914	H5971	H776	
אֶל	תּוֹכַת	הָאֱלֹהִים	נָשִׁיהֶם	בָּנֵיהֶם	וּבָנֹתֵיהֶם
H413	unto the law	of God	their wives	their sons	and their daughters
	H8451	H430	H802	H1121	H1323
יֹדֵעַ	מִבִּין:				
every one having knowledge	and having understanding				
H3045	H995				

Additional Cross-References

Nehemiah 9:2 (Sin): And the seed of Israel separated themselves from all strangers, and stood and confessed their sins, and the iniquities of their fathers.
