

Nehemiah 10:29

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

They clave to their brethren, their nobles, and entered into a curse, and into an oath, to walk in God's law, which was given by Moses the servant of God, and to observe and do all the commandments of the LORD our Lord, and his judgments and his statutes;

Analysis

They clave to their brethren, their nobles, and entered into a curse, and into an oath, to walk in God's law, which was given by Moses the servant of God, and to observe and do all the commandments of the LORD our Lord, and his judgments and his statutes;

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

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

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

| | | | | |
|-------------------|-------------|----------------|----------------------|-------------------|
| בָּאֵל הַ | וּבָא יִם | אֲדִירֵיהֶם | אֲחֵיהֶם | עַל מְחִזִּיק יִם |
| into a curse | and entered | their nobles | to their brethren | They clave |
| H423 | H935 | H117 | H251 | H5921 H2388 |
| נִתְּנָה הַ | אֲשֶׁר | הָאֵלֹהִים יִם | בְּתוֹכָהּ | לֵל כֶּת |
| which was given | | in God's | law | |
| H5414 | H834 | H430 | H8451 | H1980 H7621 |
| כָּל | אֶת | וְלַעֲשׂוֹת | וְלִשְׁמֹר | הָאֵלֹהִים יִם |
| H3605 | H853 | and do | and to observe | in God's |
| | H6213 | | H8104 | H430 |
| וּמִשְׁפָּט יוֹ | אֲדֹנָיִנוּ | יְהוָה הַ | מִצְוֹת | |
| and his judgments | our Lord | of the LORD | all the commandments | |
| H4941 | H113 | H3068 | H4687 | |
| וְחֻקָּיו: | | | | |
| and his statutes | | | | |
| H2706 | | | | |

Additional Cross-References

Ezekiel 36:27 (Judgment): And I will put my spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes, and ye shall keep my judgments, and do them.

Psalms 119:106 (Judgment): I have sworn, and I will perform it, that I will keep thy righteous judgments.

John 15:14 (Parallel theme): Ye are my friends, if ye do whatsoever I command you.

Romans 12:9 (Parallel theme): Let love be without dissimulation. Abhor that which is evil; cleave to that which is good.

2 Kings 23:3 (Word): And the king stood by a pillar, and made a covenant before the LORD, to walk after the LORD, and to keep his commandments and his testimonies and his statutes with all their heart and all their soul, to perform the words of this covenant that were written in this book. And all the people stood to the covenant.

2 Chronicles 34:31 (Word): And the king stood in his place, and made a covenant before the LORD, to walk after the LORD, and to keep his commandments, and his testimonies, and his statutes, with all his heart, and with all his soul, to perform the words of the covenant which are written in this book.

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