

Nehemiah 10:30

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And that we would not give our daughters unto the people of the land, nor take their daughters for our sons:

Analysis

And that we would not give our daughters unto the people of the land, nor take their daughters for our sons:

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

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

James 2:17 — Faith and works

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

וְאֵשׁ ר	לֹא	נָתַתְּ	בְּנֵי תִיָּה עַם	לְעַמִּי י	
H834	H3808		H1323	H5971	
		And that we would not give	our daughters	unto the people	
		H5414			
וְהָאֶרֶץ	וְאֵת	בְּנֵי תִיָּה עַם	לֹא	נִקַּח ח	לְבָנֵינוּ:
H776	H853	H1323	H3808	H3947	H1121
of the land		our daughters		nor take	for our sons

Additional Cross-References

Deuteronomy 7:3 (Parallel theme): Neither shalt thou make marriages with them; thy daughter thou shalt not give unto his son, nor his daughter shalt thou take unto thy son.

Exodus 34:16 (Parallel theme): And thou take of their daughters unto thy sons, and their daughters go a whoring after their gods, and make thy sons go a whoring after their gods.

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