

Nehemiah 11:24

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And Pethahiah the son of Meshezabeel, of the children of Zerah the son of Judah, was at the king's hand in all matters concerning the people.

Analysis

And Pethahiah the son of Meshezabeel, of the children of Zerah the son of Judah, was at the king's hand in all matters concerning the people.

This verse within Nehemiah 11 addresses themes of sacrifice, community building, strategic living. Repopulating Jerusalem required sacrifice—willingness to leave comfortable situations to strengthen the covenant community. 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. Nehemiah's final reforms address recurring covenant violations, demonstrating the ongoing challenge of maintaining spiritual commitment across generations. 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

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

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

וְפִתְחֵה הַ	בָּנִים	מִשְׁיַׁבָּא לְ	בָּנִים	בָּנִים
And Pethahiah	of the children	of Meshezabeel	of the children	of Zerah
H6611	H1121	H4898	H1121	H2226

בָּנִים	יְהוּדָה	לְ	בָּנִים	לְכָל	בָּנִים
of the children	of Judah	hand	was at the king's	in all matters	
H1121	H3063	H3027	H4428	H3605	H1697

לְבָנִים:
concerning the people
H5971

Additional Cross-References

Genesis 38:30 (Parallel theme): And afterward came out his brother, that had the scarlet thread upon his hand: and his name was called Zarah.

1 Chronicles 18:17 (Kingdom): And Benaiah the son of Jehoiada was over the Cherethites and the Pelethites; and the sons of David were chief about the king.

From KJV Study • kjvstudy.org