

# Nehemiah 13:6

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

But in all this time was not I at Jerusalem: for in the two and thirtieth year of Artaxerxes king of Babylon came I unto the king, and after certain days obtained I leave of the king:

## Analysis

**But in all this time was not I at Jerusalem: for in the two and thirtieth year of Artaxerxes king of Babylon came I unto the king, and after certain days obtained I leave of the king:**

This verse within Nehemiah 13 addresses themes of reform, confronting compromise, vigilance, finishing well. Nehemiah's return from Persia reveals backsliding, requiring renewed reforms in areas previously addressed—showing constant vigilance's necessity. 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

---

**Genesis 1:1** — Creation of heavens and earth

**Psalm 19:1** — Heavens declare God's glory

## 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

---

כִּי יִתְּהַלֵּךְ בֵּרֶשֶׁת כִּי  
H3605 H2088 H3808 H1961 But in all this time was not I at Jerusalem H3588

בְּשָׁנָת הַמֶּלֶךְ לֹא בֵּרֶשֶׁת כִּי  
H3389

בְּשָׁנָת הַמֶּלֶךְ לֹא רָתַחַשׁ סִתְּרָה וְשָׁתַּת יְמִין שְׁלֹשׁ יְמִין  
H3389

year and thirtieth for in the two of Artaxerxes I unto the king  
H8141 H7970 H8147 H783 H4428

בְּרַבְּלָה בְּאַתִּי אֶל בְּמֶלֶךְ וְלֹא יְמִין יְמִין נִשְׁאָה לִתְּנִיתָנָה  
of Babylon came H413 I unto the king and after certain days obtained I leave  
H894 H935 H4428 H7093 H3117 H7592

בְּמֶלֶךְ מִן  
H4480 I unto the king  
H4428

## Additional Cross-References

---

**Nehemiah 5:14** (Kingdom): Moreover from the time that I was appointed to be their governor in the land of Judah, from the twentieth year even unto the two and thirtieth year of Artaxerxes the king, that is, twelve years, I and my brethren have not eaten the bread of the governor.

---

From KJV Study • [kjvstudy.org](http://kjvstudy.org)