

Nehemiah 3:28

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

From above the horse gate repaired the priests, every one over against his house.

Analysis

From above the horse gate repaired the priests, every one over against his house.

This verse within Nehemiah 3 addresses themes of community, cooperation, diligence, stewardship. The detailed listing of builders demonstrates organized community effort where each person contributes according to ability and opportunity. City gates were strategic both defensively and administratively, controlling access and serving as centers of commerce and justice. 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 52-day wall completion represents remarkable achievement given opposition and limited resources. Excavations have confirmed portions of Nehemiah's wall and various gates mentioned in the text. 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

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Study Questions

1. How does Nehemiah 3:28 deepen your understanding of God's character and His work in human history?
2. What specific action or attitude change does this verse call you to make in your walk with God?
3. How can the principles demonstrated in this passage inform your response to current challenges in your life or church?

Interlinear Text

לָנִי	שַׁעַר	הַסּוֹסִים	תְּקַן יְקוֹ	הַכֹּהֲנִים	אֶת יֵשׁ
H5921	gate	From above the horse	repaired	the priests	every one
	H8179	H5483	H2388	H3548	H376
לְנֶגְדוֹ	בֵּיתוֹ:				
over against	his house				
H5048	H1004				

Additional Cross-References

2 Chronicles 23:15 (Parallel theme): So they laid hands on her; and when she was come to the entering of the horse gate by the king's house, they slew her there.

Jeremiah 31:40 (Parallel theme): And the whole valley of the dead bodies, and of the ashes, and all the fields unto the brook of Kidron, unto the corner of the horse gate toward the east, shall be holy unto the LORD; it shall not be plucked up, nor thrown down any more for ever.

2 Kings 11:16 (Parallel theme): And they laid hands on her; and she went by the way by the which the horses came into the king's house: and there was she slain.

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