

Nehemiah 3:4

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And next unto them repaired Meremoth the son of Urijah, the son of Koz. And next unto them repaired Meshullam the son of Berechiah, the son of Meshezabeel. And next unto them repaired Zadok the son of Baana.

Analysis

And next unto them repaired Meremoth the son of Urijah, the son of Koz. And next unto them repaired Meshullam the son of Berechiah, the son of Meshezabeel. And next unto them repaired Zadok the son of Baana.

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. 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

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Psalms 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Study Questions

1. How does Nehemiah 3:4 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

וְעַל־ H5921	וְיָם H3027	וְיָם H3027	וְיָם H3027	וְיָם H3027	וְיָם H3027	וְיָם H3027
And next unto them	And next unto them	And next unto them	And next unto them	And next unto them	And next unto them	And next unto them
repaired	repaired	repaired	repaired	repaired	repaired	repaired
Meremoth	Meremoth	Meremoth	Meremoth	Meremoth	Meremoth	Meremoth
the son	the son	the son	the son	the son	the son	the son
of Urijah	of Urijah	of Urijah	of Urijah	of Urijah	of Urijah	of Urijah
the son	the son	the son	the son	the son	the son	the son
of Koz	of Koz	of Koz	of Koz	of Koz	of Koz	of Koz
H6976	H6976	H6976	H6976	H6976	H6976	H6976
וְיָם H5921	וְיָם H3027	וְיָם H3027	וְיָם H3027	וְיָם H3027	וְיָם H3027	וְיָם H3027
And next unto them	And next unto them	And next unto them	And next unto them	And next unto them	And next unto them	And next unto them
repaired	repaired	repaired	repaired	repaired	repaired	repaired
Meshullam	Meshullam	Meshullam	Meshullam	Meshullam	Meshullam	Meshullam
the son	the son	the son	the son	the son	the son	the son
of Berechiah	of Berechiah	of Berechiah	of Berechiah	of Berechiah	of Berechiah	of Berechiah
H1296	H1296	H1296	H1296	H1296	H1296	H1296
וְיָם H5921	וְיָם H3027	וְיָם H3027	וְיָם H3027	וְיָם H3027	וְיָם H3027	וְיָם H3027
And next unto them	And next unto them	And next unto them	And next unto them	And next unto them	And next unto them	And next unto them
repaired	repaired	repaired	repaired	repaired	repaired	repaired
Zadok	Zadok	Zadok	Zadok	Zadok	Zadok	Zadok
the son	the son	the son	the son	the son	the son	the son
of Baana	of Baana	of Baana	of Baana	of Baana	of Baana	of Baana
H1195	H1195	H1195	H1195	H1195	H1195	H1195

Additional Cross-References

Ezra 8:33 (Parallel theme): Now on the fourth day was the silver and the gold and the vessels weighed in the house of our God by the hand of Meremoth the son of Uriah the priest; and with him was Eleazar the son of Phinehas; and with them was Jozabad the son of Jeshua, and Noadiah the son of Binnui, Levites;

Nehemiah 3:21 (Parallel theme): After him repaired Meremoth the son of Urijah the son of Koz another piece, from the door of the house of Eliashib even to the end of the house of Eliashib.