

Nehemiah 8:14

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And they found written in the law which the LORD had commanded by Moses, that the children of Israel should dwell in booths in the feast of the seventh month:

Analysis

And they found written in the law which the LORD had commanded by Moses, that the children of Israel should dwell in booths in the feast of the seventh month:

This verse within Nehemiah 8 addresses themes of Scripture centrality, teaching, understanding, worship. The public Scripture reading demonstrates how spiritual renewal requires understanding God's Word, not mere ritual observance. 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

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

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

| | | | | | |
|----------------|----------|----------------|--------------|-------------------|----------------|
| וְיֻמָּצֵא | בְּתוֹךְ | הַבָּתָר | אֲשֶׁר | צִוָּה | יְהִי |
| And they found | written | in the law | H834 | had commanded | which the LORD |
| H4672 | H3789 | H8451 | | H6680 | H3068 |
| בַּיּוֹם | מִשְׁנֶה | אֲשֶׁר | יֹשֵׁב | בְּנֵי | בַּסְכָּפָן |
| by | Moses | H834 | should dwell | that the children | of Israel |
| H3027 | H4872 | | H3427 | H1121 | H3478 |
| בְּעַד | בְּעַד | בְּעַד | בְּעַד | בְּעַד | בְּעַד |
| in the feast | month | of the seventh | | | |
| H2282 | H2320 | H7637 | | | |

Additional Cross-References

Leviticus 23:34 (References Lord): Speak unto the children of Israel, saying, The fifteenth day of this seventh month shall be the feast of tabernacles for seven days unto the LORD.

John 7:2 (Parallel theme): Now the Jews' feast of tabernacles was at hand.

Genesis 33:17 (Parallel theme): And Jacob journeyed to Succoth, and built him an house, and made booths for his cattle: therefore the name of the place is called Succoth.

From KJV Study • kjvstudy.org