

Nehemiah 9:33

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Howbeit thou art just in all that is brought upon us; for thou hast done right, but we have done wickedly:

Analysis

Howbeit thou art just in all that is brought upon us; for thou hast done right, but we have done wickedly:

This verse within Nehemiah 9 addresses themes of confession, God's faithfulness, corporate prayer, covenant history. Extended corporate prayer recounts God's faithfulness through Israel's history while honestly confessing persistent covenant violations. 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

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

מִתְּאֵת הַ	צַדִּיקָה	לְ	כָּל	אָבֶן	בְּ	עַל	יְכוֹנֵן
H859	Howbeit thou art just	H5921	H3605	in all that is brought	H935	H5921	H3588
	H6662						
אָמֵת תִּ	שָׁבֵת יְתִ	תִּשְׁבַּחַנְתִּ	הַרְשָׁעָנוּ:				
right	upon us for thou hast done	H587	but we have done wickedly				
H571	H6213		H7561				

Additional Cross-References

Psalms 106:6 (Evil): We have sinned with our fathers, we have committed iniquity, we have done wickedly.

Genesis 18:25 (Righteousness): That be far from thee to do after this manner, to slay the righteous with the wicked: and that the righteous should be as the wicked, that be far from thee: Shall not the Judge of all the earth do right?

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