

A Wolf's Best Friend

Nehemiah 13

or

A Slap in the Face

or

Here We Go Again!

or

Spiritual Entropy

or

A Preview of Messiah's Return

Nehemiah – A Review

- Ch.1-3** Nehemiah travels to Jerusalem to assess the work
- Ch.4-7** The work is completed amid great opposition
- Ch.8-9** The people hear the Torah, celebrate Sukkot, and repent of their sins
- Ch.10-12** A new covenant is established, leaders are appointed, and the walls are dedicated

Nehemiah goes to Babylon

(12 years?) ← Malachi

Nehemiah returns to Jerusalem

Ch.13 **Are you KIDDING me?!**

Nehemiah's Archenemies

(Another Review)

Nehemiah 2:10

(Response to the King's letters)

When **Sanballat** the Horonite and **Tobiah** the Ammonite official heard about it, it was very displeasing to them that someone had come to seek the welfare of the sons of Israel.

Nehemiah 2:19

(Call to rebuild Jerusalem's walls)

But when **Sanballat** the Horonite and **Tobiah** the Ammonite official, and Geshem the Arab heard it, they mocked us and despised us and said, "What is this thing you are doing? Are you rebelling against the king?"

Nehemiah 4:1,3

(The rebuilding begins)

Now it came about that when **Sanballat** heard that we were rebuilding the wall, he became furious and very angry and mocked the Jews... Now **Tobiah** the Ammonite was near him and he said, “Even what they are building – if a fox should jump on *it*, he would break their stone wall down!”

Deuteronomy 23:3-4

“No **Ammonite** or **Moabite** shall enter the assembly of Adonai. None of their descendants, even to the tenth generation, shall ever enter the assembly of Adonai.”

Nehemiah Repairs the Damage:

1. **He cleanses the Temple (4-9)**
 2. **Restores the Tithe (10-14)**
 3. **Restores Sabbath Observance (15-22)**
 4. **Restores Family Purity (23-29)**
-

Q: So what *is* a wolf's best friend?

A: Complacency

שָׂאֲנָן
(*sh'anān*)

Job 12:5

In the thought of one who is **complacent** there is contempt for misfortune, *but* it is ready for those whose feet slip.

The Book of Dumb Questions

(Malachi)

1. How have You loved us? (1:2)

Failure to discern God's daily care

2. How have we despised Your name? (1:6)

No fear of God

3. How have we polluted You? (1:7)

Giving God what you yourself do not want

4. Why won't You accept me? (2:13-14)

Because you don't accept your own bride

5. How have we wearied You? (2:17)

You think there is no justice in the world

6. Why should we repent? (3:7)

Because you have robbed God

7. How have we robbed God? (3:8)

By taking what isn't yours

8. What did we ever say against You? (3:13)

Your lifestyle proclaims that
righteousness doesn't matter

BE the Wall!