

## Nehemiah: The Heart of a Builder

### “Renewing Our Covenant with God”

Nehemiah 9:38 - 10:39

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*“When a man makes a vow to the Lord or takes an oath to obligate himself by a pledge, he must not break his word but must do everything he said.”*  
Numbers 30:2

*“Again, you have heard that it was said to the people long ago, ‘Do not break your oath, but keep the oaths you have made to the Lord.’ But I tell you, Do not swear at all: either by heaven, for it is God’s throne; or by the earth, for it is his footstool; or by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the Great King. And do not swear by your head, for you cannot make even one hair white or black. Simply let your ‘Yes’ be ‘Yes,’ and your ‘No,’ ‘No’; anything beyond this comes from the evil one.”*  
Matthew 5:33-37

1. Submission to God's Word (10:29)
2. Separation from the World (10:28, 30)
3. Sabbath for God's People (10:31)
4. Support for God's Work (10:32-39)

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### Nehemiah Chapter 9:38 - 10:39

Questions for further discussion:

1. Recall a significant agreement that you signed your name to. What did it matter whether the agreement was in writing or not?
2. How seriously do you take your obedience to God's Law?
3. Think of any similar covenant that reflects the values or principles of this chapter? (What about our practice of baptism, or the new members' class, or your own small group covenant?) In what ways might this regulate your lifestyle?
4. Are you praying NOW for your children's mate? What are you asking God to provide in your children's future spouses?
5. Is personal stewardship a reliable index of devotion to God and His work? Why or why not? What else might serve that purpose for you?
6. What seems most neglected or in need of repair in your church, home, school, workplace, or neighbourhood?