



#### IV. THE RESIDENCE OF THE PEOPLE (Nehemiah 11:1-36)

##### A. The Determination of Residences (Nehemiah 11:1-3)

1. The timing of the determination (Nehemiah 11:1)
  - a. The word “*And*” indicates a continuation from the previous context of the historical account which began in Nehemiah 7:6.
  - b. The timeframe is at the beginning of the first return of the people under the leadership of Zerubbabel.
  - c. As such, Ezra 2:1 said the people “*came again unto Jerusalem and Judah, every one unto his city.*”
  - d. The fact that Nehemiah chapter 11 writes about the determining of who would reside in Jerusalem and who would reside in the villages in Judah indicates that this passage is still of the historical account.
  - e. 1 Chronicles chapter 9 records the same information as Nehemiah chapter 11. 1 Chronicles 9:2 states “*Now the **first** inhabitants that dwelt in their possessions,*” further supporting the stated timing.
2. The situation requiring the determination (Nehemiah 11:1)
  - a. Jerusalem was much destroyed by the Babylonians when they took Judah captive (see 2 Kings 25:8-10).
  - b. As a result, it would not have been a very desirous place to live as they would have had to rebuild the city to make it habitable.
  - c. Due to this, most people chose to live elsewhere in the villages of their former inheritance.
  - d. The rulers dwelt at Jerusalem, but more people were needed in Jerusalem for the complete rebuilding and protection of the city.
3. The solution for making the determination (Nehemiah 11:1)
  - a. The rulers already chose to reside in Jerusalem.
  - b. The rest of the people were not so desirous to live in Jerusalem but agreed to cast lots to determine who would live in Jerusalem. Note: Casting lots was a method by which choices were made (i.e., between groups of people, places, things, etc.) (see Joshua 18:6-10; 1 Samuel 14:42; 1 Chronicles 25:8; 1 Chronicles 26:13-14).
  - c. They needed to “*bring one of ten to dwell in Jerusalem*” and “*nine parts to dwell in other cities.*”
4. The approval of the determination (Nehemiah 11:2)
  - a. Despite the casting of lots, those who were chosen to dwell in Jerusalem were still viewed as “*willingly*” offering “*themselves to dwell at Jerusalem.*” Either that, or some did not wait for the lots to be cast, but volunteered to live in Jerusalem.
  - b. The remainder of the people, those not dwelling in Jerusalem, “*blessed all the men*” who determined to do so.
5. The details of the determination (Nehemiah 11:3)
  - a. The list forthcoming pertains to those who dwelt in Jerusalem.
  - b. In the cities of Judah (see Nehemiah 11:20-36), the remainder of the people dwelt according to their inherited possessions.



## B. Those Residing in Jerusalem (Nehemiah 11:4-19)

1. The chiefs of Judah and Benjamin (Nehemiah 11:4-9)
  - a. Of Judah (Nehemiah 11:4-6)
    - (1) Their representatives (Nehemiah 11:4-5)
      - a) Athaiah—“*of Uziah...of Zechariah...of Amariah...of Shephatiah...of Mahalaleel...of Perez*” (Nehemiah 11:4; see 1 Chronicles 4:1); Note: Pharez was the son of Judah and Tamar (Genesis 38:29; 1 Chronicles 9:4).
      - b) Maaseiah—“*of Baruch...of Col-hozeh...of Hazaiah...of Adaiah...of Joiarib...of Zechariah...of Shiloni*” (Nehemiah 11:5; 1 Chronicles 9:5); Note: Shiloni is likely Shelah, the youngest son of Judah and his wife (see Genesis 38:5).
      - c) Jeuel—“*of Zerah*” (see 1 Chronicles 9:6); Note: Zerah is the other son of Judah and Tamar (see Genesis 38:30).
    - (2) Their number—The total of the sons of Perez that dwelt at Jerusalem were 468 and they were “*valiant men*” (Nehemiah 11:6). This number does not include the men from Shiloni or Zerah and is therefore lower than the 690 in 1 Chronicles 9:6.
  - b. Of Benjamin (Nehemiah 11:7-9)
    - (1) Their representatives (Nehemiah 11:7-8)
      - a) Sallu—“*of Meshullam...of Joed...of Pedaiiah...of Kolaiah...of Maaseiah...of Ithiel...of Jesaiah*” (Nehemiah 11:7, 1 Chronicles 9:7)
      - b) Gabbai (Nehemiah 11:8)
      - c) Sallai (Nehemiah 11:8)
    - (2) Their number (Nehemiah 11:8)
      - a) Here the number given is 928.
      - b) In 1 Chronicles 9:9, the number is 956. The additional people mentioned in the Chronicles account likely explains this difference in number.
    - (3) Their overseers (Nehemiah 11:9)
      - a) First in command—Joel, the son of Zichri
      - b) Second in command—Judah, the son of Senuah
2. The chiefs of the priests (Nehemiah 11:10-14)
  - a. Their representatives
    - (1) Jedaiah, the son of Joiarib (Nehemiah 11:10; 1 Chronicles 9:10)
    - (2) Jachin (Nehemiah 11:10; 1 Chronicles 9:10)
    - (3) Seraiah (Nehemiah 11:11; 1 Chronicles 9:11)
      - a) Of Hilkiah, of Meshullam, of Zadok, of Meraioth, of Ahitub
      - b) Ruler of the house of God
    - (4) Adaiah—“*of Jeroham...of Pelaiiah...of Amzi...of Zechariah...of Pashur...of Malchiah*” (Nehemiah 11:12, 1 Chronicles 9:12)
    - (5) Amashai (Nehemiah 11:13-14)
      - a) He was of Azareel, of Ahasai, of Meshillemoth, of Immer (Nehemiah 11:13).
      - b) Their overseer was Zabdiel, a son of one of the great men.



- b. Their number
    - (1) The breakdown
      - a) 822 (see Nehemiah 11:12)
      - b) 242 (see Nehemiah 11:13)
      - c) 128 (see Nehemiah 11:14)
    - (2) The total—1,192
    - (3) The comparison—In 1 Chronicles 9:13, the number is 1,760. In each case thus far, the number has been greater in Chronicles and seems to be because additional people are being counted and mentioned in that account.
  - 3. The chiefs of the Levites (Nehemiah 11:15-18)
    - a. Their representatives (Nehemiah 11:15-17)
      - (1) Shemaiah—“*of Hashub...of Azrikam...of Hashabiah...of Bunni*” (Nehemiah 11:15; 1 Chronicles 9:14)
      - (2) Shabbethai—shared oversight of the outward business of the house of God (Nehemiah 11:16)
      - (3) Jozabad—shared oversight of the outward business of the house of God (Nehemiah 11:16)
      - (4) Mattaniah—“*of Micha...of Zabdi...of Asaph*” (Nehemiah 11:17; 1 Chronicles 9:15); He was the principal to begin the thanksgiving in prayer (see Nehemiah 12:8).
      - (5) Bakbukiah—second among his brethren (Nehemiah 11:17)
      - (6) Abda—“*of Shammua...of Galal...of Jeduthun*” (Nehemiah 11:17)
    - b. Their number—284 (Nehemiah 11:18)
  - 4. The chiefs of the porters (Nehemiah 11:19)
    - a. Their representatives
      - (1) Akkub
      - (2) Talmon
    - b. Their work—“*that kept the gates*”
    - c. Their number—172
- C. The Final Word on Residence, Leaders, and Missions (Nehemiah 11:20-36)
- 1. The general statement of residence—“*the residue of Israel...were in all the cities of Judah, every one in his inheritance*” (Nehemiah 11:20)
  - 2. The residence and work round about Jerusalem (Nehemiah 11:21-24)
    - a. The residence and leaders of the Nethinims (Nehemiah 11:21)
      - (1) They dwelt in Ophel, a village just outside of the wall of Jerusalem (2 Chronicles 33:14).
      - (2) Ziha and Gispa were over them.
    - b. The leadership of the Levites (Nehemiah 11:22-23)
      - (1) Uzzi was the Levites’ overseer at Jerusalem (Nehemiah 11:22).
      - (2) The singers were over the business of the house of God and a portion was to be given to them every day (Nehemiah 11:22-23).
        - a) Darius, the king of Persia, made the decree concerning the portion for the singers (Ezra 6:8-9), shortly before the temple rebuild was complete (Ezra 6:15).



- b) The Jews had been made to stop the work on the temple by a decree from king Artaxerxes, not the same Artaxerxes of Nehemiah 2:1.
- c) All this further shows that parts of Nehemiah chapter 11 span much of the history from at the first of the return under Zerubbabel into the ministry of Ezra.
- c. The leadership of a man of Judah (Nehemiah 11:24)
  - (1) Pethahiah served at the king's hand in all matters concerning the people.
  - (2) Likely, he served king Cyrus who allowed the Jews to continue the work on the temple.
- 3. The residence of the children of Judah (Nehemiah 11:25-30)
  - a. At Kirjath-arba and the villages thereof (Nehemiah 11:25)
  - b. At Dibon and in the villages thereof (Nehemiah 11:25)
  - c. At Jekabzeel and in the villages thereof (Nehemiah 11:25)
  - d. At Jeshua (Nehemiah 11:26)
  - e. At Moladah (Nehemiah 11:26)
  - f. At Beth-phelet (Nehemiah 11:26)
  - g. At Hazar-shual (Nehemiah 11:27)
  - h. At Beer-sheba and in the villages thereof (Nehemiah 11:27)
  - i. At Ziklag (Nehemiah 11:28)
  - j. At Mekonah and in the villages thereof (Nehemiah 11:28)
  - k. At En-rimmon (Nehemiah 11:29)
  - l. At Zareah (Nehemiah 11:29)
  - m. At Jarmuth (Nehemiah 11:29)
  - n. At Zanoah and in their villages (Nehemiah 11:30)
  - o. At Adullam and in their villages (Nehemiah 11:30)
  - p. At Lachish and the fields thereof (Nehemiah 11:30)
  - q. At Azekah and in the villages thereof (Nehemiah 11:30)
  - r. And they dwelt from Beer-sheba unto the valley of Hinnom
- 4. The residence of the children of Benjamin (Nehemiah 11:31-35)
  - a. At Michmash and their villages (Nehemiah 11:31)
  - b. At Aija and their villages (Nehemiah 11:31)
  - c. At Beth-el and their villages (Nehemiah 11:31)
  - d. At Anathoth (Nehemiah 11:32)
  - e. At Nob (Nehemiah 11:32)
  - f. At Ananiah (Nehemiah 11:32)
  - g. At Hazor (Nehemiah 11:33)
  - h. At Ramah (Nehemiah 11:33)
  - i. At Gittaim (Nehemiah 11:33)
  - j. At Hadid (Nehemiah 11:34)
  - k. At Zeboim (Nehemiah 11:34)
  - l. At Neballat (Nehemiah 11:34)
  - m. At Lod (Nehemiah 11:35)
  - n. At Ono, the valley of craftsmen (Nehemiah 11:35)
- 5. The residence of the Levites—*“divisions in Judah, and in Benjamin”* (Nehemiah 11:36)



V. THE RECORD OF THE PRIESTS AND LEVITES (Nehemiah 12:1-26)

A. The Record of Those with Zerubbabel (Nehemiah 12:1-11)

1. The timing identified (Nehemiah 12:1)
  - a. The details of the list—*“these are the priests and the Levites”*
  - b. The timing of the list—*“that went up with Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, and Jeshua”*; Note: Obviously, the listed men (coming up) are those who left the land of captivity and returned with Zerubbabel and Jeshua.
2. The priests identified (Nehemiah 12:1-7)
  - a. Their specific identities (Nehemiah 12:1-7)
    - (1) Seraiah (Nehemiah 12:1)
    - (2) Jeremiah (Nehemiah 12:1)
    - (3) Ezra (Nehemiah 12:1)
    - (4) Amariah (Nehemiah 12:2)
    - (5) Malluch (Nehemiah 12:2)
    - (6) Hattush (Nehemiah 12:2)
    - (7) Shechaniah (Nehemiah 12:3)
    - (8) Rehum (Nehemiah 12:3)
    - (9) Meremoth (Nehemiah 12:3)
    - (10) Iddo (Nehemiah 12:4)
    - (11) Ginnetho (Nehemiah 12:4)
    - (12) Abijah (Nehemiah 12:4)
    - (13) Miamin (Nehemiah 12:5)
    - (14) Maadiah (Nehemiah 12:5)
    - (15) Bilgah (Nehemiah 12:5)
    - (16) Shemaiah (Nehemiah 12:6)
    - (17) Joiarib (Nehemiah 12:6)
    - (18) Jedaiah (Nehemiah 12:6)
    - (19) Sallu (Nehemiah 12:7)
    - (20) Amok (Nehemiah 12:7)
    - (21) Hilkiyah (Nehemiah 12:7)
    - (22) Jedaiah (Nehemiah 12:7)
  - b. Their general identity—*“These were the chief of the priests and of their brethren in the days of Jeshua”* (Nehemiah 12:7)
3. The Levites identified (Nehemiah 12:8-11)
  - a. The listing of the Levites (Nehemiah 12:8-9)
    - (1) The chiefest—*“Jeshua”* Nehemiah 12:8)
    - (2) The others (Nehemiah 12:8-9)
      - a) The first grouping (Nehemiah 12:8)
        - a) Binnui
        - b) Kadmiel
        - c) Sherebiah
        - d) Judah
        - e) Mattaniah—*“which was over the thanksgiving, he and his brethren”* (see Nehemiah 11:17)



- b) The second grouping (Nehemiah 12:9)
  - a) Their identities
    - (a) Bakbukiah
    - (b) Unni
    - (c) Their brethren
  - b) Their work—“*over against them in the watches*”
- b. The genealogy of Jeshua (Nehemiah 12:10-11)
  - (1) His position
    - a) He was a Levite (Ezra 3:8; Nehemiah 12:8).
    - b) He was a priest (Ezra 10:18).
    - c) He was one of the chief priests (Nehemiah 12:7). He also clearly held a high level of authority and leadership for he is often referred to as a leader alongside Zerubbabel (Ezra 3:2, 8; Ezra 5:2; Nehemiah 12:1).
  - (2) His family
    - a) His father—Jozadak (Ezra 3:2; Nehemiah 12:26)
    - b) His children (Nehemiah 12:10-11)
      - a) Jeshua begat Joiakim (Nehemiah 12:10).
      - b) Joiakim begat Eliashib (Nehemiah 12:10).
      - c) Eliashib begat Joiada (Nehemiah 12:10).
      - d) Joiada begat Jonathan (Johanan) (Nehemiah 12:11, 22).
      - e) Jonathan begat Jaddua (Nehemiah 12:11).

## B. The Record of Those with Joiakim to the Present (Nehemiah 12:12-26)

- 1. Their identities given (Nehemiah 12:12-25)
  - a. In the days of Joiakim (Nehemiah 12:12-21)
    - (1) Generally—“*priests, the chiefs of the fathers*” (Nehemiah 12:12)
    - (2) Specifically (Nehemiah 12:12-21)
      - a) Meraiah, of Seraiah (Nehemiah 12:12; see Nehemiah 12:1)
      - b) Hananiah, of Jeremiah (Nehemiah 12:12; see Nehemiah 12:1)
      - c) Meshullam, of Ezra (Nehemiah 12:13; see Nehemiah 12:1)
      - d) Jehohanan, of Amariah (Nehemiah 12:13; see Nehemiah 12:2)
      - e) Jonathan, of Melicu (Malluch) (Nehemiah 12:14; see Nehemiah 12:2)
      - f) Joseph, of Shebaniah (Shechaniah) (Nehemiah 12:14; see Nehemiah 12:3)
      - g) Adna, of Harim (Rehum) (Nehemiah 12:15; see Nehemiah 12:3)
      - h) Helkai, of Meraioth (Meremoth) (Nehemiah 12:15; see Nehemiah 12:3)
      - i) Zechariah, of Iddo (Nehemiah 12:16; see Nehemiah 12:4)
      - j) Meshullam, of Ginnethon (Ginnetho) (Nehemiah 12:16; see Nehemiah 12:4)
      - k) Zichri, of Abijah (Nehemiah 12:17; see Nehemiah 12:4)



- l) Piltai, of Moadiah, of Miniamin (Miamin) (Nehemiah 12:17; see Nehemiah 12:5)
- m) Shammua, of Bilgah (Nehemiah 12:18; see Nehemiah 12:5)
- n) Jehonathan, of Shemaiah (Nehemiah 12:18; see Nehemiah 12:6)
- o) Mattenai, of Joiarib (Nehemiah 12:19; see Nehemiah 12:6)
- p) Uzzi, of Jedaiah (Nehemiah 12:19; see Nehemiah 12:6)
- q) Kallai, of Sallai (Sallu) (Nehemiah 12:20; see Nehemiah 12:7)
- r) Eber, of Amok (Nehemiah 12:20; see Nehemiah 12:7)
- s) Hashabiah, of Hilkiyah (Nehemiah 12:21; see Nehemiah 12:7)
- t) Nethaneel, of Jedaiah (Nehemiah 12:21; see Nehemiah 12:7)
- b. In the future generations (Nehemiah 12:22-25)
  - (1) Their records noted (Nehemiah 12:22-23)
    - a) The duration of the records (Nehemiah 12:22)
      - a) The Levites
        - (a) The timeframe—*“in the days of Eliashib, Joiada, and Johanan, and Jaddua”*
        - (b) The record—*“were recorded chief of the fathers”*
      - b) The priests—*“to the reign of Darius the Persian”*
    - b) The place of the records (Nehemiah 12:23)
      - a) The place—*“in the book of the chronicles”*
      - b) The scope—*“The sons of Levi, the chief of the fathers...until the days of Johanan the son of Eliashib”*
  - (2) Their chiefs and tasks noted (Nehemiah 12:24-25)
    - a) Those leading the praise (Nehemiah 12:24)
      - a) Their names
        - (a) Hashabiah
        - (b) Sherebiah
        - (c) Jeshua, the son of Kadmiel
      - (d) Their brethren
      - b) Their work—*“to praise and to give thanks, according to the commandment of David the man of God, ward over against ward”*
    - b) Those keeping the gates (Nehemiah 12:25)
      - a) Their names
        - (a) Mattaniah
        - (b) Bakbukiah
        - (c) Obadiah
        - (d) Meshullam
        - (e) Talmon
        - (f) Akkub
      - b) Their work—*“porters keeping the ward at the thresholds of the gates”*
2. The timeframe given (Nehemiah 12:26)
  - a. The start—*“in the days of Joiakim...of Jeshua...of Jozadak”*
  - b. The culmination—*“and in the days of Nehemiah the governor, and of Ezra the priest, the scribe”*