

The People Worshiped

Nehemiah 9:1-3; 12:27-30



Key Concept

Reconciliation with God will include confession, worship, and purification.

Ezra the priest returns to Judah and instructs the people in the law (Ezra 7-10)

Nehemiah is zealous for the Sabbath (Nehemiah 13)

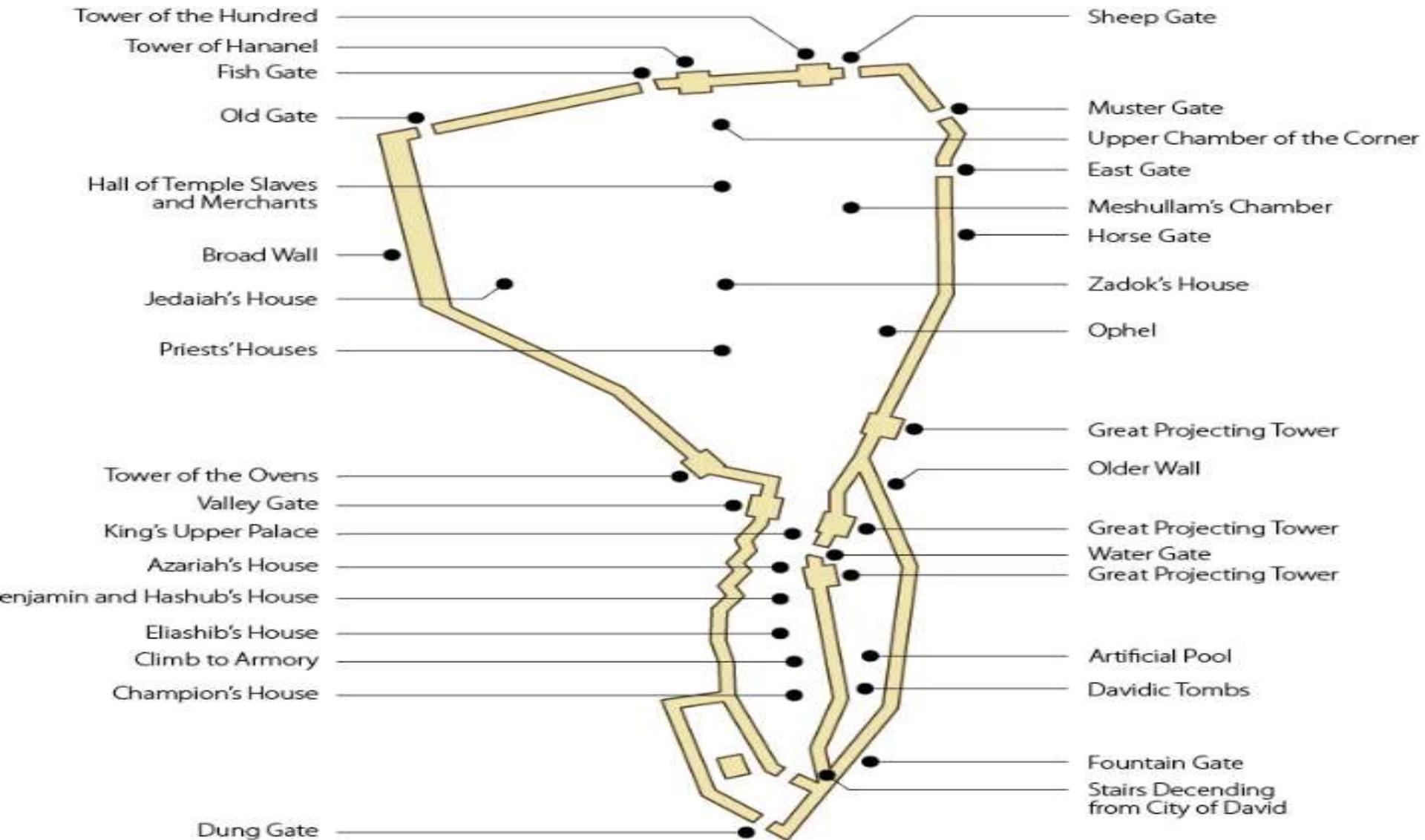
Ezra reads the book of the law in celebration (Nehemiah 8)

Nehemiah returns and rebuilds the wall around Jerusalem (Nehemiah 1-6)

Today's Lesson

The people confess their sin, vow faithfulness, and dedicate the wall (Nehemiah 9-12)

Jerusalem's Wall in Nehemiah's Day



Jerusalem's Wall in the Days of Nehemiah.

Top of the wall path taken by choir. Described in Nehemiah 12:31-39



•(T/F) God commanded Ezra to force the non-exiles to get divorces from their foreign wives.

False – God never commanded this, in fact Malachi said God opposes divorce but He also values purity. (Malachi 2:6-16)

•How long did Ezra read and teach the Torah to the people before the festival?

Through a 7-Day Torah Marathon

•How did priest purify the gates and walls?

Most likely through the sprinkling of water to remove any ceremonial defilement

•What was the main purpose of Ezra and Nehemiah's efforts for the people?

They worked to bring about a spiritual renewal for Israel.

•Key points of how the book of Nehemiah ends with Israel's follow-through of worship and obeying the law?

1) Zerubbabel's work is being neglected, temple neglected, unqualified priest, workers

2) People working on Sabbath, violating law.

3) People setup markets next to the walls of Jerusalem and working on Sabbath.

•(T/F) Nehemiah's is credited with the longest recorded prayer in the Bible?

True – Beginning in Nehemiah 9:5.

•How did Nehemiah structure his prayer?

- 1) He described God creating everything
- 2) He recounted the covenant with Abraham
- 3) God's deliverance from Egypt
- 4) God provided provisions in the wilderness
- 5) Israel's continued disobedience
- 6) God's mercy to not destroy Israel completely
- 7) Reminded Israel to renew spiritual faith