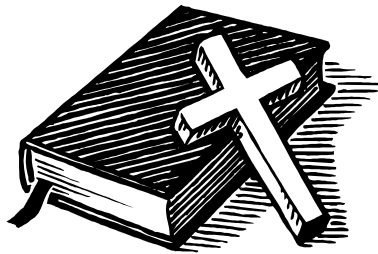




St. Mary and Archangel Michael Coptic Orthodox Church

Bible Contest

The Holy Book of Nehemiah



Name:

Please submit your answers to the church bookstore
by Sunday, April 26th, 2009

Bible Study Questions for the Holy Book of Nehemiah

Part I: Circle the best answer

Chapter 1:

1. In which month and during what year did Nehemiah learn of the situation in Jerusalem?
 - a) The month of Barmhat, in the eleventh year
 - b) The month of Chislev, in the twentieth year
 - c) The third month, in the eleventh year
 - d) During the first year of Artaxerxes
2. Who told Nehemiah about the situation in Jerusalem?
 - a) Moses
 - b) Hanani
 - c) Eliashib
 - d) Tobiah
3. What was the state of those Jews who survived the captivity and stayed in Jerusalem?
 - a) They were prosperous
 - b) They lived in hunger
 - c) They were in great distress and reproach
 - d) They were apathetic
4. What was Jerusalem's condition?
 - a) It was still protected by its wall
 - b) Its gates remained closed
 - c) Its gates and wall needed renovation
 - d) Its wall was broken down and its gates burned with fire
5. What did Nehemiah do when he heard this news?
 - a) He was angry and wrathful
 - b) He did not seem to be affected by it
 - c) He wept, mourned, fasted and prayed
 - d) He thanked God that he did not have to endure their hardships
6. Whom/What did Nehemiah blame?
 - a) Himself and his father's house
 - b) The people and their sin
 - c) The harsh circumstances
 - d) The harshness of the king of Babylon
7. What were God's promises that Nehemiah mentioned in his prayer?
 - a) That He will not leave them in the hands of their enemies
 - b) If they are unfaithful He will scatter them and if they keep His commandment He will gather them
 - c) He will be with them no matter how much they sin
 - d) That He will destroy their enemies regardless of the circumstances

8. What did Nehemiah ask God during his prayer?
 - a) That God would send them help
 - b) That God would bring them to Babylon
 - c) That God would comfort them in their distress
 - d) That God would give him favor in front of the king
9. What was Nehemiah's occupation while in captivity?
 - a) farmer
 - b) shepherd
 - c) the king's cupbearer
 - d) the king's advisor

Chapters 2 and 3:

10. How did the king of Babylon find out about the situation in Jerusalem?
 - a) Through spies
 - b) From Nehemiah's sad face
 - c) From the exiled Jews
 - d) Through letters written from Jerusalem
11. How did Nehemiah dare to ask the king to travel back to Jerusalem?
 - a) Nehemiah always found favor in the king's eyes
 - b) Because he did not fear any man
 - c) Because of his great position in the palace
 - d) Through his direct prayer to God
12. What did Nehemiah request from the king?
 - a) To send aid to Jerusalem
 - b) To send builders to Jerusalem
 - c) To send him to rebuild Jerusalem
 - d) To send some of the captives to Jerusalem
13. What did Nehemiah receive from the king?
 - a) Letters to the governors of the regions beyond the river
 - b) A letter to Asaph, the keeper of the king's forest
 - c) Timber
 - d) All of the above
14. How did Nehemiah regard the king's gifts?
 - a) He esteemed the king's generosity
 - b) He regarded it as a direct consequence of his important position in the king's palace
 - c) He regarded it as a direct consequence of his cunningness when dealing with the king
 - d) He regarded them as gifts from God
15. What was Nehemiah's motive to build the wall?
 - a) To have a great name
 - b) That they no longer be a reproach
 - c) To go back and live in Jerusalem
 - d) To build his children's future in Jerusalem
16. What do you think of Nehemiah's request?
 - a) Achievable
 - b) Impossible
 - c) A result of greed
 - d) Great, just like his God

17. Give an example from the Holy Bible of a person that gives God glory and not to himself.
- a) John the Baptist
 - b) Moses and Joshua
 - c) St. Paul
 - d) All of the above
18. Who of the following ridiculed Nehemiah and the Jews?
- a) Sanballat the Horonite
 - b) Tobiah the Ammonite official
 - c) Geshem the Arab
 - d) All of the above
19. How did the people who ridiculed Nehemiah describe the work of rebuilding the wall, in their effort to stop it?
- a) It will exhaust the people
 - b) There are no means to pursue it
 - c) It is rebellion against the king
 - d) It is only imaginary and unattainable
20. Which verse from this chapter shows Nehemiah's trust in God's help and support?
- a) "In God I have put my trust; I will not be afraid. What can man do to me?"
 - b) "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble."
 - c) "The God of heaven Himself will prosper us; therefore we His servants will arise and build."
 - d) "Come, behold the works of the Lord, who has made desolations in the earth."
21. Why did the Holy Bible list all the names of the people who contributed to the building of the wall and list which part of the wall each of them built?
- a) In order to encourage the people
 - b) As a memorial
 - c) As a reward for their great work
 - d) To teach us that God does not forget any work done with love

Chapter 4:

22. How did the enemy resist the building of the wall?
- a) By ridiculing the Jews
 - b) By describing them as weak
 - c) By asking if they would be able to revive stones from heaps of rubbish
 - d) All of the above
23. What did Tobiah the Ammonite say to the builders, ridiculing their work?
- a) If a man would lean on the wall, it will fall.
 - b) If a bird stands on the wall, it will fall.
 - c) If a fox goes up on the wall, it will fall.
 - d) If rain falls on the wall, it will fall.
24. How did Nehemiah respond to their ridicule?
- a) By staying silent
 - b) By praying
 - c) By cursing them
 - d) By accusing them
25. What did Nehemiah ask of God due to the people's ridicule?
- a) To turn their reproach on their own heads
 - b) To wipe them from this earth
 - c) That their enemies would rise up against them
 - d) All of the above

26. Would you waver from following God's path, fearing the enemy's wars?
 a) Yes
 b) No, but I will try to be careful
 c) Yes, but not completely
 d) No, because I am not alone
27. What was the spiritual and emotional factor that helped the men build the wall?
 a) Standing firmly against evil
 b) Being of one heart when working
 c) Feeling secure
 d) Not being afraid of the consequences
28. What was the response of the people who ridiculed Nehemiah and his men when they saw the men rebuilding the wall, despite their ridicule?
 a) They conspired together to fight Jerusalem
 b) They conspired to demolish the wall
 c) They conspired to kill Nehemiah
 d) They conspired to stir up insurrection
29. What was the response of Nehemiah and his men against this conspiracy?
 a) They surrendered
 b) They asked for peace
 c) They paid them a tribute
 d) They prayed and appointed guards
30. What did Judah say when he felt that their work was futile?
 a) The strength of the laborers is failing
 b) There is so much rubbish
 c) We are not able to build the wall
 d) All of the above
31. What did the enemy say when they heard that Jerusalem's walls were rebuilt?
 a) They did not believe it
 b) They considered it a reproach
 c) They thought that Nehemiah was fighting them
 d) They will not know or see anything till they kill the laborers
32. What was the goal of Nehemiah's adversaries?
 a) Killing Nehemiah
 b) Halting the work
 c) Killing Judah
 d) All of the above
33. How did Nehemiah place the men for battle?
 a) In front of and behind the wall
 b) Behind the lower parts of the wall and at the openings
 c) A foot in front of the wall
 d) A foot behind the wall
34. What did Nehemiah tell the nobles, leaders, and the rest of the people before the battle?
 a) That they are stronger than they
 b) That their weapons are more than theirs
 c) To not be afraid and the wall is strong
 d) Remember that the Lord is great and awesome
35. How did God bring the conspiracy of the enemies to naught?
 a) By introducing fear in their hearts
 b) By informing them that the plan was known to the Jews
 c) By striking them with blindness
 d) By creating divisions among them

36. After God allowed the enemies' conspiracy to fail, what was Nehemiah's plan?
- a) They should rest for sometime before fighting again
 - b) They should be content with what they built so far
 - c) They should build with one hand and hold their weapon with the other
 - d) They should hold their weapon all night long
37. Why did Nehemiah give the workers a sign every time he wanted to gather them?
- a) Because their number was great
 - b) Because they were burdened with the work
 - c) So that he may control them
 - d) Because the work was extensive and they were divided
38. What was the sign that Nehemiah gave to the workers to gather them?
- a) The sound of bells
 - b) The sound of the trumpet
 - c) The rising of the sun
 - d) The setting of the sun
39. At what time of the day did the workers hold spears?
- a) During the night
 - b) During the day
 - c) From daybreak till the stars appeared
 - d) From sun rise till the moon appeared
40. To what degree was Nehemiah and the workers in a state of continual readiness?
- a) They did not take off their clothes
 - b) They did not sleep
 - c) They did not sit together to eat
 - d) They did not talk to each other

Chapter 5:

41. Why was the outcry of the people and their wives against their Jewish brethren so great?
- a) Because of the great amount of work
 - b) Because of hunger, mortgage, and slavery
 - c) Because they were exhausted
 - d) Because the enemies were cruel to them
42. How did some of the Jews make use of their brethren?
- a) By not giving to them generously
 - b) By giving them more work than they can handle
 - c) By enslaving their sons and daughters
 - d) By not caring about their problems
43. Why did Nehemiah rebuke the nobles and rulers?
- a) Because of their laziness
 - b) Because of their constant complaints
 - c) Because they were not unified
 - d) Because they exact usury against their brothers
44. What did Nehemiah say to the nobles and rulers and thus made them unable to say anything?
- a) He asked if they can help them build the wall
 - b) He told them that they had redeemed their brothers and will they now sell them?
 - c) He asked them to give to the poor
 - d) He asked them to always hold their weapon

45. In front of whom did Nehemiah require the nobles and rulers to take an oath that they would do according to his word?
- a) the priests
 - b) the head of the people
 - c) the judges
 - d) the rulers
46. Which of Nehemiah's actions coincides with the Lord Christ's teaching in the New Testament regarding those that would not listen to the apostles' teaching?
- a) He stretched his hands to pray for them
 - b) He whipped them
 - c) He cried for them
 - d) He shook out the fold of his garment
47. Where in the New Testament was this mentioned?
- a) Luke 5:9
 - b) Matthew 15:14
 - c) Mark 6:11
 - d) all of the above
48. Why did Nehemiah ask the nobles to walk in the fear of God?
- a) Because they resisted him
 - b) Because they loved themselves
 - c) Because the Gentiles reviled them
 - d) Because of their laziness
49. How long was Nehemiah governor in the land of Judah?
- a) 12 years
 - b) 20 years
 - c) 30 years
 - d) 15 years
50. What is the difference between Nehemiah and the governors who were before him?
- a) He did not eat from the governor's provisions
 - b) He did not lay burdens on his people
 - c) His servants did not rule over the people
 - d) all of the above
51. Why did Nehemiah not do like the previous governors before him?
- a) Because he feared his reputation
 - b) Because he feared God
 - c) Because he wanted the people to love him
 - d) All of the above

Chapter 6:

52. Which of the following show Nehemiah's dedication to his work?
- a) He did not give himself any rest
 - b) He said: "I am doing a great work, so that I cannot come down."
 - c) He did not eat or drink until the work was completed
 - d) He said: "I will not give sleep to my eyes *or* slumber to my eyelids, until I find a place for the Lord."
53. How many times did Nehemiah's enemies ask him to come down and he refused?
- a) two times
 - b) three times
 - c) five times
 - d) seven times
54. How did the enemies try to scare Nehemiah?
- a) Sanballat sent Nehemiah an open letter
 - b) Tobiah went himself to Nehemiah
 - c) They disturb their work with loud noises
 - d) They cut their water away from them

64. What did the Gentiles and the enemies do when they heard that the wall was finished?
a) They were angry
b) They envied them
c) They were disheartened in their own eyes
d) All of the above
65. What was the spiritual benefit that the men gained from building the wall?
a) They repented and grieved for their sins
b) They knew that the work was done by God
c) They became stronger in faith
d) Their enemies stopped frightening them
66. How was Nehemiah a witness to God in front of the people?
a) Through his bodily strength
b) Through his honesty and hard work
c) Through his intelligence
d) Through the strength of his personality

Chapter 7:

67. Whom did Nehemiah appoint to be in charge of Jerusalem?
a) Sanballat
b) Hanani and Hananiah
c) Tobiah
d) Shechaniah the son of Arah and Jehohanan
68. Why did Nehemiah appoint him as the leader of the citadel?
a) Because he was a faithful man and feared God more than many
b) Because his name was great and feared by all men
c) Because he was loved by everyone
d) All of the above
69. What were the rules that were set forth for the opening and closing of the gates of Jerusalem?
a) While they stand, they should guard and shut the bar doors
b) The doors of Jerusalem should not be opened until the sun is hot
c) Guards were appointed from among the inhabitants of Jerusalem
d) All of the above
70. "Keep your heart with all diligence, for out of it spring the issues of life." (Proverbs 4:23)
What are the gates that guard one's heart? The gates are just as important as the gates of Jerusalem.
a) One's conscience
b) One's heart
c) One's eyes
d) One's five senses
71. What made Nehemiah gather the people and register their genealogy?
a) The rulers put it in his heart
b) God put it in his heart
c) The people put it in his heart
d) It was the king's idea

72. Why were the people who left the land of captivity and went back to Jerusalem listed first in the register of genealogy?
- a) Because of the census
 - b) Because they were in need of homes
 - c) To know who remained in captivity
 - d) As a symbol of those whose names were written in the Book of Life

Chapter 8:

73. Why did the people gather in the square that was in front of the Water Gate?
- a) To find out about the news of the wall
 - b) To listen to the Book of the Law of Moses
 - c) To listen to Nehemiah's sermon
 - d) Because Nehemiah wanted to warn them of their enemies
74. Who brought the Book of the Law?
- a) Hanani
 - b) Hananiah
 - c) Ezra the scribe
 - d) Hilkiyah
75. Where did Ezra stand to read the Book of the Law?
- a) In the midst of the people
 - b) On a platform of wood
 - c) On a lower level than the people
 - d) He didn't stand; he sat down
76. What did the people do when he opened the Book?
- a) They stood
 - b) They bowed
 - c) They cried
 - d) They sat down
77. What did the people say and how did they act when Ezra blessed God?
- a) They said, "Amen" and thanked God
 - b) They proclaimed: "Blessed be the God of Israel"
 - c) They said, "Amen" and lifted up their hand and bowed their heads in worshipping God
 - d) They said, "Amen" and glorified God who visited them
78. What did the people do when they heard the Book of the Law?
- a) They rejoiced
 - b) They wept
 - c) They sang
 - d) They danced
79. Why did Nehemiah, Ezra and the Levites tell the people not to weep?
- a) So they may become stronger
 - b) That their enemies may not rejoice over them
 - c) Because the joy of the Lord is their strength
 - d) Because God does not like mourning
80. How did Nehemiah, Ezra, and the Levites describe this day, in which they heard the words of the Law?
- a) The day of salvation
 - b) A great day
 - c) A holy day
 - d) A feast day
81. What did they ask the people to do on that day?
- a) To dance
 - b) To sing
 - c) To fast
 - d) To eat the fat and drink the sweet

82. Why did the people go and make a great feast as Nehemiah, Ezra and the Levites asked of them?
- a) So they may be delivered from their enemies
 - b) Because Nehemiah became their leader
 - c) Because of their great salvation
 - d) Because they understood the words that were declared to them
83. What did the people understand when Ezra read the Book of the Law on the following day?
- a) That they should dwell in booths during the Feast of Tabernacles
 - b) That they should proclaim the making of booths in their cities
 - c) That they should celebrate the Feast of Tabernacles in the seventh month
 - d) All of the above
84. Why did the Book of the Law require them to go out and bring branches?
- a) To make a banquet
 - b) To make a celebration
 - c) To make booths
 - d) To make homes
85. When was the last time that the Israelites built booths and dwelt in them to celebrate the Feast of the Tabernacles?
- a) Since the days of Moses
 - b) Since the days of Joshua
 - c) Since the days of Adam
 - d) Since the days of Noah
86. How often was the Book of the Law read during the days of the Feast of the Tabernacles?
- a) During the first day only
 - b) During the last day only
 - c) Everyday
 - d) During three days
87. How many days did they celebrate the Feast of the Tabernacles according to the prescribed manner?
- a) three days
 - b) seven days
 - c) nine days
 - d) fourteen days
88. What did they do on the following day after the feast was over?
- a) They prayed
 - b) They fasted
 - c) They assembled sacredly
 - d) They thanked God

Chapter 9:

89. What did the Israelites do in the third week of this month?
- a) They fasted and wore sackcloth
 - b) They made a great feast
 - c) They ate the fat and drank the sweet
 - d) They sang and danced
90. How did the Israelites express their submission to the Law after they separated themselves from all the foreigners?
- a) They read from the Book of the Law of the Lord
 - b) They thanked and worshipped God
 - c) By confessing their sins and the iniquities of their fathers
 - d) All of the above

91. What was unique about the prayer of the Levites?
 a) They blessed and glorified God's glorious name
 b) They confessed God's great works
 c) They confessed the people's iniquity and disobedience
 d) All of the above
92. Who are the great fathers that the Levites mentioned in their prayers?
 a) Abraham and Moses
 b) Pharaoh
 c) Og the king of Bashan
 d) All of the above
93. From where did Abraham come out to go to the land of Canaan?
 a) Babylon b) Ur of the Chaldeans c) Egypt d) Palestine
94. How many years did the Israelies spend in the wilderness?
 a) 30 years b) 4 years c) 40 years d) 10 years
95. Choose the correct sequence of events that were mentioned in the Levites' prayer. These events illustrate the Israelites' frequent fall and also pertain to our spiritual life and struggle with sin until the end of our life.
 a) The people disobey God; the people cry out to God; God chastises the people due to their sin; God delivers His people because of His great mercies
 b) The people disobey God; God delivers His people because of His great mercies; God chastises the people due to their sin; the people cry out to God
 c) The people disobey God; God chastises the people due to their sin; God delivers His people because of His great mercies; the people cry out to God
 d) The people disobey God; God chastises people due to their sin; the people cry out to God; God delivers the people because of His great mercies
96. What was the consequence of the disobedience of these stiff-necked people?
 a) They became slaves in their fathers' land
 b) They were struck with sickness
 c) They perished
 d) They were immediately destroyed
97. Why did the people make a covenant?
 a) Because they were in great joy b) Because they were in great distress
 c) Because they became strong d) So that they may please Nehemiah
98. Who sealed this covenant that the people wrote?
 a) The leaders b) The Levites c) The priests d) All of the above

Chapter 10:

99. What was the oath that the people entered into in order to walk in God's law?
- a) They would not give their daughters as wives to the people of the land
 - b) They would sanctify the Sabbath
 - c) They would forego the seventh year's produce
 - d) All of the above
100. What was the ordinance that people made for themselves?
- a) To give offerings for the service of the house of God
 - b) To bring the first-born of their sons and cattle
 - c) To bring tithes to the Levites
 - d) All of the above

Chapter 11 & 12:

101. How were the inhabitants of Jerusalem chosen?
- a) By the priests
 - b) By the leaders of the people
 - c) By casting lots
 - d) According to the division that Joshua the son of Nun did
102. Who dwelt in Jerusalem?
- a) The priests and Levites
 - b) Nethinim* and descendants of Solomon's servants
 - c) A tenth of the people
 - d) All of the above
103. Who were among the people who celebrated the consecration of the walls of Jerusalem?
- a) The Levites and the singers
 - b) The priests' children
 - c) The leaders of Judah
 - d) All of the above

Chapter 13:

104. What did Nehemiah find when he returned for the second time to Jerusalem?
- a) The evil that Eliashib the priest had done
 - b) The people's commitment to the law
 - c) The gates were not secured
 - d) Part of the wall was destroyed
105. What grieved Nehemiah bitterly after he came back?
- a) That the portions of the Levites had not been given to them
 - b) That there was a room for Tobiah in the courts of the house of God
 - c) That the Sabbath was not kept
 - d) All of the above

* The sons of Nethinim are the sons of the Gibeonites that accepted the service in the Lord's altar according to the agreement they made with Joshua the son of Nun. See Joshua 9.

106. How did Nehemiah treat the problem of intermarriage between the Jews and the Gentiles whose children did not know how to speak the language of Judah?
- He cast them out of Jerusalem
 - He prayed to God that He may destroy them
 - He reminded them of Solomon's sin
 - He did not give them their portion with the rest of the Jews
107. How did Nehemiah treat the issue of Tobiah and the evil that Eliashib had done?
- He threw all the household goods of Tobiah out of the room
 - He commanded that the rooms be cleansed
 - He brought back the articles of the house of God with grain offering and frankincense
 - All of the above
108. How did Nehemiah treat the issue of the Levites who had gone back to the field?
- He left them alone
 - He reconciled them
 - He ensured that Judah tithe everything
 - He appointed others instead
109. How did Nehemiah treat the sin of buying and selling on the Sabbath?
- He made the Sabbath on Sunday instead of Saturday
 - He closed the gates of the city on the Sabbath
 - He closed the doors of their houses
 - He warned that no one be seen on the streets

Part II: Complete the following verses that show God's care for His people as mentioned in the Levites' prayer in chapter 9.

- You have made , the heaven of , with all their host, the and everything on it, the and all that is in them.
- You saw the affliction of our in Egypt and heard their
- You showed signs and against against all his
- And You divided the before them, so that they through the midst of the sea on the land.
- You led them by day with a pillar, And by night with a of fire.
- You gave them from heaven for their hunger, and brought them out of the rock for their thirst.
- You came down also on Mount, and spoke with them from, and gave them just

8. years You sustained them in the ; They lacked nothing; their clothes did not and their feet did not

Part III: Complete the following verses that show God’s mercy despite the Israelites’ disobedience as stated in chapter 9.

1. But You are God, ready to, gracious and, slow to anger, abundant in kindness, and did not forsake them. Even when they made a molded for themselves, and said, ‘This is your that brought you up out of
2. And in the time of their trouble, when they cried to You, You heard from; and according to Your abundant mercies You gave them who saved them from the hand of their
3. But after they had, they again did before You.
4. Yet for many You had patience with them, and testified against them by Your in Your Yet they would not listen.
5. Nevertheless in Your great You did not utterly them nor them; For You are God, gracious and

Part IV: The Levites prayed in chapter 9, reminding God of His promises and His covenant with the children of Israel, in an effort to hold onto God’s promises. Match each of the situations we might face in the first column with the matching promise that God gave us.

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|--|-----------------------|
| 1. When you feel weak | a. Exodus 15:26 |
| 2. When you are sick | b. John 16:33 |
| 3. When you are overwhelmed with failure | c. Philippians 4:4 |
| 4. When you feel troubled | d. 2 Corinthians 12:9 |
| 5. When you feel sad | e. 2 Timothy 1:7 |