

A photograph of a brick wall with a jagged, broken top edge. The wall is made of dark, weathered bricks with visible mortar. The background is a soft-focus sky with light blue and white clouds. The text is overlaid on the wall.

REDEEMING A

**BROKEN
CULTURE**

— Nehemiah: Ch. 10 —

Covenant Renewal

- Nehemiah 9:38 - *“Because of all this we make a firm covenant in writing; on the sealed document are the names of our princes, our Levites, and our priests.*
 - NET - *Because of all this we are entering into a binding covenant in written [cutting] form; our leaders, our Levites, and our priests have affixed their names on the sealed document.”*
- Nehemiah 10:29 - *join with their brothers, their nobles, and enter into a curse and an oath to walk in God's Law that was given by Moses the servant of God, and to observe and do all the commandments of the LORD our Lord and his rules and his statutes.*



What Was The Covenant?

1. To not intermarry with heathen (v. 30)
2. To not do business on the Sabbath day or holy days (v. 31a)
3. To faithfully observe of the Seventh Year (v. 31b)
4. To support the House of God (vs. 32-39)



Support the House of God - The Pledge

- Nehemiah 10:39b - ... *We will not neglect the house of our God.*”
 - 2 Kings 21-23; 2 Chronicles 33-34 - Manassah’s apostasy; Josiah’s reforms
 - Haggai 1:1-15 - Post Exile
- Hebrews 10:25 - *not neglecting [forsaking] to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another ...*



They Supported the House of God through Giving

- Nehemiah 10:32 - *“We also take on ourselves the obligation to give yearly a third part of a shekel for the service of the house of our God:*
- Exodus 30:16 - *You shall take the atonement money from the people of Israel and shall give it for the service of the tent of meeting, that it may bring the people of Israel to remembrance before the LORD, so as to make atonement for your lives.”*



They Supported the House of God through Giving

- *Nehemiah 10:33 - for the showbread, the regular grain offering, the regular burnt offering, the Sabbaths, the new moons, the appointed feasts, the holy things, and the sin offerings to make atonement for Israel, and for all the work of the house of our God.*



They Supported the House of God through Serving

Nehemiah 10:34 - *We, the priests, the Levites, and the people, have likewise cast lots for the wood offering, to bring it into the house of our God, according to our fathers' houses, at times appointed, year by year, to burn on the altar of the LORD our God, as it is written in the Law.*

- *Leviticus 6:12-13 - The fire on the altar shall be kept burning on it; it shall not go out. The priest shall burn wood on it every morning, and he shall arrange the burnt offering on it and shall burn on it the fat of the peace offerings. Fire shall be kept burning on the altar continually; it shall not go out.*



They Supported the House of God through Serving

- Hebrews 10:1 - *For since the law has but a shadow of the good things to come instead of the true form of these realities, it can never, by the same sacrifices that are continually offered every year, make perfect those who draw near.*
- Hebrews 10:4, 11-12 - *For it is impossible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins And every priest stands daily at his service, offering repeatedly the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins. But when Christ had offered for all time a single sacrifice for sins, he sat down at the right hand of God.*

They Supported the House of God through Bringing

- Nehemiah 10:35 - *We obligate ourselves to bring the firstfruits of our ground and the firstfruits of all fruit of every tree, year by year, to the house of the LORD ...*
- Exodus 23:26 - *“The best of the firstfruits of your ground you shall bring into the house of the LORD your God.*
- Exodus 34:26 - *The best of the firstfruits of your ground you shall bring to the house of the LORD your God.*
- Malachi 1:6-14



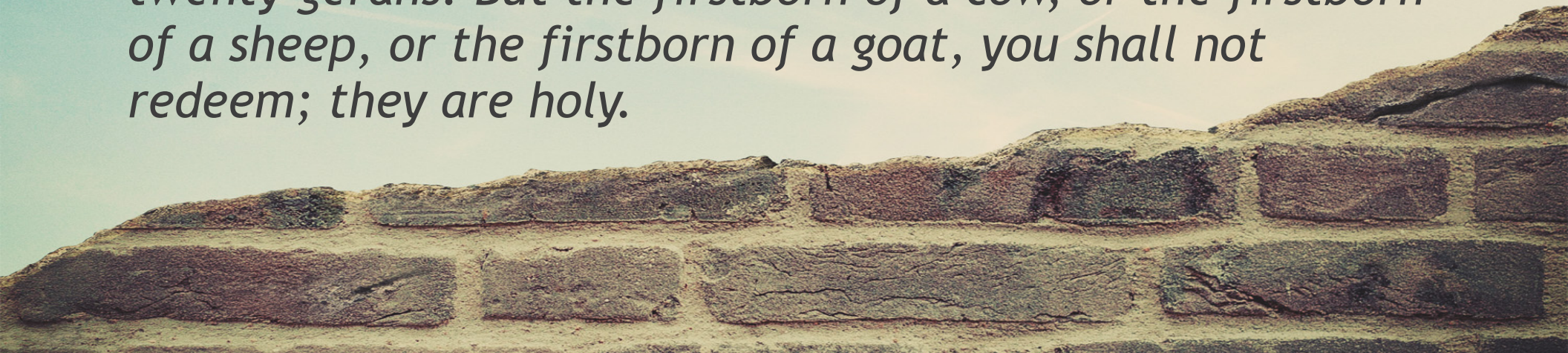
They Supported the House of God through Sacrificing

- Nehemiah 10:36 - *We obligate ourselves ... also to bring to the house of our God, to the priests who minister in the house of our God, the firstborn of our sons and of our cattle, as it is written in the Law, and the firstborn of our herds and of our flocks ...*
- Exodus 13:1 - *The LORD said to Moses, “Consecrate to me all the firstborn. Whatever is the first to open the womb among the people of Israel, both of man and of beast, is mine.”*



They Supported the House of God through Sacrificing

- Numbers 18:15-17 - *Everything that opens the womb of all flesh, whether man or beast, which they offer to the LORD, shall be yours. Nevertheless, the firstborn of man you shall redeem, and the firstborn of unclean animals you shall redeem. And their redemption price (at a month old you shall redeem them) you shall fix at five shekels in silver, according to the shekel of the sanctuary, which is twenty gerahs. But the firstborn of a cow, or the firstborn of a sheep, or the firstborn of a goat, you shall not redeem; they are holy.*



They Supported the House of God through Tithing

- *Nehemiah 10:37 - We obligate ourselves ... and to bring to the Levites the tithes from our ground, for it is the Levites who collect the tithes in all our towns where we labor.*



They Supported the House of God through Tithing

- Nehemiah 10:38 - *And the priest, the son of Aaron, shall be with the Levites when the Levites receive the tithes. And the Levites shall bring up the tithe of the tithes to the house of our God, to the chambers of the storehouse.*



Take Aways

1. Be a living sacrifice. [Romans 12:1]
 - Through giving, serving, bringing, sacrificing, tithing
2. Evaluate your priorities. [Matthew 6:33]

Greatest Hindrances

All rooted in the “villain with a thousand faces” [pride].*

1. Busyness
2. Materialism

*DeYoung, Kevin (2013). *Crazy Busy*, pg. 35.