

Where do you run in times like these?

Nehemiah 8:13-18

The children of Israel had just finished rebuilding the wall in 52 days. It was a time of exhausting activity, famine, threatening opposition, high taxes, greed and a down economy. And their enemies were trying to frighten them (6:15-19). Only five days after finishing of the wall, they all gathered in the open square and listened to the reading of the Word of God for six hours. They went home, and the very next day the men gathered to learn more. Or text, shows us what happened the next day. What should you do in times like these? Where do you run?

### **Historical context and timeline**

4004bc creation

2348bc, Flood

2000bc Abraham

1445bc, Exodus

**1405, Joshua enters the promised land**

1000bc, David

722bc, the fall of of the Northern kingdom

586bc, Nebuchadenzzar

538bc, Cyrus Issues decree

**454bc, Feast of  
Tabernacles in the days of  
Nehemiah**

I. The fathers and leaders gathered to study the Word of God, v13

II. They discovered what they've neglected, v14

III. They announced the feast, v15

IV. They gathered to celebrate in booths, v16

V. They had never celebrated like this before, v17

VI. Seven days of the feast, and a sacred assembly, v18

## **Words for Children to listen for**

Where do you run?

My delight

Songs in the house of my pilgrimage

O how I love your law

Feast of Tabernacles

Celebrated like never before

Joshua

Fathers

Men's bible study

Run the course

Neglected

Leviticus 23

Branches

Leafy trees

Booths

Roof

Reenacted

Seven days

Eighth day

Prescribed manner

Like newborn babes