

A photograph of a brick wall against a cloudy sky. The text 'REDEEMING A' is overlaid in a bold, grey, sans-serif font. The word 'BROKEN' is written in a white, bold, sans-serif font, tilted upwards from left to right, and is superimposed over the bricks. The word 'CULTURE' is written in a white, bold, sans-serif font, positioned below 'BROKEN' and also superimposed over the bricks.

**REDEEMING A**

**BROKEN  
CULTURE**

— Nehemiah: Ch. 10 —

## Responses That Drive Spiritual Renewal

Sensitivity toward sin



Separation from anything unclean



Steady desire for God's Word



Sincere worship of God



## God's Promise - Man's Responsibility

- 2 Chronicles 7:14 - *If my people who are called by my name humble themselves, and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and heal their land.*
- Proverbs 28:13 - *Whoever conceals his transgressions will not prosper, but he who confesses and forsakes them will obtain mercy.*



## 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.”*



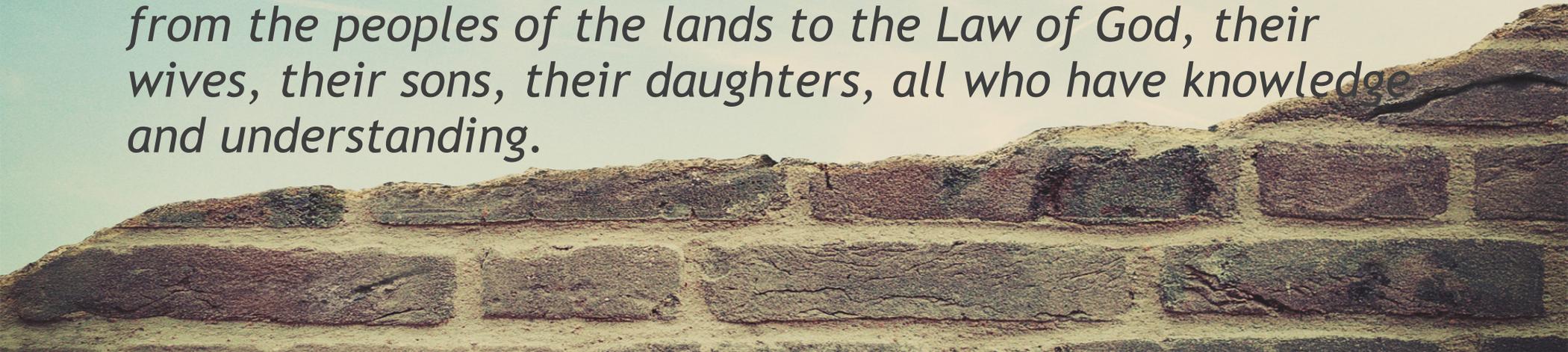
## Covenant Renewal

- Exodus 24:12 - *And the LORD said unto Moses, Come up to me into the mount, and be there: and I will give thee tables of stone, and a law, and commandments which I have written; that thou mayest teach them.*
- Exodus 31:18 - *And he gave unto Moses, when he had made an end of communing with him upon mount Sinai, two tables of testimony, tables of stone, written with the finger of God.*



## Who Made The Covenant?

- Verses 1-8 - Nehemiah (governor) and 21 priests
- Verse 9 - Four Levites
- Verses 10-13 - Levites Brethren
- Verses 14-27 - Chiefs of the People / Heads of Families
- Verse 28 - [Everybody else] *The rest of the people, the priests, the Levites, the gatekeepers, the singers, the temple servants, and all who have separated themselves from the peoples of the lands to the Law of God, their wives, their sons, their daughters, all who have knowledge and understanding.*



## Who Made The Covenant?

- 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.*
- 2 Chronicles 34:31 - *And the king stood in his place and made a covenant before the LORD, to walk after the LORD and to keep his commandments and his testimonies and his statutes, with all his heart and all his soul, to perform the words of the covenant that were written in this book*

## 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)



## Covenant 1: Not to Intermarry

- Verse 30 - *We will not give our daughters to the peoples of the land or take their daughters for our sons.*
- Deuteronomy 7:3-4 - *You shall not intermarry with them, giving your daughters to their sons or taking their daughters for your sons, for they would turn away your sons from following me, to serve other gods. Then the anger of the LORD would be kindled against you, and he would destroy you quickly.*



## Covenant 2: Sabbath Day

- Verse 31a - *And if the peoples of the land bring in goods or any grain on the Sabbath day to sell, we will not buy from them on the Sabbath or on a holy day.*
- Exodus 20:10-11 - *but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the LORD your God. On it you shall not do any work, you, or your son, or your daughter, your male servant, or your female servant, or your livestock, or the sojourner who is within your gates. For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested on the seventh day. Therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy.*

## Covenant 2: Sabbath Day

- Sabbath commandments:
  - Keep it holy.
  - Do not work.
- Britannica - “The biblical ban against work on the Sabbath, while never clearly defined, includes activities such as baking and cooking, traveling, kindling fire, gathering wood, buying and selling, and bearing burdens from one domain into another.” - <https://www.britannica.com/topic/Judaism/The-Sabbath>

## Covenant 3: Keep the Sabbath Year

- Nehemiah 10:31b - ... *And we will forego the crops of the seventh year and the exaction of every debt.*

### Forego Crops

- For the Poor (Exodus 23:10-11)
- For the Land to Rest (Leviticus 25:4-5)

### Exaction of Debt

- Deuteronomy 15:1-2

