

Pastor Roy's Sermon on Nehemiah 10:1-39 (September 16, 2026)

—Below are questions from that lesson to further our understanding—

1. John Ortberg asks, 'How big is your God?' -- in what ways does the size of your view of God directly affect the boldness of your commitments and obedience to Him?
2. The people of Nehemiah's time sealed their covenant with a physical mark, making it irrevocable -- what practices or disciplines in your own life serve as tangible reminders of the commitments you have made to God?
3. The unity described in Nehemiah 10 mirrors the body of Christ Paul describes in 1 Corinthians 12 -- how does your participation or lack of participation in your local church community either strengthen or weaken the collective covenant your congregation has with God?
4. The Israelites had neglected the seventh-year sabbath for 490 years, ultimately resulting in 70 years of exile -- what areas of obedience have you been gradually neglecting, and what consequences might that pattern produce over time?
5. The people swore not to intermarry with those who worshiped foreign gods, recognizing how past compromise had led them astray -- in what ways do your closest relationships and influences either draw you closer to God or pull you away from full obedience?
6. The commitment to keep the Sabbath holy required the people to refuse profitable business transactions on that day -- what financial or personal sacrifices does genuine Sabbath observance require of you, and are you willing to make them?
7. Proverbs 16:33 reminds us that every decision made by casting lots ultimately comes from God -- how does trusting God's sovereignty in the details of your life, including the mundane responsibilities, change the way you approach your daily work and service?
8. The people committed to bring the first fruits of everything they had, not the leftovers -- in what practical ways does the order in which you give your time, money, and energy reveal what or who truly holds first place in your life?
9. Malachi 3:10 presents giving as an opportunity to test God's faithfulness -- have you ever stepped out in genuine, sacrificial generosity and witnessed God's response, and how did that experience shape your ongoing relationship with giving?
10. The chapter closes with the declaration 'We will not neglect the house of our God' -- what would it look like for you personally to make that same declaration, and what specific changes would need to happen for it to be more than just words?