




USED BY
GOD

NEHEMIAH









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Before this, Eliashib the priest had been put in charge of the storerooms of the house of our God. He was closely associated with Tobiah, and he had provided him with a large room formerly used to store the grain offerings and



**incense and temple articles,
and also the tithes of grain,
new wine and olive oil
prescribed for the Levites,
musicians and gatekeepers, as
well as the contributions for
the priests. But while all this
was going on, I was not in**



Jerusalem, for in the thirty-second year of Artaxerxes king of Babylon I had returned to the king. Some time later I asked his permission and came back to Jerusalem. Here I learned about the evil thing Eliashib had done in providing



Tobiah a room in the courts of the house of God. I was greatly displeased and threw all Tobiah's household goods out of the rooms. I gave orders to purify the rooms, and then I put back into them the equipment of the house of




God, with the grain offerings and the incense. I also learned that the portions assigned to the Levites had not been given to them, and that all the Levites and musicians responsible for the service had gone back to their own fields.



So I rebuked the officials and asked them, “Why is the house of God neglected?” Then I called them together and stationed them at their posts.





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1. **Worship:** *They neglected the house of God.*



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a. *Eliashib had relationships that caused him to compromise*

b. *Eliashib did not take sin seriously*



In those days I saw people in Judah treading winepresses on the Sabbath and bringing in grain and loading it on donkeys, together with wine, grapes, figs and all other kinds of loads. And they were bringing all this into



**Jerusalem on the Sabbath.
Therefore I warned them
against selling food on that
day. People from Tyre who
lived in Jerusalem were
bringing in fish and all kinds
of merchandise and selling
them in Jerusalem on the**



Sabbath to the people of Judah. I rebuked the nobles of Judah and said to them, “What is this wicked thing you are doing – desecrating the Sabbath day? Didn’t your ancestors do the same things, so that our God brought all



this calamity on us and on this city? Now you are stirring up more wrath against Israel by desecrating the Sabbath.”



2. Business: *They desecrated the Sabbath.*



Moreover, in those days I saw men of Judah who had married women from Ashdod, Ammmmon and Moab. Half of their children spoke the language of Ashdod or the language of one of the other peoples, and did not know



how to speak the language of Judah. I rebuked them and called curses down on them. I beat some of the men and pulled their hair out. I made them take an oath in God's name and said: "You are not to give your daughters in



marriage to their sons, nor are you to take their daughters in marriage for your sons or for yourselves. Was it not because of marriages like these that Solomon king of Israel sinned?”

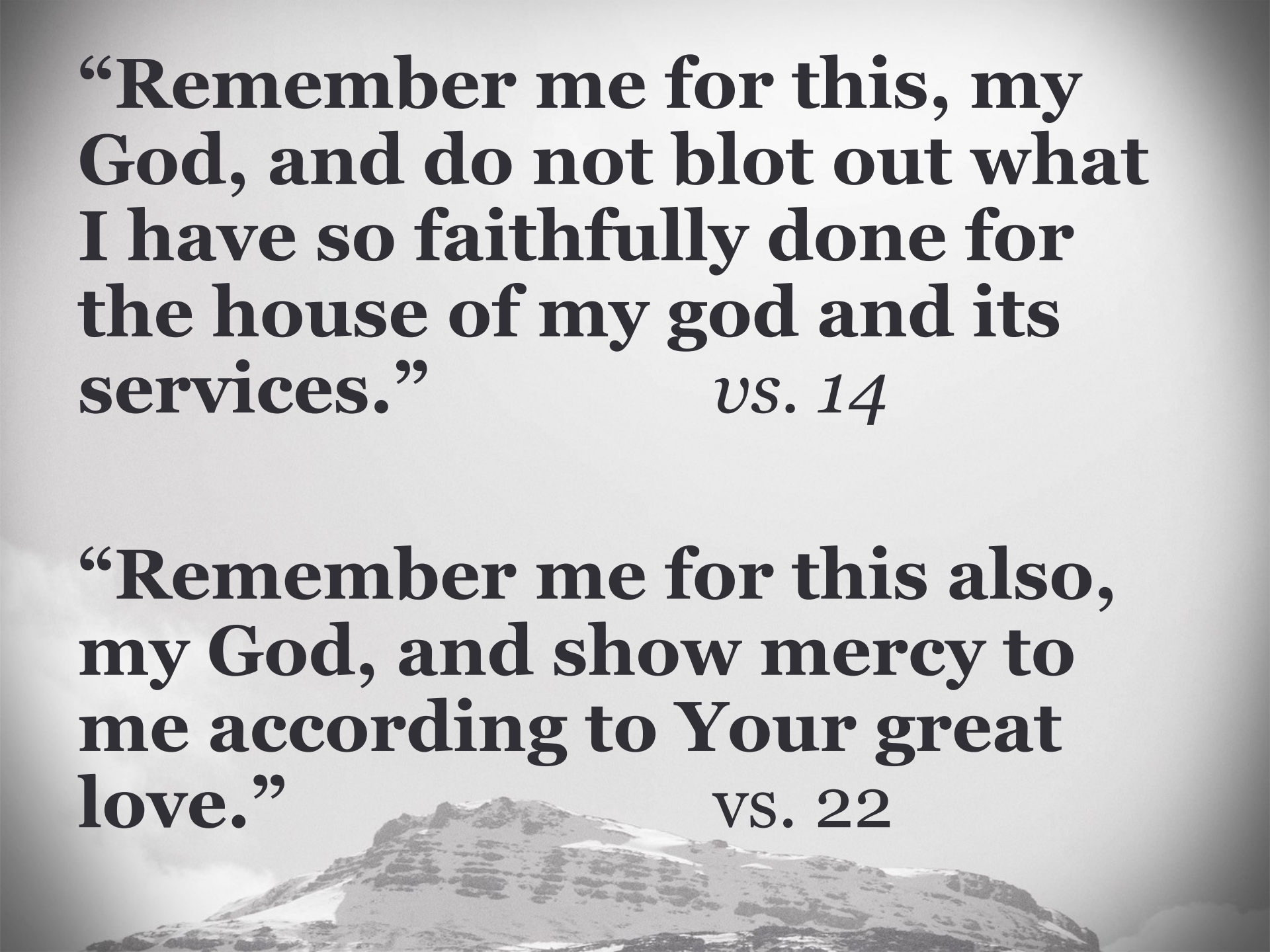


3. Family: *They corrupted the spiritual lives of their families.*



“Remember me for this, my God, and do not blot out what I have so faithfully done for the house of my god and its services.” *vs. 14*

“Remember me for this also, my God, and show mercy to me according to Your great love.” *vs. 22*



**“Remember them, my God,
because they defiled the
priestly office and the
covenant of the priesthood
and of the Levites.”**

vs. 29

**“Remember me with favor, my
God.”**

vs. 31





**Jack
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