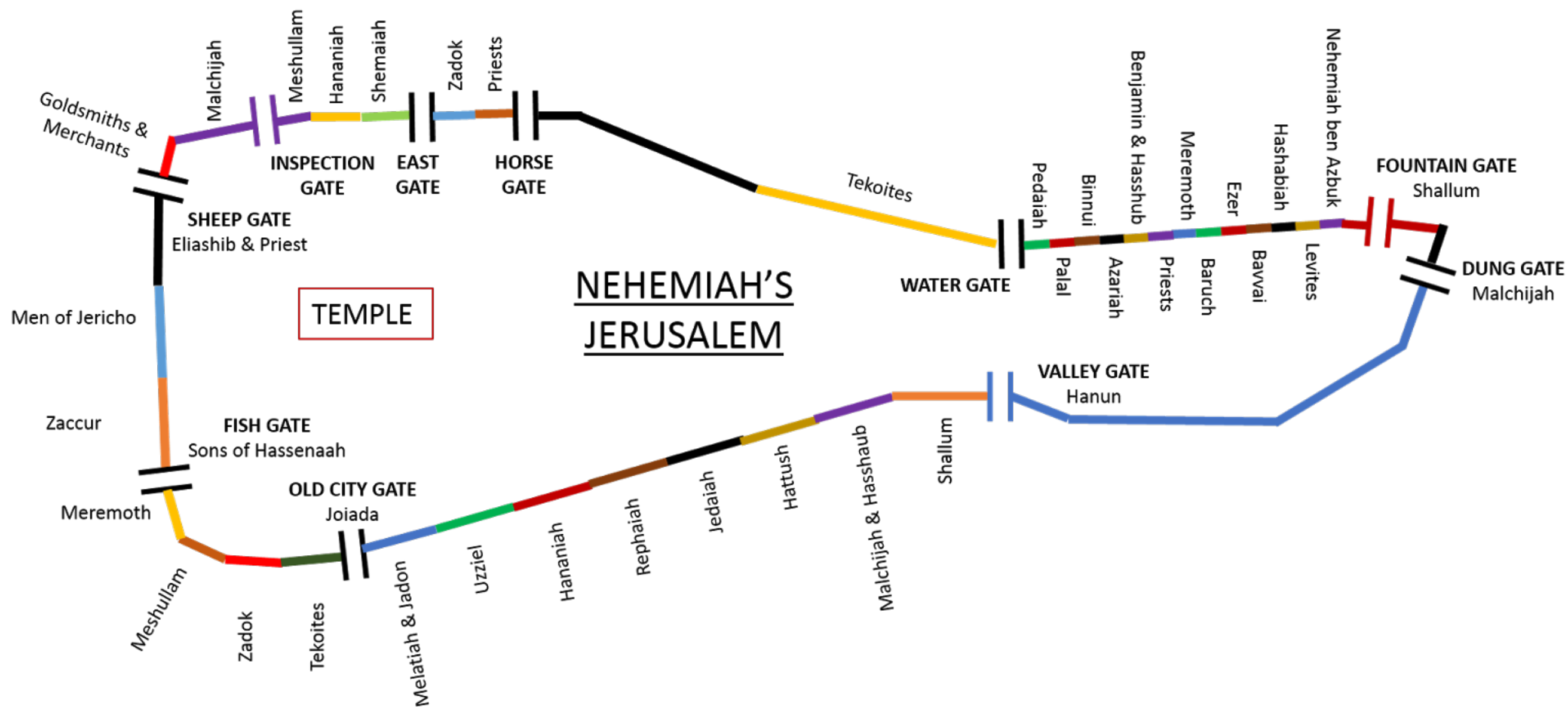




NEHEMIAH



Gate Names

Sheep Gate, Fish Gate, Old Gate, Valley Gate, Dung Gate, Fountain Gate, Water Gate, Horse Gate, East Gate, Inspection Gate, and again to the Sheep Gate.

Gate Order

Nehemiah had a plan to reconstruct the walls of Jerusalem. Starting at the Sheep Gate, he would work CCW around the city until finishing back at the Sheep Gate.

Why?

No new materials were needed. God's people need no new thing, but only to use those materials lying around us.

Workers

Nobles and commoners, priests and lay workers, men and women, rich and poor, old and young all worked together on this build.

Some did not help.

Nehemiah 3:1

Then Eliashib the high priest rose up with his brethren the priests, and they builded the sheep gate; they sanctified it, and set up the doors of it; even unto the tower of Meah they sanctified it, unto the tower of Hananeel.

Sheep Gate

The first and last mentioned in the account. The alpha and omega.

No mention of locks and bars - free access to the sacrifice.

The only gate to be sanctified by the priests.

Nehemiah 3:3

But the fish gate did the sons of Hassenaah build, who also laid the beams thereof, and set up the doors thereof, the locks thereof, and the bars thereof.

Nehemiah 3:6

Moreover the old gate repaired
Jehoiada the son of Paseah, and
Meshullam the son of Besodeiah; they
laid the beams thereof, and set up the
doors thereof, and the locks thereof,
and the bars thereof.

Old Gate

Possibly the Corner Gate or Mishneh Gate.

Mishneh, or Hebrew *new quarter*

The Old Gate leads to the new quarter.

Nehemiah 3:13

The valley gate repaired Hanun, and the inhabitants of Zanoah; they built it, and set up the doors thereof, the locks thereof, and the bars thereof, and a thousand cubits on the wall unto the dung gate.

Valley Gate

Every believer needs a valley gate.

God opposes the proud, but gives grace to the humble.

The longest distances between gates were surrounding the Valley Gate.

Nehemiah 3:14

But the dung gate repaired Malchiah the son of Rechab, the ruler of part of Bethhaccerem; he built it, and set up the doors thereof, the locks thereof, and the bars thereof.

Dung Gate

The main exit to the valley of Hinnom,
or Gehenna.

Symbolic of cleansing.

Nehemiah 3:15

But the gate of the fountain repaired Shallun the son of Colhozeh, the ruler of part of Mizpah; he built it, and covered it, and set up the doors thereof, the locks thereof, and the bars thereof, and the wall of the pool of Siloah by the king's garden, and unto the stairs that go down from the city of David.

Fountain Gate

Water for drinking is symbolic of God's Spirit.

Geographically, we move from the Valley (humility), to the Dung Gate (cleansing), to the Fountain (fullness of the Spirit).

Nehemiah 3:26

Moreover the Nethinims dwelt in Ophel, unto the place over against the water gate toward the east, and the tower that lieth out.

Water Gate

Water for washing is symbolic of God's word.

This is the only gate where no repair is mentioned.

Nehemiah 3:28

From above the horse gate repaired the priests, every one over against his house.

Horse Gate

A reminder of the warfare that is always present in the believer's life.

The priests also repaired this gate.

Nehemiah 3:29

After them repaired Zadok the son of Immer over against his house. After him repaired also Shemaiah the son of Shechaniah, the keeper of the east gate.

East Gate

The gate where Ezekiel saw the glory of the Lord depart.

The gate where the Messiah will return.

Nehemiah 3:31

After him repaired Malchiah the goldsmith's son unto the place of the Nethinims, and of the merchants, over against the gate Miphkad, and to the going up of the corner.

Inspection Gate

The gate where the army was gathered and registered.

Nehemiah 3:32

And between the going up of the corner unto the sheep gate repaired the goldsmiths and the merchants.

Sheep Gate

The wall was completed once reconstruction reached the sheep gate.

It all started and ended with the sacrifice.

Gate Names

Sheep Gate (Salvation), Fish Gate (Witness), Old Gate (Foundation), Valley Gate (Trials), Dung Gate (Cleansing), Fountain Gate (Refreshing), Water Gate (Nourishment), Horse Gate (Preparation), East Gate (Return), Inspection Gate (Judgment)

Where are you?

Some have never experienced forgiveness.

Some have never left the first gates.

Some never witness. Some neglect the foundation.

Some are in the valley. Some are not willing to cleanse.

Some need refreshing. Some need nourishment.

Some need to prepare for war. Some are not ready for the King's return. Some will fail inspection.