

A Book¹
Nehemiah 12:23

INTRODUCTION:

1. "As for the sons of Levi, their heads of fathers' houses were written in the Book of the Chronicles until the days of Johanan the son of Eliashib" (Neh. 12:23).
2. A book is a wonderful thing.

DISCUSSION: A book...

I. Unites.

- A. It brings the past into the present.
- B. A good book is a guide, philosopher, and friend.
- C. "The 'sceptred spirits of history' rule us still."
- D. Through books, the poorest enter the highest society.
- E. With books, the loneliest need not be solitary.

II. Reveals.

- A. A book gives permanence to thought.
- B. A book gives permanence to deeds (cf. Esther 2:19-23; 6:1, 2).
 1. Good deeds encourage.
 2. Bad deeds warn.
- C. Life is a writing (cf. 2 Cor. 3:2, 3).

III. Anticipates.

- A. One may refer to a book (cf. Ex. 32:32, 33).
- B. God has a book of remembrance (Mal. 3:16).
- C. There is a book of life that will be read at judgment (Rev. 20:12).

¹ *The Preacher's Complete Homiletic Commentary on the Book of Nehemiah*, chapters 7-13, Booth, Goodman, and Gregory, eds. (Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Book House, reprinted 1974), p. 244. Adapted by Andy Kizer.