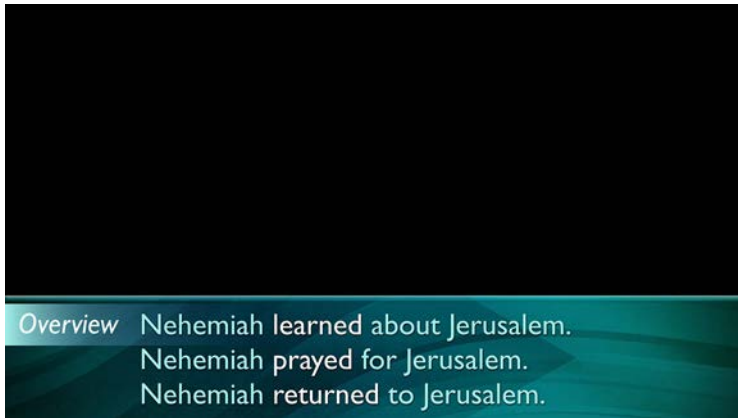




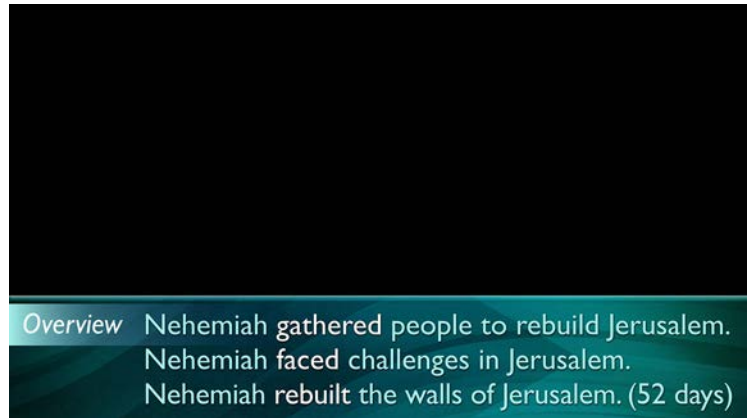
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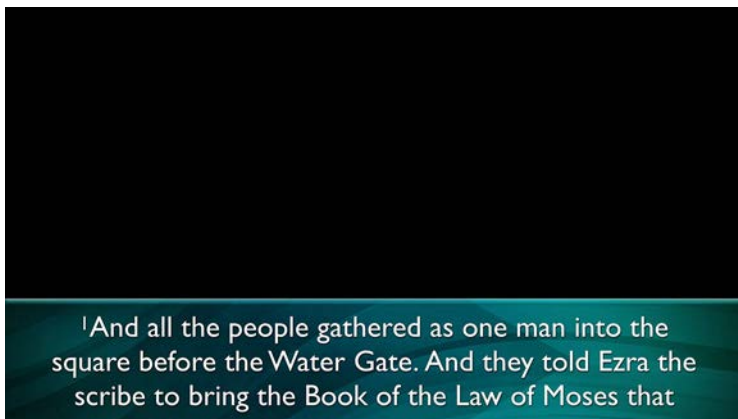
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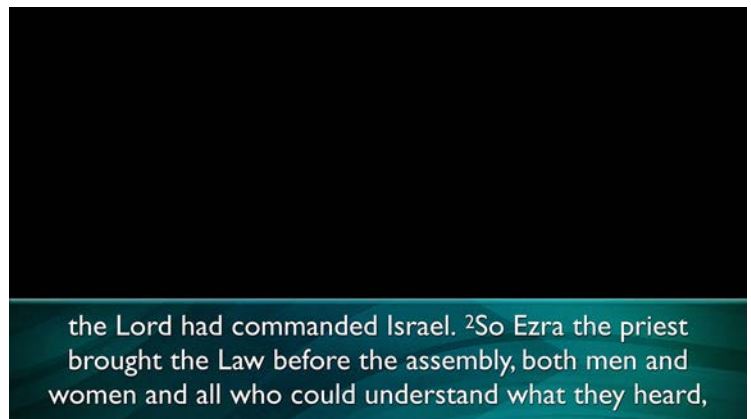
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on the first day of the seventh month. <sup>3</sup>And he read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men

-007.tiff

and the women and those who could understand. And the ears of all the people were attentive to the Book of the Law. <sup>4</sup>And Ezra the scribe stood

-008.tiff

on a wooden platform that they had made for the purpose... <sup>5</sup>And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people,

-009.tiff

for he was above all the people, and as he opened it all the people stood. <sup>6</sup>And Ezra blessed the LORD, the great God, and all the people answered,

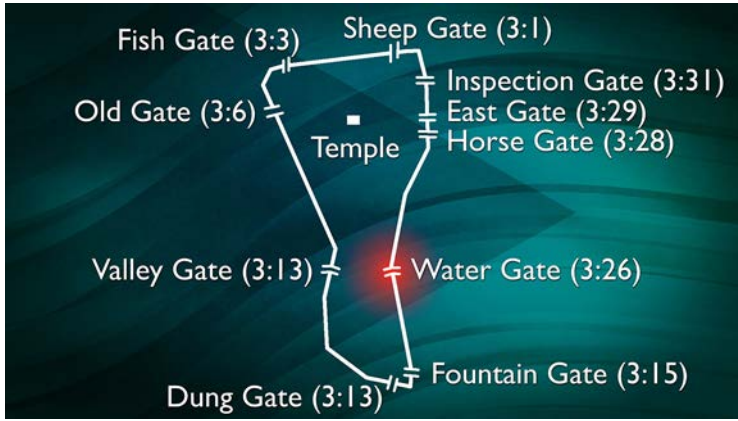
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“Amen, Amen,” lifting up their hands. And they bowed their heads and worshiped the LORD with their faces to the ground...

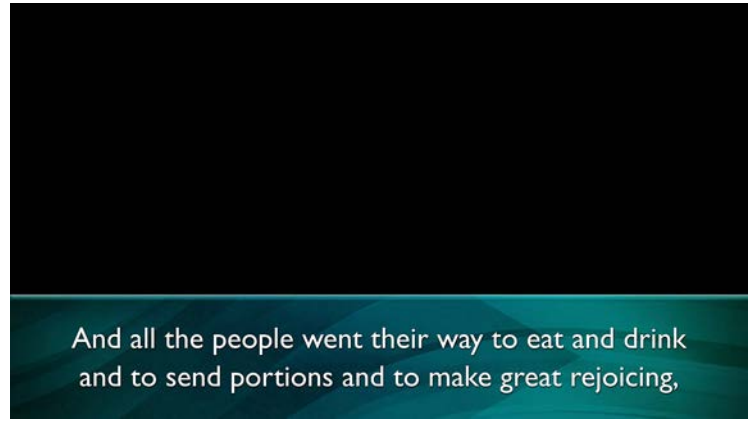
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<sup>8</sup>They read from the book, from the Law of God, clearly, and they gave the sense, so that the people understood the reading.—Nehemiah 8:1-6, 8 ESV

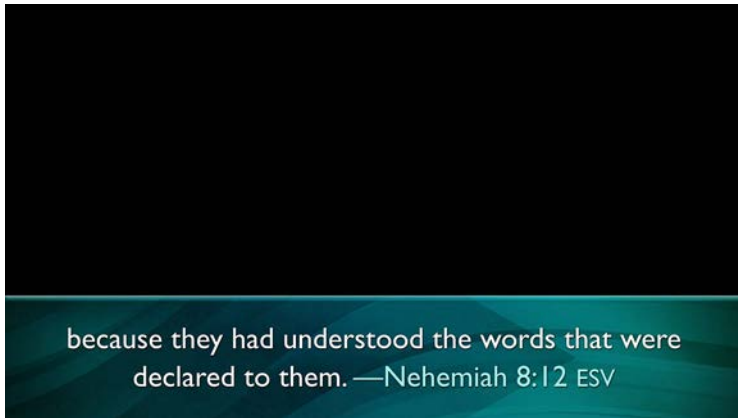
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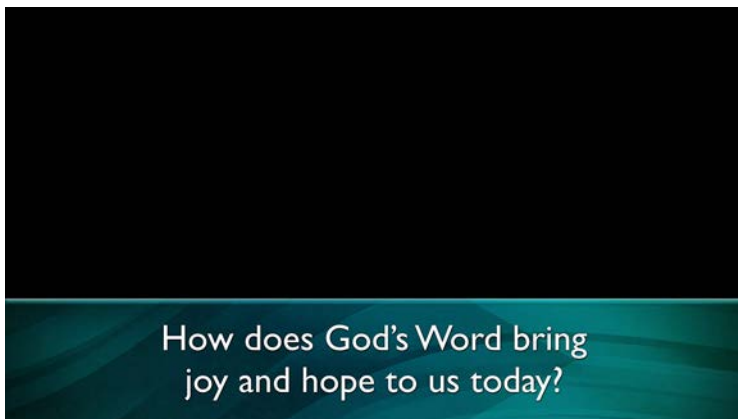
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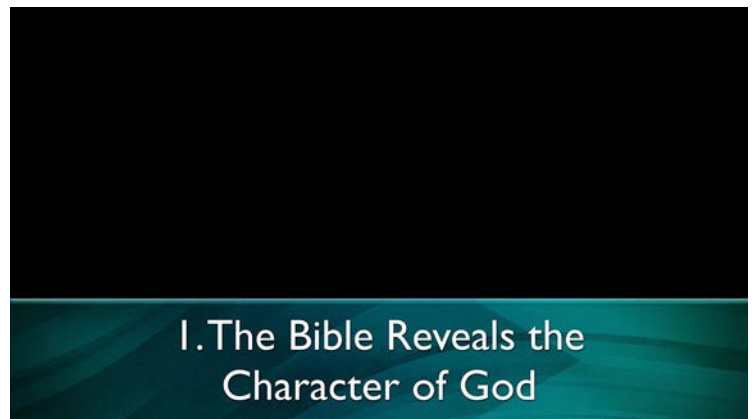
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<sup>23</sup>Thus says the LORD: “Let not the wise man boast in his wisdom, let not the mighty man boast in his might, let not the rich man boast in his riches,

-019.tiff

<sup>24</sup>but let him who boasts boast in this, that he understands and knows Me, that I am the LORD

-020.tiff

who practices steadfast love, justice, and righteousness in the earth. For in these things I delight, declares the LORD.” —Jeremiah 9:23-24 ESV

-021.tiff

Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord.

-022.tiff

For His sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ.  
—Philippians 3:8 ESV

-023.tiff

“Knowledge of God’s Word is intended to focus us on knowing the God of the Word.”

-024.tiff

<sup>1</sup>In the beginning was the Word,  
and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.  
<sup>2</sup>He was in the beginning with God.

-.025.tiff

<sup>3</sup>All things were made through Him, and without Him  
was not any thing made that was made. <sup>4</sup>In Him was  
life, and the life was the light of men...

-.026.tiff

<sup>14</sup>And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and  
we have seen His glory, glory as of the only Son from  
the Father, full of grace and truth. —John 1:1-4, 14 ESV

-.027.tiff

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-.028.tiff

## 2. The Bible Reflects God's Will and Way

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<sup>5</sup>And Ezra opened the book in the sight of  
all the people, for he was above all the people,  
and as he opened it all the people stood...

-.030.tiff

<sup>9</sup>And Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people,

-.031.tiff

“This day is holy to the LORD your God; do not mourn or weep.” For all the people wept as they heard the words of the Law. —Nehemiah 8:5, 9 ESV

-.032.tiff

### 3. The Bible Affirms the Promises of God

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...that your generations may know that I made the people of Israel dwell in booths when I brought them out of the land of Egypt: I am the LORD your God. —Lev. 23:43 ESV

-.034.tiff

<sup>4</sup>For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that through endurance and through the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope...

-.035.tiff

<sup>13</sup>May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope. —Romans 15:4, 13 ESV

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## 4. The Bible Fuels Our Hearts with Joy

These things I have spoken to you, that My joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full.  
—John 15:11 ESV

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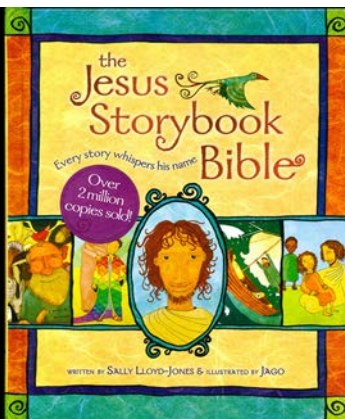
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But now I am coming to you, and these things I speak in the world, that they may have My joy fulfilled in themselves. —John 17:13 ESV

“Holy joy will be oils to the wheels of obedience.”  
—Matthew Henry

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