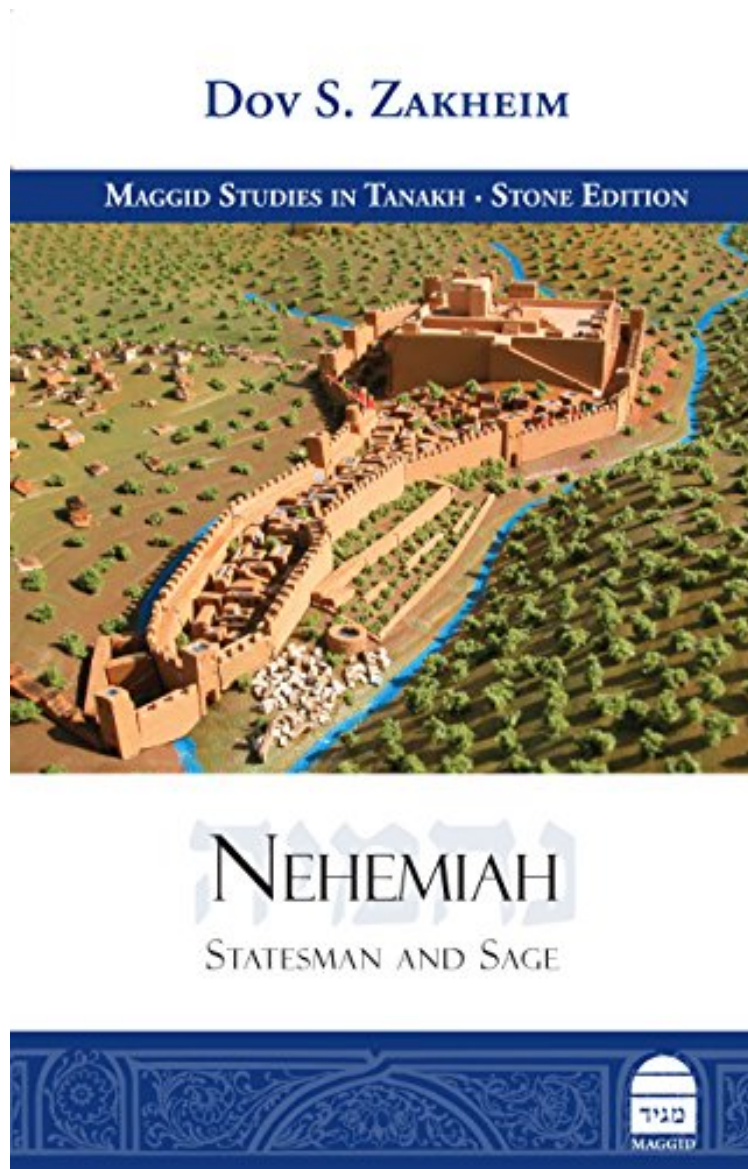


Nehemiah: Statesman and Sage

Dov Zakheim

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Jewish history recognizes Nehemiah as one of the founding fathers of the Second Commonwealth, when the Second Temple stood in Jerusalem. A statesman, politician, and lay religious administrator, Nehemiah aimed to strengthen national security, foster diplomatic relations with neighboring states, and establish social and religious order in the ancient Jewish society. In *Nehemiah: Statesman and Sage*, Dov Zakheim, a former senior official in the US government, examines the life of the biblical figure through the lens of modern experience. Zakheim mines the biblical Book of Nehemiah to present a political biography of a man who rose to the highest levels of the Persian court, dedicating his life to the welfare of the Jewish people. Utilizing a unique collection of traditional and scholarly sources, Zakheim reveals how Nehemiah confronted fundamental issues of his day, highlighting lessons for policy-makers today.

About the AuthorDov S. Zakheim was Under Secretary of Defense (2001-2004) and Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (1985-1987) of the United States. He holds a BA from Columbia University and a D.Phil. from St. Antony's College, University of Oxford, and received rabbinic ordination from the Gaon Rabbi Shmuel Walkin. A three-time recipient of the US Department of Defense's highest civilian award, he is a Fellow of the Royal Swedish Academy of War Sciences, a member of the Council on Foreign Relations, and a member of the Royal Institute of International Affairs. He lectures internationally on American national security issues, Jewish history, and topics in Halakha.