

Rebuild the Walls!

The picture is a city whose wall are broken down, the gates are off and burned with fire and the people and city are a reproach and despised. The spiritual application is our lives can become just like this city, broken walls, gates off, feeling reproached and despised – It is time to rebuild the walls and re-hang the gates.

Apparently the Jews had gotten lazy, fearful, hopeless, and had sinned against God.

Living a life of victory and safety In the middle of extreme conditions, in the presence of the enemy, and in the natural looking impossible – the impossible was done.

Are we in a place of extreme, the enemy is at hand, and in the natural it seems impossible. It is time to

1. Rebuild the torn down, broken, weak places in your life. (what are they)
2. Re-hanging the gates (authority – belief system) that have been burned with fire. (I will expand this later)

Nehemiah inquires about his city – this is what he was told.

Neh 1:3 And they said unto me, The remnant that are left of the **captivity** there in the province *are* in **great affliction** and **reproach**: the **wall of Jerusalem also is broken down**, and the **gates thereof are burned with fire**. (Nehemiah wept sorely and went to God in prayer)

God gave Nehemiah the burden to go REBUILD the walls, REHANG the gates. God provided favor and resources.

RECOGNIZING THE PATH AND ACTIONS OF VICTORY.

1. **REPENTANCE** - Neh 1:5 -11
2. **OBEDIENCE** - Nehemiah obeyed God and submitted to the ways of God. To Have authority, he submitted to authority and received the favor of the King and the resources. Humility, faith, & obedience, always brings God's goodness.
3. **FAITH** - Next we see that Nehemiah went to Jerusalem and he SAW the condition of the city, the walls, the gates, the rubble – **BUT** He was not moved by what he saw but by the plan of God.
How many times do we allow what we see to overpower what God said?
4. **UNITY** - Neh. 2:16-18 – Nehemiah told them how God had blessed him and what the job was and they said – **Let us rise and build** – The vision was plain before them –they took ownership and they acted on it.
One for all and all for one - - **except for some holdouts** –

Neh 3:5 And next unto them the Tekoites repaired; but their nobles put not their necks to the work of their Lord.

Here is a just reproach upon the nobles of Tekoa (means: stockade), that they *put not their necks to the work of their Lord* (Neh 3:5), they would not come under the yoke of this service; as if the dignity and liberty of their position excluded them of the obligation to serve God's plan. Their position was to give them a greater influence and impact on society –**they preferred Title over Testimony.**

Here we find the destructive characteristics of pride, self-importance, tradition, ignorance, (lack of proper knowledge), and/or false knowledge (knowledge that is not of God)

We cannot allow our “so called position” – OUR POSITION OF pride, tradition, knowledge, intellect, training, background, culture, associations, or anything stop the move of God in our lives. We must embrace the essence of God which is embodied in this verse: “With man it is impossible, but with God ALL things are possible.” – (Matt 19:26)

RECOGNIZING THE PATH AND THE TOOLS OF THE ENEMY.

Was there any resistance to his task??? – YES - The devil always fights the plan of God, the anointing of God, the power of God, the glory of God, to keep you from having faith in who God is and what God is doing – **IN YOUR LIFE!**

1. **ACCUSATION**- (the devil is the accuser of the brethren)– there is always some who accuse you of something
2. **MOCKING** - (has anyone ever told you that you cannot do that, you are too stupid, too small, too old, too young, and so forth – making fun of you, Oh you are one of those mindless, idiots who believe in that God stuff. A lame dependency, a crutch to try and be a real person – how pathetic you are.

3. CONTEMPT – TO DEPISE

Neh 2:19 But when Sanballat (the devil) the Horonite, and Tobiah (the flesh) the servant, the Ammonite, and Geshem (the world) the Arabian, heard *it*, they laughed us to scorn, and despised us, and said, what *is* this thing that ye do? will ye rebel against the king?

Nehemiah knew who he was and believe with his whole heart what God had said for him to do.

Look at his response – not reaction -

Neh 2:20 Then answered I them, and said unto them, The God of heaven, he will prosper us; therefore we his servants will arise and build: but **ye have no portion**, nor **right**, nor **memorial**, in Jerusalem.

4. Stronger Accusation – If you build it, it will fall down and you will fail

Neh 4:1-3 - (what happens when we stand against the enemy)

The enemy reacts with wrath, and great indignation and mocking –

Gathers others with him to come against you to **increase the threat**

Mocks your Christian lifestyle and actions in God, faith, trust etc.

Speaks curses against what they would build. (or what you will or have done for God)

5. The enemy tried to instill “FEAR” in the people

Neh 4:7-15

God revealed the plans of the enemy – God always shows us the tactics of the enemy if we seek Him FIRST -

Again –prayer to petition God and get God's strategy. The people sacrificed, did not give up, did not quit, victory – by the power of god working in them

Chapter 5 – Relates how Nehemiah restores the system of right to the way the officials were doing business with the people – God's plan brought prosperity and took off the shame from the people – (Read the whole story)

What walls are broke down in your life – What gates are burned with fire. – What system needs to be restored?

BROKE WALLS - Sin will cause our wall to be breached. Words of death will cause holes in our walls. Disobedience will cause cracks and will compromise the integrity of our walls. Our ability to recognize “Sins shortcomings, missing the mark” is primary in keeping the walls intact and strong against the attacks of the enemy. Quick or instant repentance will maintain strong walls and declaring the word will keep fortified gates.

1. Pray, ask God to forgive you of sin (I John 1:9) – Watch your mouth, watch your thoughts, watch your actions – and obey God instantly.

BURNED GATES - Broken walls lets the enemy into your life – gates represent the authority you have but cannot use because they are down, and burned with fire. (we have allowed circumstance, situations, people, troubles, accusations to burn us (we got offended – we made judgments, we spoke wrongly) and we are in the sin of offense and have not used the God given authority. For example: Someone speaks wrong of you. Very bad things – What do you do to keep the gates up and not to be burned with fire –

1. Pray, forgive instantly and release them to God. 2. Bless them 3. Forget it. (Most of us do not understand that this is one of the most powerful forms of authority that God has given us.

3. System restored – We must do right, live right, talk right, think right – because we are children of God – we do this because it right. Matt 6:33 – Seek ye first the kingdom of God and His righteousness (His way of doing)

The plan of God was completed in 52 days – 50 is the number of “JUBILEE” – the restoration of all things.

2 is the number of “Witness” – this whole operation was a witness of the Word of God and of the Power of God to fulfill what He said. Using mere men to do it.

You are next for a “IMPOSSIBLE” situation to become “POSSIBLE” in God.