

Week 29
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Transforming Daily
“... servants who desire to fear Your name ...”
Nehemiah 1:11

Nehemiah, like Ezra, led a group of Israelites, post exile, to restore a portion of God’s city. On his campaign, Ezra led the people of God to restore the temple of God and their worship of Him. On his campaign, Nehemiah led the people of God to rebuild the city wall. Nehemiah faced a great deal of adversity on the way to accomplish his mission. However, as always, God was and is faithful to provide and protect with the necessary means to see His will and work achieved.

One of the most important factors for the success of Nehemiah’s missionary journey was to begin with prayer and that prayer being one of responsibility and repentance. In the opening statements of the book of Nehemiah, the reader quickly understands that the conditions under which Nehemiah took on his task were seemingly hopeless and certainly bleak. But Nehemiah does the right thing at the right time. He seeks God’s face in repentance, God’s direction in humility, and God’s sovereignty for provision and protection.

God moved on the heart and mind of the king for whom Nehemiah was the cup bearer. And the king did as God commanded. However, as is the case in spiritual warfare, there was opposition to Nehemiah and his faithful remnant by those who stood to lose something that they thought to be more important than God’s best. In the end, Nehemiah along with God’s remnant reconstructed the city wall.

The believer today can learn a couple of valuable lessons from the book Nehemiah. One lesson that can be learned is for believers to get and remain faithful to God. Had the Israelites been faithful to God they would never have been lead into captivity and seen the precious city of God destroyed. Another lesson that believers can learn is to get and remain humble, contrite, and repentant before God. Being a child of God according to His gracious covenant is not only a privilege, but carries with it great responsibility to be His witness.

Are you a faithful witness to Jesus Christ (Acts 1:8)? Do you willingly bear the privilege and responsibility of your Christian faith? Is part of your spiritual discipline ceaseless prayer with prayers of repentance, intercession, supplication, petition, and thanksgiving? Would you be identified in Nehemiah’s prayer to God as one of His “servants who desire to fear your name?”