Arise and Build: Lessons from Nehemiah Part 2 of 2

Adam Willingham · Nehemiah 4

INTRODUCTION

- The number one reason why visitors come and visit a place for the first time is because they are invited by somebody that they know.
- We are taking ten of the principles that Nehemiah used in rebuilding the walls of Jerusalem very successfully. And we are implementing those in the building up of the Church of Jesus Christ today.
- Our interest should be not in swelling, but in growing. We want to be baptizing souls into Christ.

1 Work When Others Won't

Nehemiah 3:5; Nehemiah 3:26–27; Joshua 24:15

- Next to Zadok the son of Baana, the Tokoites made repairs. But their nobles did not support the work of their masters.
- So not only did the Tokoites finish their section, they got busy and finished another section without their nobles.
- Don't focus on the negative. We need to focus on being better ourselves.
- We need not get discouraged by the non workers in the church. We need to work when others won't.
- But as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.

2 Don't Go Looking for a Fight

Nehemiah 4:15–18; Ephesians 6

- Those who were rebuilding the wall and those who carried burdens took their load, with one hand doing the work and the other hand holding a weapon.
- They weren't looking for a fight, but they were ready for a fight.
- While we must be prepared to defend the truth, we shouldn't go looking for a fight.
- Our goal is to build up this church. And if we have to stop and we have to battle error, then so be it. But we need not give up building.

3 Growth Takes Hard Work

Nehemiah 4:21–23; Nehemiah 4:6

- If we're going to grow as a congregation, it's not going to be easy. It's not going to happen automatically.
- Opportunities disguise themselves as hard work. And that's why we miss so many of them.
- So we built the wall, and the whole wall was joined together to half its height. For the people had a mind to work.
- We need to make our mind up to work.

4 Solve Internal Problems

Nehemiah 5:1–13; Acts 6:7

- He dealt with it right then and there head on. You see, this conflict was halting the progress.
- And the church today must resolve internal conflicts.
- Right then and there, deal with it in a spirit of love and gentleness.
- The word of God kept on spreading, and the number of disciples continued to increase greatly in Jerusalem.
- The only way that we are going to grow as God's people is if we resolve internal conflicts.

5 Keep Your Focus

Nehemiah 6:1–4; Luke 10

- I am doing a great work and cannot come down. Why should the work stop while I leave it and come down to you?
- These distractions may be fine things in and of themselves.
- Martha, you are distracted with so many things. But only one thing is necessary.
- We need to go to heaven and bring as many people with us as we come. And anything that distracts us from that goal is hampering the work of the Lord.
- Only by maintaining focused intensity will we be able to finish the work of building up this church.

> THE CHALLENGE
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> **If we do what Nehemiah and the Jews did, then we will indeed arise and build.**

MY NOTES