Time to Fight

Ken Chapman · Nehemiah 13

INTRODUCTION

- We all have regrets, don't we? I look back on my life and contemplate regrets. Most of them are centered around things I didn't do.
- Times that I should have stood up for what was right. Words that I should have said. And even fights I should have fought. But I didn't.

1 Nehemiah Was a Fighter

Nehemiah 13:8–9; Nehemiah 13:11; Nehemiah 13:25

- But in Nehemiah chapter 13, we see that Nehemiah was something else. Nehemiah was a fighter.
- But now he's not motivated to build. He's motivated to fight.
- And it grieved me bitterly. And I threw out all the household goods of Tobiah out of the room.
- Sometimes a leader builds. Sometimes a leader has to fight. And chapter 13 of Nehemiah is a chapter about fighting.

2 Things Nehemiah Fought For

- He fought for the proper reverence for the house of God.
- He fought for respect and observance of the Sabbath, the day in which God had set aside as a holy day.
- And lastly, he fought for the defense of their personal and family morality.

3 Contend Earnestly for the Faith

Jude 3; Ephesians 6:10–13

- All of us, men and women, old and young and children alike, are called on by God to be leaders.
- Sometimes a leader has to draw a line in the sand and say, let's fight.
- Jude says that we are to contend earnestly for the faith.
- Paul told his apprentice Timothy to fight the good fight of faith.
- For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age.

4 It's Time for Us to Fight

- It's time to spiritually angle our toe and draw a line in the sand and say it stops here. That's what Nehemiah did.
- It's time for us to spiritually, metaphorically throw some stuff to the curb. To kick some things out of our life.
- Because sometimes fighting for myself demands that I fight against my baser elements.

5 Stand Up and Fight for the Body of Christ

- It's time for us to stand up and fight for the body of Christ.
- I am not ashamed of the gospel of Jesus Christ. In fact, I'm ready to fight to defend it.
- To support and defend those who preach the gospel, to support and defend those who shepherd the flock, to support and defend the efforts of the local church.

6 Time to Fight for Our Own Faith

1 Peter 5:8–9

- It's time to fight for our own faith.
- Be sober, be vigilant, because your adversary, the devil, walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour. Verse 9 adds, resist him.
- If you want to know what resisting the devil looks like, go read Nehemiah 13. It means that you have to clear your house, your mind of those worldly evil things.
- Of those who will be cast into that fire, into that lake, John includes the cowardly.

> THE CHALLENGE
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> **Will you stand up this morning and fight? Would you become a child of God? Would you become a better child of God this morning.**

MY NOTES