

## **Let's Pray right up front today**

There **are a number** of different ways  
I could teach these **32 vs's**

Because **there are a number** of  
GREAT **illustrations** here

but **the direction** I've chosen is (hopefully) **the one** that shows  
HOW a Great **Wall of Testimony** is built

& how **each & every** one of us  
**CAN** be **PART** of building that Wall

**Right** where God has **placed** us

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We've **spent 4 msg's** with Nehemiah now  
& in our **last msg** we watched Nehemiah

- 1) - **Inspect** the Work Privately
- 2) - **Count** the Cost Clearly
- 3) - **Call** the People to Begin to Rebuild the **Wall of Testimony**

& **remember** how he did it –in **Neh 2:17**  
(from the **ESV** so we can see the 3<sup>rd</sup> “**WE**”)

### **Neh 2:17 – ESV**

***17 Then I said to them, “You see the trouble WE are in, how Jerusalem lies in ruins with its gates burned. Come, let US build the wall of Jerusalem, that WE may no longer suffer derision.”***

& so - after Nehemiah had gone thru  
all the preparation God had for him

finally – he CALLED the people  
to BEGIN Rebuilding the Wall of Testimony

& building that Wall – had become  
Nehemiah's SOLE PASSION - His INTENSE BURDEN

Because those around Jerusalem  
were mocking God's people, and thereby God

because of the dilapidated condition  
of the wall surrounding the City of God

but guys - Now, WE are the Wall of Testimony for God  
& far too often – the world is MOCKING US

how often does the unbelieving world point to the Scandals  
& the Infighting & the Hypocrisy in the church today

& say *“Man, if that's what the church is about,  
why would I want ANY part of that?”*

If WE - are the Wall of testimony - to the unbelieving world?  
the Question is - - - *How are we doing?*

Are we BUILDING one another UP  
in order to be a strong testimony TOGETHER?

Or is our testimony to the world  
mostly weak & maybe even worthy of mocking?

We ARE the Wall of Testimony

& our testimony **CAN** be Strong  
& it **CAN** bring Glory to God

**but in order** for that to happen  
we have **GOT** to **BUILD** one another **UP**

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We've **talked a lot** about building a **Wall of Testimony**  
but **today** I need to make one **critical TRUTH** very clear

**WE** - Each One of Us  
Our **individual LIVES** all put together

**WE** are the **Wall** of **the testimony of God**  
in the World today

**WE** – are the **Living Stones**  
that are being **BUILT UP** together – to **bring Glory** to God

& **God** has fashioned **each one of us**  
to **fit perfectly** in the **Wall of Testimony** that He is building

Turn over to **1 Pet Ch 2** for me . . .

### **1Pet 2:1-5 & 9 – ESV**

**1 So** (*therefore* – because you have been Born Again) **put away all malice** (intent to do harm) **and all deceit** (to catch with bait) **and hypocrisy** (to judge behind a mask) **and envy** (jealousy) **and all slander** (defaming, speaking against a person).

**2 Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up into salvation—**

**3 if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.**

**4 As you come to him, a living stone rejected by men but in the sight of God chosen and precious,**

**5 you yourselves like living stones are being built up as a spiritual**

*house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.*

...

**9 But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.**

Guys **WE ARE** that Living **Wall of testimony**

& we are **CALLED** to **Build** one another **UP** as a Spiritual House

**so that** we can (together) **proclaim the excellencies** of Him who called us **OUT** of the darkness & **INTO** the Light

**We are called to BUILD one another UP into a Spiritual House to strengthen & establish one another to edify one another to carry one another's burdens**

**SO THAT** we can be **built** into a *spiritual house* (Wall) to bring **Glory to God** - in an unbelieving world

**THAT** is what we are called to  
& **THAT** is the **great illustration** we see in **Nehemiah CH 3**

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Nehemiah Ch 3 lists **42 sections**  
of the **Wall of Testimony** being **REPAIRED** & **REBUILT**

& **each section** was **assigned** to a **different group**

& the **only way** this Wall was going to bring **Glory to God** was for **each person** to build their section in **UNITY**

With **ONE common purpose** & ONE **common commitment**  
but with **42 SEPARATE** sections  
being built **ALL** at once

The **CRITICS** came  
The **GRUMBLERS** infiltrated  
The **OPPOSITION** worked against God's people

But the **wall was built** by the people of God  
who **JOINED** in Common **Purpose** & in **Unity**

In order to **BECOME - a Testimony** to the unbelieving world

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NOW - if we were to just **follow Nehemiah's** listing  
of all those who **built the wall**  
we would actually **take a TOUR** all around the wall

## **PUT UP MAP**

& we could see it **rebuilt in our minds**  
from the **Sheep Gate**, all the way around, & back to the **Sheep Gate**

& I **could've** put a **msg** together  
Just **About** the **Gates** & the **Geography**

& what **each gate meant** at that time  
& what **each gate illustrates** to us today

but - I **believe** there's a more **TIMELY msg**  
for us today in **Nehemiah Ch 3**

**The Message** I believe we need to see today  
is that it **took** Everyone **UNITED** to **build the wall**

**Each person** building **the section** given to them

**Each person** building up the **wall** in their **own lives**  
& then **joining together** with every other believer  
**to form** a miraculous **testimony** to God

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So – **here's how** we're going to **approach it** today

I've **broken** the **Ch** down into the **different groups**  
who helped **BUILD** the wall

& **EACH group** speaks to **different people** here – *in our Jerusalem*  
as we **step up** – to **BUILD** the Wall - *HERE*

### **THE GROUPS:**

**Priests & Leaders**

**Those from Surrounding Areas**

**The Craftsmen/Businessmen**

**The “every” Person**

**Those in front of their Own House**

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### **1<sup>st</sup> – The Priests & the Leaders**

**Neh Ch 3** starts with the **Priests**  
*Rebuilding & Dedicating* the Sheep Gate

### **Neh 3:1 - NLT**

***1 Then Eliashib the high priest and the other priests started to rebuild at the Sheep Gate. They dedicated it and set up its doors,***

***building the wall as far as the Tower of the Hundred, which they dedicated, and the Tower of Hananel.***

The **Priests** began – Leading **by Example**  
which is **critically important**

**those** who are called to **intercede** for the people  
must **get down** in the **trenches** & **get dirty** with the people

**Jesus** set this example for us – as our **great high priest**  
**coming** to us in the **form** of a **servant leader**

& **anyone** who believes they are **called to lead** God's People  
**MUST** follow Jesus' example

& Jesus' Example is **ALWAYS** - - **SERVANT Leadership**

& notice – the **Priests started** building - at the **Sheep gate**

This is **where** the **lambs** would be brought in  
to be **prepared for sacrifice**

This gate **symbolizes Jesus Christ**, as our **sacrificial Lamb**  
& The Re-Building **STARTS** here - & it will **END** here

at **the Sheep** Gate – which is a “**picture**” of **Jesus Christ**

**1Cor 3:11 – ESV**

***11 For no one can lay a foundation other than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ.***

There is **NO other foundation** - on which we can **build**  
**ANY kind** of Testimony to God – **AMEN ?**

& also – Here at the Beginning - the Priests also Dedicate the Rebuilding of the wall

Consecrating (setting apart) the entire project to God  
Right *from the beginning*

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But it's not just these Priests  
who joined in the work

let's look at the other Priests - & Leaders  
who took KEY Roles in Rebuilding the Wall of Testimony

### Neh Ch 3 – NLT

**9 Rephaiah son of Hur, the leader of half the district of Jerusalem, was next to them on the wall.**

**12 Shallum son of Hallohesh (notice) and his daughters repaired the next section. He was the leader of the other half of the district of Jerusalem.**

**14 The Dung Gate was repaired by Malkijah son of Recab, the leader of the Beth-hakkerem district. He rebuilt it, set up its doors, and installed its bolts and bars.**

**15 The Fountain Gate was repaired by Shallum son of Col-hozeh, the leader of the Mizpah district. He rebuilt it, roofed it, set up its doors, and installed its bolts and bars. Then he repaired the wall of the pool of Siloam near the king's garden, and he rebuilt the wall as far as the stairs that descend from the City of David.**

**16 Next to him was Nehemiah son of Azbuk, the leader of half the district of Beth-zur. He rebuilt the wall from a place across from the tombs of David's family as far as the water reservoir and the House of the Warriors.**



**17 Next to him, repairs were made by a group of Levites working under the supervision of Rehum son of Bani. Then came Hashabiah, the leader of half the district of Keilah, who supervised the building of the wall on behalf of his own district.**

**18 Next down the line were his countrymen led by Binnui son of Henadad, the leader of the other half of the district of Keilah.**

**19 Next to them, Ezer son of Jeshua, the leader of Mizpah, repaired another section (their 2<sup>nd</sup> section) of wall across from the ascent to the armory near the angle in the wall.**

**24 Next was Binnui son of Henadad (same as V.18), who rebuilt another section of the wall (his 2<sup>nd</sup> section) from Azariah's house to the angle and the corner.**

**LOOK at all the Leaders & Priests REQUIRED for the Wall of Testimony to be built**

**Nehemiah was (By Far) NOT the only Leader involved in this project of God**

He needed many, many other Leaders & Priests to build the Wall

& that is true in EVERY Testimony Built for God

We Need those who will LEAD – TO Lead

& We Need those who will Represent the People to get down in the trenches - & WORK

& we Thank God for every Leader here who is joining in Building THIS Wall

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So – 1<sup>st</sup> we looked at the **Priests & Leaders**  
& **now** we look at . . .

## **#2 – People From Surrounding Areas**

### **Neh Ch 3 - NLT**

**2 People from the town of Jericho worked next to them, and beyond them was Zaccur son of Imri.**

**5 Next were the people from Tekoa, though their leaders refused to work with the construction supervisors.**

**7 Next to them were Melatiah from Gibeon, Jadon from Meronoth, people from Gibeon, and people from Mizpah, the headquarters of the governor of the province west of the Euphrates River. (not even in Judah)**

**13 The Valley Gate was repaired by the people from Zanoah, led by Hanun. They set up its doors and installed its bolts and bars. They also repaired the 1,500 feet of wall to the Dung Gate.**

**22 The next repairs were made by the priests from the surrounding region.**

**27 Then came the people of Tekoa, who repaired another section (their 2<sup>nd</sup> section, without their leaders) **across from the great projecting tower and over to the wall of Ophel.****

**All these people came from outside Jerusalem to join in building the Wall of Testimony**

& guys - there are **MANY here** in Nuevo that have been **SENT by God** - to **join** the work here

they're coming from the surrounding communities  
to put their life into the work of God here

& we appreciate them greatly - & we need them

There is a group of praying women in this church  
that are still here - & still praying

& when my family & I came here 8 yrs ago  
they told me very specifically

they had been praying for 13 YEARS  
that God would send workers into this community

& we are STILL praying that  
& God is STILL doing that

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**OK - We've seen:**

- 1) Priests & Leaders BUILDING
- 2) People from Surrounding Areas BUILDING . . . & now

### **#3 – The Craftsmen/Businessmen**

#### **Neh Ch 3 - NLT**

**8 Next was Uzziel son of Harhaiah, a goldsmith by trade, who also worked on the wall. Beyond him was Hananiah, a manufacturer of perfumes. They left out (ESV - restored) a section of Jerusalem as they built the Broad Wall.**

**31 Malkijah, one of the goldsmiths, repaired the wall as far as the housing for the Temple servants and merchants, across from the Inspection Gate. Then he continued as far as the upper room at the corner.**

**32 The other goldsmiths and merchants repaired the wall from that corner to the Sheep Gate.** (that's the LAST vs – back to Sheep Gate)

These are **businessmen** – **tradesmen**

who **sacrificed their time** from **running** their businesses to be a **part** of building the **Wall of Testimony**

**Maybe** - because they **knew** their **businesses** were **temporary**

& so they **took** some of their **time** & **energy** to **build something** for God – that was **ETERNAL**

& we **ALSO** – have **these people** building with us

**& there** are **some things** that the **Craftsmen** & **Businessmen** can do that **no one else** can really do

& we **THANK GOD** – for **these** people – **building** the Wall **with us**

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**Next** – we see

#### **#4 - The “Every” Person**

This is a GREAT group of people

**these** are people who have  
NO **Designation** – NO **Title** – NO **Position**

They are **people of God** – who **simply** want to be a **POSITIVE part** of Building the **Wall of Testimony**

& I **thank God** **Sooo** much for **everyone** of these people here

They don't even need to **Be Recognized**  
They don't need a **Title** or **Position**  
They just want to **Serve the Lord** - & **BUILD** the wall

### **Neh Ch 3 - NLT**

**3** *The Fish Gate was built by the sons of Hassenaah. They laid the beams, set up its doors, and installed its bolts and bars.*

**4** *Meremoth son of Uriah and grandson of Hakkoz repaired the next section of wall. Beside him were Meshullam son of Berekiah and grandson of Meshezabel, and then Zadok son of Baana.*

**6** *The Old City Gate was repaired by Joiada son of Paseah and Meshullam son of Besodeiah. They laid the beams, set up its doors, and installed its bolts and bars.*

**11** *Then came Malkijah son of Harim and Hasshub son of Pahathmoab , who repaired another section of the wall (his 2<sup>nd</sup> section) and the Tower of the Ovens.*

**21** *Meremoth son of Uriah and grandson of Hakkoz rebuilt another section of the wall (2<sup>nd</sup> section, v.4) extending from the door of Eliashib's house to the end of the house.*

**25** *Palal son of Uzai carried on the work from a point opposite the angle and the tower that projects up from the king's upper house beside the court of the guard. Next to him were Pedaiah son of Parosh,*

**26** *with the Temple servants living on the hill of Ophel, who repaired the wall as far as a point across from the Water Gate to the east and the projecting tower.*

These are ALL - the **UNTITLED** – **UNPOSITIONED** Servants of God

**Who just STEP-UP & say**

Man - I just **WANT** to **SERVE GOD**

I just want to be **PART** of Building the **Wall of Testimony**

& **WE** – **LOVE** these people – **THANK YOU** very much

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& Now – **before we get** to the **last**

& maybe **most important** group

let's look at a couple **Honorable** AND **DIShonorab**le mentions

**HONORABLE MENTION**

**20** *Next to him was Baruch son of Zabbai, who zealously repaired an additional section from the angle to the door of the house of Eliashib the high priest.*

The word **ZEALOUSLY** means

***to have a deep concern, or an eager desire***

& **Baruch** gets an **Honorable mention** from Nehemiah

because of his **EAGER DESIRE** – his **PASSION**

to **rebuild** his portion of the wall – **& I LOVE** that !!

**PLUS** – thru-out this list we see **6 groups** listed

who actually **Rebuilt MORE** than **One Section** of the Wall

& **I've been** trying to **point them out** as we go

**I just wonder** if these people (who went the extra mile)

were **doing** what many **servants in the church** do today

When they **don't see anyone** else stepping up

they **go ahead** & take on **additional burdens**

which is **Great of them** to do that

but **really** - it'd be **better** if there were **More BUILDERS**  
so that **no one** had to do "**Double Duty**"

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& then – there are actually **TWO**  
**DISHONORABLE Mentions** in this list

The 1<sup>st</sup> one is "**between the lines**" in the **1<sup>st</sup> Vs**

Because **Eliashib** (the High Priest) will **later**  
**turn against** Nehemiah - & **help out** the enemy (Ch 13)

The other **DISHonorable** mention is in **Neh 3:5**

### **Neh 3:5 – ESV**

***5 And next to them the Tekoites repaired, but their nobles  
(leaders) would not stoop to serve their Lord.***

I like the way **the ESV** puts this  
**because** here we **have leaders** . . .

Who **felt** that **working like this** for the Lord was **BENEATH** them  
they would **not STOOP** to **serve** the Lord

& **believe** me – **they** are the ones who **lost out** in that deal !

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So – the **Priests & Leaders** Built

The **People** from the **Surrounding Areas** Built

The **Craftsmen/Businessmen** Built

The **People** with No **Specific Designation** Built

& **FINALLY** . . . We focus on those who built . . .

## **#5 – Across From their House**

**As We read** these Vs's – **notice Carefully** the words  
***“Across from his house”***

**which** we might say is ***“In FRONT of his house”***

**10** Next Jedaiah son of Harumaph repaired the wall **across from his own house**, and next to him was Hattush son of Hashabneiah.

**23** After them, Benjamin and Hasshub repaired the section **across from their house**, and Azariah son of Maaseiah and grandson of Ananiah repaired the section **across from his house**.

**28** Above the Horse Gate, **the priests** repaired the wall. Each one repaired the section **immediately across from his own house**.

**29** Next Zadok son of Immer also rebuilt the wall **across from his own house**, and beyond him was Shemaiah son of Shecaniah, the gatekeeper of the East Gate.

**30** Next Hananiah son of Shelemiah and Hanun, the sixth son of Zalaph, **repaired another section** (his 2<sup>nd</sup> section) , while Meshullam son of Berekiah rebuilt the wall **across from where he lived** (Lit - his Chamber).

**Alan Redpath** – in his incredible **book** on Nehemiah deals **ONLY** with these who built ***“in front of their own houses”***

& he **writes an entire CH** on JUST these Vs's

**WHY?** – because & we've **got to begin**  
**where** it matters most – in **our own homes**



**We would PREFER** – 100 times over  
that **you** build a **Wall of Testimony** in your *own home*

**Rather** than come & **build** some **PUBLIC wall** in this ministry

**PLEASE** – build the **Wall of Testimony** in your own home **FIRST**

. . . & **what** does that **look like??**

**It starts with PRAYER**

Praying *WITH* your family, Praying *FOR* your family

**Then – It grows with BIBLE READING**

*Devotional* reading, and Bible *Study*

**& Then – It develops into WORSHIP**

& I *don't mean* Singing, as much as I mean . . .

the **clear understanding** in your home

that **Jesus Christ is LORD** of your home

That He is **Worshiped** there

That His **Commands** are **Followed** there

That **Jesus Christ** is **looked to** in *EVERY situation*,

for *EVERY need* that exists in your home

**PRAYER**

**BIBLE READING**

**A LIFESTYLE OF WORSHIP**

**THAT** – will build a **Wall of Testimony** around your house

& that (BY FAR) is the **Most Important Wall** of Testimony  
that any of us – will **EVER** be called to **build**

**& I promise you;**

if you are trying to build a **PUBLIC** Testimony  
**without FIRST** building a **PRIVATE** Testimony in your own home

**Please stop** your public efforts, and **build AT HOME FIRST**

Because your **Public Testimony** will **FAIL**  
if you do not have a strong **Private Testimony** at **HOME**

The **most Important place** to build a **Strong Wall** of Testimony  
Is in our **Own Homes**

Lets **NEVER Forget** that

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**To close** – let me explain something very critical

To **REBUILD** the Wall of Testimony around Jerusalem  
(besides the Lunber) **NO NEW Material** was needed

the builders **HAD** all the material they **needed** at their disposal

A **Great Scottish preacher** from the early 1900's – George Morrison  
is quoted here by **Warren Weirsbe**

**George Morrison:**

***“For this restoration no new material was needed (besides the lumber). In the debris of the ruined masonry lay all the material required . . . and it seems to me that is always so when the walls of [God] are rebuilt.”***

And then **Warren Weirsbe** himself comments:

**Warren Weirsbe:**

***“It is not by inventing clever new things that we take away the church’s reproach, but by going back to the old truths that made the church great in ages past. They lie like stones in the dust, waiting for some burdened Nehemiah to recover them and use them”***

Guys, **I promise** you, **THAT** describes  
**our refocus** on **Making Disciples** around here

& **THAT** is why **the enemy** is working so hard,  
from the **outside** AND from the **inside** - - **to stop us**

**The command** to **GO & Make Disciples** goes back  
to the **Beginning** of the **NT** church

In fact it **WAS the beginning** command  
**Making Disciples** is the **oldest truth** of the N.T. church

Because **WE**, are **the Living Stones**, that are being **built up**  
as the **Wall of testimony** – to bring **Glory to God**

& **that is happening** – Right **HERE** – Right **NOW**  
& we are absolutely **THRILLED** about it

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I **took some time** yesterday & **listed** the names  
of the people that **I KNOW**

**Who** are **Actively** working at **BUILDING** the **Wall of Testimony**  
here in our **little church**

& **guys** – that list had **well over 60 names** on it

Over 60 people – who are giving a substantial portion of their lives to BUILD a Testimony to God in this little place

OVER 60 people, that we CANNOT do without

OVER 60 people who - week in & week out are building up other Living Stones, into a Wall of Testimony

& We thank God for EVERY ONE of those 60 + people  
Who are building the Wall with us

We Love you – We Appreciate you  
& We can't build the Wall without you

& our prayer is – that EVERY person who sits in this room will be an ACTIVE Part

of Building the Wall of Testimony to God in this place

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& then – I made a list of people who I know are actively Tearing Down this ministry

& you know what – INSIDE the church, there is only ONE person I know of that is Actively Tearing Down this ministry

& that's NOT too bad – that's 60/1 odds

It still kills me to know that there is even One Person who is actively sowing dissention & damage into your lives

But - knowing there are over 60 people Actively Sacrificing to build a Wall of Testimony for God in this place

Is VERY, very - reassuring

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Here's the Deal:

*Some people are constructionists, helping to get the job done.*

*Others are destructionists, busy tearing things down.*

*A third group is the obstructionists who just 'get in the way'  
of the people trying to do the work.*

**The Question is - Which group are you in?**

**Every One of us CAN experience the JOY  
of being part of God's Eternal Work**

I **promise** you - **our lives** find their **ultimate meaning**  
when we are **building** the **Wall** of God's **Testimony**

**Most Importantly - In our homes**

& then - **Around** our homes – in our neighborhoods

& then - As **Craftsmen** – at our Jobs

& then - As **Living Stones** in our Church . . .

**Building** one another up & **Joining together** in Unity

to form a **Miraculous Testimony** for God  
to an **Unbelieving** world

**PLEASE** – BE a **CONstructionist**  
**building up** the Wall of Testimony

& if you **realize today** – that you are a **DEstructionist**,  
**tearing down** the work of God

Or if you are an **Obstructionist**,  
**getting in the way** of the work of God

Please . . . **REPENT** – Ask God to **Forgive** you

& **TURN** from working **AGAINST God's people**  
to working **in UNITY** with God's people

**BE** an Active **PART** – of **BUILDING** the **Wall of Testimony**  
To the **Glory of God**

**Let's Pray**