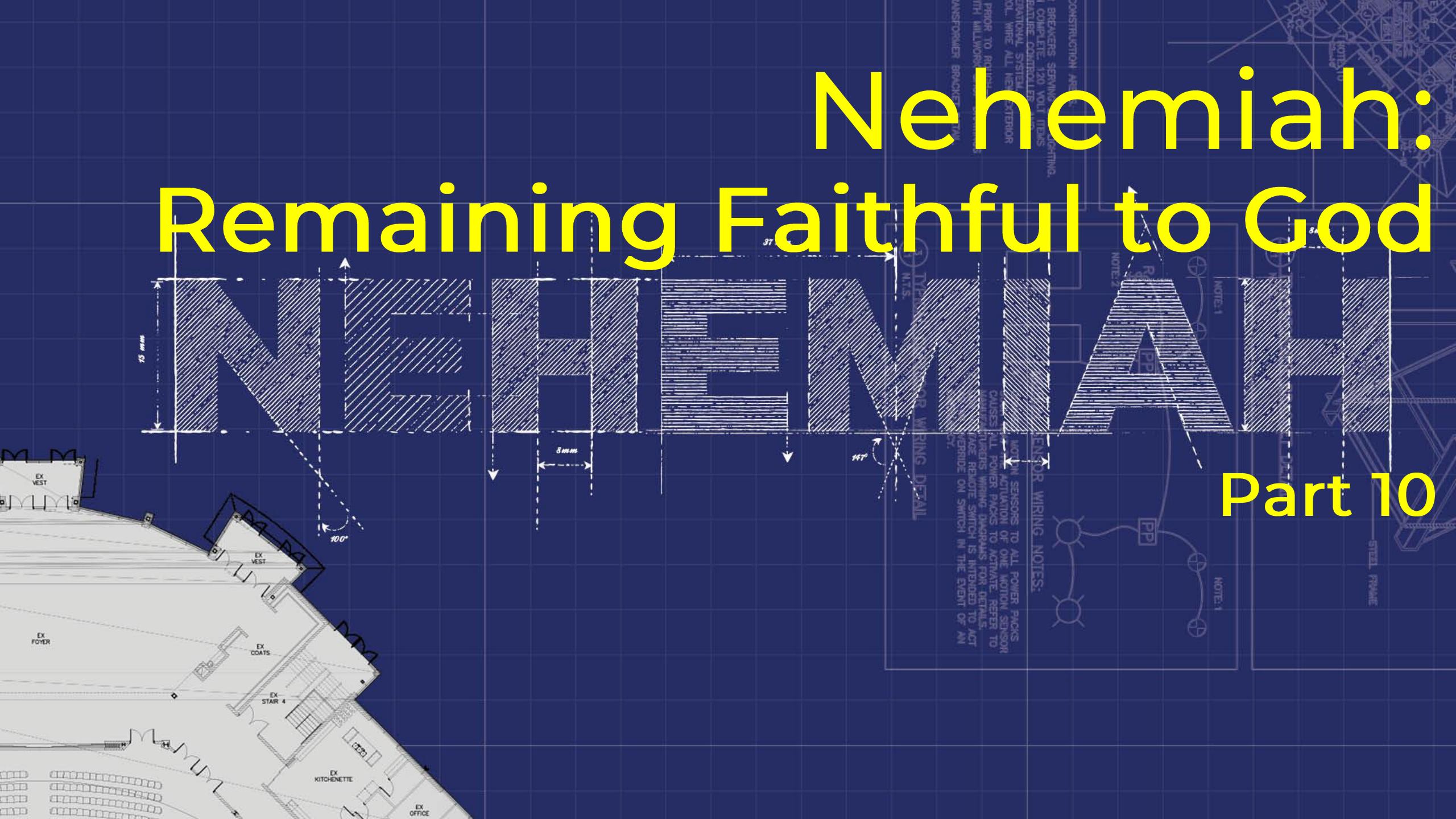


Nehemiah: Remaining Faithful to God

Part 10



A. Broken Promises

- The Israelites of Jerusalem made four promises to God. They actually signed a covenant to obey God and His Word
- They promised to submit to God's Word

A. Broken Promises

- They promised to live in a manner that is distinct from the surrounding norms, not to intermarry
- They promised to observe the Sabbath
- They promised to take care of God's house – the temple

A. Broken Promises

- Nehemiah 13:4,5
- Elisshib – the priest allow Tobiah to have rooms in the temple
- Tobiah personally criticized, attacked and assaulted Nehemiah during the rebuilding of the walls

A. Broken Promises

- Nehemiah 13:10-13
- The people of Jerusalem were no longer making provision for the operation of the temple
- The Levites and singers had returned to their fields in order to provide for their families.

A. Broken Promises

- Malachi 3:8-10, Acts 20:35, Luke 6:38, Matthew 6:24, 2 Corinthians 8:7
- Giving ought to be an integral part of a believers life. Generosity is not simply an event, but a lifestyle

A. Broken Promises

- Nehemiah 13:23-27
- Regardless of their promise, the people continued to intermarry
- 2 Corinthians 6:14-18

Pertaining to the Sabbath –

- Nehemiah 13:15-17
- Regarding Sabbath- In Old Testament times the Sabbath was celebrated on the last day of the week, Friday sunset to Saturday sunset. Jewish custom was and still is to observe the Sabbath day on Saturday.
Old Testament regulation
- Numbers 15:32-36
- Matthew 12:1-12

Pertaining to the Sabbath –

- Sunday worship was practiced by the believers of the early church. This New Testament practice began soon after Christ rose from the dead, in honor of the Lord's resurrection, which took place on a Sunday, first of the week.
- Acts 20:7,2
- Corinthians 16:1,2

Pertaining to the Sabbath –

- The truth is, it's not about Saturday or Sunday, it is about observing the Sabbath
- Romans 14:5,6
- Colossians 2:16,17
- Sabbath is setting apart a day out of seven for feasting and resting and worship and play. It is a gift, not a burden and if neglected, your soul is in jeopardy of becoming hard and dry.

Pertaining to the Sabbath –

- Sabbath is rooted in God own rhythm of work and rest. It is a gift for our sanity and wholeness, to prolong our lives, to enrich our relationships, to increase our fruitfulness, to make our joy complete.

B. How to Remain faithful to God

- Turn your commitment into your conviction
- A belief is something you argue about. A conviction is something you are willing to die for.
- It is our conviction that determines our conduct.

B. How to Remain faithful to God

- Convictions must always begin with an unwavering commitment to the Word of God
- Convictions must be based on the truth of God's Word

Scriptures

Nehemiah 13:4-5

4 Now before this, Eliashib the priest, having authority over the storerooms of the house of our God, was allied with Tobiah. 5 And he had prepared for him a large room, where previously they had stored the grain offerings, the frankincense, the articles, the tithes of grain, the new wine and oil, which were commanded to be given to the Levites and singers and gatekeepers, and the offerings for the priests.

Nehemiah 13:10-13

10 I also realized that the portions for the Levites had not been given them; for each of the Levites and the singers who did the work had gone back to his field. 11 So I contended with the rulers, and said, “Why is the house of God forsaken?” And I gathered them together and set them in their place. 12 Then all Judah brought the tithe of the grain and the new wine and the oil to the storehouse.

Nehemiah 13:10-13

13 And I appointed as treasurers over the storehouse Shelemiah the priest and Zadok the scribe, and of the Levites, Pedaiah; and next to them was Hanan the son of Zaccur, the son of Mattaniah; for they were considered faithful, and their task was to distribute to their brethren.

Malachi 3:8-10

8 Will a man rob God? Yet you have robbed Me! But you say, 'In what way have we robbed You?' In tithes and offerings. 9 You are cursed with a curse, For you have robbed Me, Even this whole nation. 10 Bring all the tithes into the storehouse, That there may be food in My house, And try Me now in this," Says the LORD of hosts, "If I will not open for you the windows of heaven And pour out for you such blessing That there will not be room enough to receive it

Acts 20:35

35 I have shown you in every way, by laboring like this, that you must support the weak. And remember the words of the Lord Jesus, that He said, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.' ”

Luke 6:38

38 Give, and it will be given to you: good measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over will be put into your bosom. For with the same measure that you use, it will be measured back to you.”

Matthew 6:24

24 “No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will be loyal to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon.

2 Corinthians 8:7

7 But as you abound in everything—in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in all diligence, and in your love for us—see that you abound in this grace also.

Nehemiah 13:23-27

23 In those days I also saw Jews who had married women of Ashdod, Ammon, and Moab. 24 And half of their children spoke the language of Ashdod, and could not speak the language of Judah, but spoke according to the language of one or the other people. 25 So I contended with them and [a]cursed them, struck some of them and pulled out their hair, and made them swear by God, saying, "You shall not give your daughters as wives to their sons, nor take their daughters for your sons or yourselves."

Nehemiah 13:23-27

26 Did not Solomon king of Israel sin by these things? Yet among many nations there was no king like him, who was beloved of his God; and God made him king over all Israel. Nevertheless pagan women caused even him to sin. 27 Should we then hear of your doing all this great evil, transgressing against our God by marrying pagan women?

2 Corinthians 6:14-18

14 Do not be unequally yoked together with unbelievers. For what fellowship has righteousness with lawlessness? And what communion has light with darkness? 15 And what accord has Christ with Belial? Or what part has a believer with an unbeliever? 16 And what agreement has the temple of God with idols? For you are the temple of the living God. As God has said: "I will dwell in them And walk among them. I will be their God, And they shall be My people."

2 Corinthians 6:14-18

17 Therefore “Come out from among them And be separate, says the Lord. Do not touch what is unclean, And I will receive you.” 18 “I will be a Father to you, And you shall be My sons and daughters, Says the LORD Almighty.”

Nehemiah 13:15-17

15 In those days I saw people in Judah treading winepresses on the Sabbath, and bringing in sheaves, and loading donkeys with wine, grapes, figs, and all kinds of burdens, which they brought into Jerusalem on the Sabbath day. And I warned them about the day on which they were selling provisions. 16 Men of Tyre dwelt there also, who brought in fish and all kinds of goods, and sold them on the Sabbath to the children of Judah, and in Jerusalem.

Nehemiah 13:15-17

17 Then I contended with the nobles of Judah, and said to them, “What evil thing is this that you do, by which you profane the Sabbath day?”

Numbers 15:32-36

32 Now while the children of Israel were in the wilderness, they found a man gathering sticks on the Sabbath day. 33 And those who found him gathering sticks brought him to Moses and Aaron, and to all the congregation. 34 They put him under guard, because it had not been explained what should be done to him. 35 Then the LORD said to Moses, "The man must surely be put to death; all the congregation shall stone him with stones outside the camp."

Numbers 15:32-36

36 So, as the LORD commanded Moses, all the congregation brought him outside the camp and stoned him with stones, and he died.

Matthew 12:1-12

1 At that time Jesus went through the grainfields on the Sabbath. And His disciples were hungry, and began to pluck heads of grain and to eat. 2 And when the Pharisees saw it, they said to Him, “Look, Your disciples are doing what is not lawful to do on the Sabbath!” 3 But He said to them, “Have you not read what David did when he was hungry, he and those who were with him: 4 how he entered the house of God and ate the showbread which was not lawful for him to eat, nor for those who were with him, but only for the priests?”

Matthew 12:1-12

5 Or have you not read in the law that on the Sabbath the priests in the temple [a]profane the Sabbath, and are blameless? 6 Yet I say to you that in this place there is One greater than the temple. 7 But if you had known what this means, 'I desire mercy and not sacrifice,' you would not have condemned the guiltless. 8 For the Son of Man is Lord even of the Sabbath." Healing on the Sabbath 9 Now when He had departed from there, He went into their synagogue.

Matthew 12:1-12

10 And behold, there was a man who had a withered hand. And they asked Him, saying, “Is it lawful to heal on the Sabbath?”—that they might accuse Him. 11 Then He said to them, “What man is there among you who has one sheep, and if it falls into a pit on the Sabbath, will not lay hold of it and lift it out? 12 Of how much more value then is a man than a sheep? Therefore it is lawful to do good on the Sabbath.

Acts 20:7

7 Now on the first day of the week, when the disciples came together to break bread, Paul, ready to depart the next day, spoke to them and continued his message until midnight.

2 Corinthians 16:1-2

1 Now concerning the collection for the saints, as I have given orders to the churches of Galatia, so you must do also: 2 On the first day of the week let each one of you lay something aside, storing up as he may prosper, that there be no collections when I come.

Romans 14:5-6

5 One person esteems one day above another; another esteems every day alike. Let each be fully convinced in his own mind. 6 He who observes the day, observes it to the Lord; and he who does not observe the day, to the Lord he does not observe it. He who eats, eats to the Lord, for he gives God thanks; and he who does not eat, to the Lord he does not eat, and gives God thanks.

Colossians 2:16-17

16 So let no one judge you in food or in drink, or regarding a festival or a new moon or Sabbaths,
17 which are a shadow of things to come, but the substance is of Christ.