

Nehemiah 2-4 - Sermon Notes - January 19, 2022

A MIND TO WORK

- Nehemiah was a man who had a burden to see something done about the broken condition of the city of Jerusalem
- it was a season of learning to wait upon the direction of the Lord
 - he took 4 months to pray, and at the right time, God opened the door
 - what do you do when you are in the waiting room - PRAY!

NEHEMIAH ARRIVES AT JERUSALEM

1. (2.9-10) NEHEMIAH DELIVERS THE KING'S LETTERS TO THE GOVERNORS

- Nehemiah arrives after and gives God the credit - according to the good hand of my god upon me
- the first thing that he faces upon his arrival is the displeasure of the officials
- remember - our struggle is not with flesh and blood. Let's not get distracted by fighting the wrong battles

2. (2.11-15) SURVEYING THE BROKEN WALLS

- before talking to anybody, Nehemiah spent some time assessing the situation
 - this is what a good leader always does
- what are some of the walls in your life that you spend some time looking at?

3. (2.16-18) SHARING THE BURDEN

- he explains the situation, and then encourages the people to help
- he encourages them to get involved by recounting how the Lord had worked the whole situation out

4. (2.19-20) THE OUTSIDERS LAUGH AT THE THOUGHT OF REBUILDING THE WALLS

- the enemy will often use this to discourage us
 - be careful how you use joking around with someone about what God has called then to do

REPAIRING AND BUILDING THE WALLS

- here is the place where the work actually begins
- Here, we see a list of the people who worked as well as the locations in which they worked. Thirty-eight men are listed in eight different locations. They usually worked

closest to their own homes—the place any work we do for the kingdom must begin—because if it doesn't work at home, it won't work at all.

1. (3.1-2) THE SHEEP GATE

- the gate where shepherds brought their flocks to sell them

2. (3.3-5) THE FISH GATE

- this gate got its name because of the nearby fish market

- there is a place of ministry for everyone who has a mind to work

- there were some who wouldn't lift a finger to do anything

- that's why things like our families, our churches, and our communities are in such trouble today. Many see the need for something to be done, but aren't willing to do anything about it

3. (3.6-12) THE OLD GATE

- the Old gate was where the elders of the city would meet to discuss community matters and settle disputes

- couple of interesting points here

- several leaders are mentioned as being involved
- people who weren't really builders - they had other occupations - were also helping
 - What does that say about the often used excuse not to get involved - "That's not my ministry," to, "I don't feel called to that?"
- the women got involved too
- notice in v. [10](#) - the best place to start the work = your house

4. (3.13) THE VALLEY GATE

5. (3.14) THE REFUSE GATE

6. (3.15-25) THE FOUNTAIN GATE

7. (3.26-27) THE WATER GATE

- it was at this gate that Ezra built the platform and read the Word ([Nehemiah 8.1](#))

8. (3.28-30) THE HORSE GATE

9. (3.31-32) THE MIPHKAD GATE

ATTACKS OF THE ENEMY

- the enemy knows what we are doing and will be quick to fight us. Expect opposition, and be ready for it. Note the different weapons that the enemy used then and still uses today.

1. (4.1-6) MOCKING

- the intent was to ridicule and belittle the work so that that the people would just quit
 - they had no legal authority to stop the work, so they tried to discourage them
- the response for discouragement and fear = PRAYER

2. (4.7-9) FEAR AND INTIMIDATION

3. (4.10-23)

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