

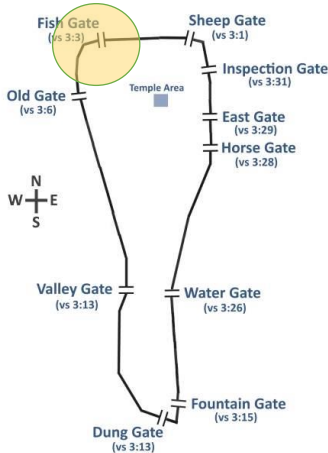


Offer Hope. Grow in Community. Be the Church.

September 18, 2022
Nehemiah 3-4:5 The Rebuilding Begins
Pastor Randy Brainard



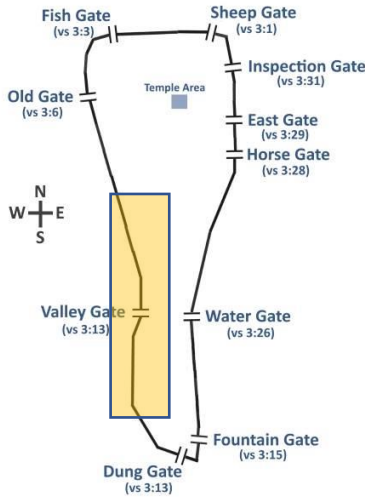
Jerusalem's Walls & Gates
In the days of Nehemiah (Nehemiah Chapter 3)



Who repaired the fish gate?

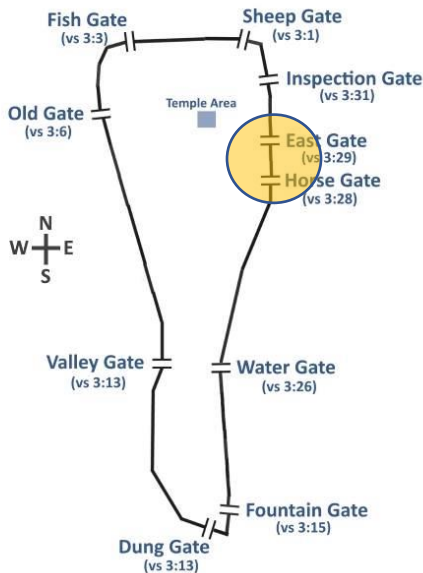
How are the nobles of Tekoa remembered?

Jerusalem's Walls & Gates In the days of Nehemiah (Nehemiah Chapter 3)



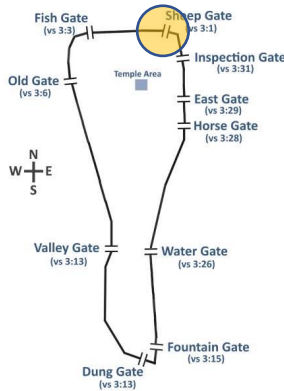
Describe the teams working in this area.

Jerusalem's Walls & Gates In the days of Nehemiah (Nehemiah Chapter 3)



How did Nehemiah use good leadership in assigning these jobs?

Jerusalem's Walls & Gates In the days of Nehemiah (Nehemiah Chapter 3)



How would you describe the people working in this corner?

Instead of a list of forgotten names and boring construction projects, Nehemiah 3 reveals...

1. It was an incredible feat of organization.
2. The people were completely dedicated and worked hard (52 days).
3. Archaeologists love Nehemiah 3.
4. Each group (family, workmates, same town...) participated to make it happen.

We as Christians are called to organize, dedicate ourselves and join forces in the same way.

*So, Christ Himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ.
(Ephesians 4:11-13)*

Big Idea: An Invitation...To Godly Suffering
Nehemiah 4:1-5
Pastor Kevin Mason

Why would all these people be committed to rebuilding the wall?

Come, let us rebuild the wall of Jerusalem, and we will no longer be in disgrace. (Nehemiah 2:17)

Dear friends, I urge you, as foreigners and exiles, to abstain from sinful desires, which wage war against your soul. Live such good lives among the pagans that, though they accuse you of doing wrong, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day he visits us. (1 Peter 2:11-12)

“But he did not leave us there, little isolated agents of grace, running our own ‘random acts of kindness’ campaign. No, he gave us his bride, the Church- his Church – to which we who believe are called to make a covenant of membership, to become a family, to be both set apart from and missionally placed in the world, to take care in a daily way our brothers and sisters in Christ, to receive instruction and rebuke when needed, to support the pastor and elders in church discipline, to act like a visible family of God and to draw others who do not yet know the pricey love of God into our homes, families and churches.” (Rosaria Butterfield)

But if you suffer for doing good and you endure it, this is commendable before God. To this you were called, because Christ suffered for you, leaving you an example, that you should follow in his steps. “He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth.” When they hurled their insults at him, he did not retaliate; when he suffered, he made no threats. Instead, he entrusted himself to him who judges justly. “He himself bore our sins” in his body on the cross, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; “by his wounds you have been healed.” For “you were like sheep going astray,” but now you have returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls. (1 Peter 2:21-25)

Encouragement #1: Joy in Him will grow

Dear friends, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that has come on you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. But rejoice inasmuch as you participate in the sufferings of Christ, so that you may be overjoyed when his glory is revealed. – (1 Peter 4:12-13)

Encouragement #2: You are not alone

Be alert and of sober mind. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. 9 Resist him, standing firm in the faith, because you know that the family of believers throughout the world is undergoing the same kind of sufferings. (1 Peter 5:8-9)

Encouragement #3: We have an Inheritance

Finally, all of you, be like-minded, be sympathetic, love one another, be compassionate and humble. Do not repay evil with evil or insult with insult. On the contrary, repay evil with blessing, because to this you were called so that you may inherit a blessing. (1 Peter 3:8-9)

HOME GROUP Questions ...

1. What do we do when we are insulted?
2. When you suffer for doing good, how do you keep moving forward?
3. How does one stay in the footsteps of Christ and follow God's will no matter what?
4. What can we learn from taking insults yet remaining strong in the faith?