

Nehemiah 3

Living Stones

- **God compels** Nehemiah to leave Persia and rebuild Jerusalem
- **Nehemiah prays:** God touches heart of Pagan king
- **Nehemiah sent to City of David. Enemies get wind of what God is doing**

Nehemiah 2:10b...they were deeply disturbed that a man had come to seek the well-being of the children of Israel.

- Nehemiah views damaged walls Jerusalem at night with few good men
- **View:** Probing a wound to evaluate extent of damage for purpose of healing

Nehemiah 2:13...viewed the walls of Jerusalem which were broken down and its gates which were burned with fire.

- **Waits for God's direction** before revealing plans...

Nehemiah 2:18 [Then] I told them of the hand of my God which had been good upon me, and also of the king's words that he had spoken to me. So they said, "Let us rise up and build." **Then they set their hands to this good work.**

- **But...**

Nehemiah 2:19 ...when Sanballat the Horonite, Tobiah the Ammonite official, and Geshem the Arab heard of it, they laughed at us and despised us, and said...

"What is this thing that you are doing? Will you rebel against the king?"

- God sent me to do a work/You have not part in it

Opposition to the work of God...Count on it

- **Fast forward 500 years...**

1. Jesus has lived/suffered/died/risen from dead
2. Before ascending sends His Apostles to continue the work
3. Pharisees/Religious leaders "greatly annoyed" seeking good God's people

Opposition to the work of God...Count on it every time

Acts 4:13 [Read] Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were uneducated and untrained men, they marveled. And they realized that they had been with Jesus. 14 And seeing the man who had been healed standing with them, they could say nothing against it. 15 But when they had commanded them to go aside out of the council, they conferred among themselves, 16 saying, "What shall we do to these men? For, indeed, that a notable miracle has been done through them is evident to all who dwell in Jerusalem, and we cannot deny it. 17 But so that it **spreads no further** among the people, let us severely threaten them, that from now on they speak to no man in this name." 18 So they called them and commanded them not to speak at all nor teach in the name of Jesus. 19 But Peter and John answered and said to them, "Whether it is right in the sight of

God to listen to you more than to God, you judge. 20 For we cannot but speak the things which we have seen and heard." 21 So when they had further threatened them, they let them go, finding no way of punishing them, because of the people, since they all glorified God for what had been done. 22 For the man was over forty years old on whom this miracle of healing had been performed.

- Where God is working...opposition is sure to arise

1 Timothy 3:12 [Read] Yes, and **all who desire to live godly** in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution. 13 But evil men and impostors will grow worse and worse, deceiving and being deceived. 14 But you must continue in the things which you have learned and been assured of, knowing from whom you have learned them, 15 and that from childhood you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.

John 16:33 ... In the world **you will** have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world."

**Confrontation will be part of our Christian Experience
...if we are doing what God asks**

- **You will** suffer persecution
- **Your will** have tribulation but...

...When we display Boldness in the face of opposition
People will take note that we have been with Jesus

The fear of God is the death of every other fear... [Spurgeon]

I. Rebuilding the Wall: Gospel in the Gates

"Let us rise up and build."
Then they set their hands to this good work.

1 Then Eliashib the high priest rose up with his brethren the priests and built the **Sheep Gate**; they consecrated it and hung its doors.

- **OT:** Greater understanding of NT Spiritual Truths

Romans 15:4 ...whatever things were **written before** were written for our **learning**, that we through the patience and comfort of the Scriptures might have **hope**.

Luke 24:27 [Post-resurrection Bible study] ...beginning at Moses and all the Prophets, He expounded to them in **all the Scriptures the things concerning Himself**.

Hebrews 10:7 [Jesus to Father] 'Behold, I have come—In the **volume of the book it is written of Me**— To do Your will, O God.'"

OT is a physical representation of a NT truth. All speaks of Jesus
Every broken down gate that needs to be restored related to our relationship with Jesus

10 Gates total needing repair: Picture of our restoration in Christ

- **Sheep Gate:** Word of God describes people as sheep in need of a Shepherd
- **People like sheep wandering aimlessly:** No purpose/no direction

1 Peter 2:25 ...you were like **sheep going astray**, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

Matthew 9:36 ...when [Jesus] saw the multitudes, He was moved with compassion for them, because they were **weary and scattered**, like sheep having no shepherd.

Matthew 11:28 Come to Me all you who labor and are heavy laden and I will **give you rest**

- **Good Shepherd**

John 10:14 I am the **good shepherd**; and I know My sheep, and am known by My own.

Matthew 18:13 And if he should find it, assuredly, I say to you, he rejoices more over that sheep than over the ninety-nine that did not go astray.

Luke 15:20 [Read] "And he arose and came to his father. But when he was still a great way off, his father saw him and had compassion, and ran and fell on his neck and kissed him. 21 And the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and in your sight, and am no longer worthy to be called your son.' 22 "But the father said to his servants, 'Bring out the best robe and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand and sandals on his feet. 23 And bring the fatted calf here and kill it, and let us eat and be merry; 24 for this my son was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.' And they began to be merry.

- Sheep know Shepherds voice

John 10:2 ...the sheep hear his voice; and he calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. 4 And when he brings out his own sheep, he goes before them; and the sheep follow him, for they know his voice. 5 Yet they will by no means follow a stranger, but will flee from him, for they do not know the voice of strangers."

John 10:27 My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me.

- We are sheep who have found the Good Shepherd
- The Good Shepherd laid down His life for His sheep
- Jesus was also called a sheep

John 1:29 The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, "Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!"

John 10:11 "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd gives His life for the sheep.

John 10:15 ...I lay down My life for the sheep.

- Numbered with transgressors....though without sin

Isaiah 53:7 He was oppressed and He was afflicted, Yet He opened not His mouth; He was led as a lamb to the slaughter, And as a sheep before its shearers is silent, So He opened not His mouth.

- Jesus the Lamb of God gave His life to make a way

Jesus is the Sheep Gate: Only way for the Sheep to get to the Shepherd

- **There is only one way to God: Jesus is the Gate/Door**

John 10:7 "Most assuredly, I say to you, I am the door of the sheep. All who ever came before Me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not hear them."

- **Jesus is the Sheep Gate:** Only way to God

John 14:6 "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me."

- Jesus is the Shepherd, Jesus is Lamb of God...only way to God

Jesus is literally the Sheep Gate to God

- 500 years later Jesus would be at the pool near Sheep Gate Nehemiah would repair
- Repair is needed but not the gate...

John 5:5 [Pool by Sheep Gate in NT] Now a certain man was there who had an infirmity thirty-eight years. 6 When Jesus saw him lying there, and knew that he already had been in that condition a long time, He said to him, "**Do you want to be made well?**"

- **Sheep Gate need repair?:** Speaks of Good Shepherd Jesus who beckons us to come to Him

1b...They built as far as the Tower of the Hundred, and consecrated it, then as far as the Tower of Hananel. 2 Next to Eliashib the men of Jericho built. And next to them Zaccur the son of Imri built. 3 Also the sons of Hassenaah built the **Fish Gate**; they laid its beams and hung its doors with its bolts and bars. 4 And next to them Meremoth the son of Urijah, the son of Koz, made repairs. Next to them Meshullam the son of Berechiah, the son of Meshezabel, made repairs. Next to them Zadok the son of Baana made repairs. 5 Next to them the Tekoites made repairs; but their nobles did not put their shoulders to the work of their Lord.

- **Fish Gate:** Second gate

Matthew 4:18 "Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men."

Luke 5:10 [Jesus to Peter] "Do not be afraid. From now on you will catch men."

Mathew 28:19 Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age." Amen.

Acts 1:8 But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."

- Failure to witness will leave a "chink in the armor" of God

Ephesians 6:15 [Have your feet shod...] with the preparation of the gospel of peace

2 Corinthians 5:17... Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a **new creation** **20**... Now then, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were pleading through us: we implore you on Christ's behalf, be reconciled to God. **21** For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.

- **Job of Church:** Equip saints to go forth

Ephesians 4:12 [Gifts given for leaders to] equip...the saints for the work of ministry

- **Fish Gate need repair?** We are **commanded** to be fishers of men

6 Moreover Jehoiada the son of Paseah and Meshullam the son of Besodeiah repaired the **Old Gate**; they laid its beams and hung its doors, with its bolts and bars. 7 And next to them Melatiah the Gibeonite, Jadon the Meronothite, the men of Gibeon and Mizpah, repaired the residence of the governor of the region beyond the River.

- **Old Gate:** Third Gate

If it's new it's not true and if it's true it's not new

Jeremiah 6:16 Thus says the Lord: "Stand in the ways and see, And **ask for the old paths**, where the good way is, And walk in it; Then you will find rest for your souls. But they said, 'We will not walk in it.'

- Some neglect OT to their detriment...
- **Preached the Full Counsel of God NT and OT...**

Matthew 13:52 Then He said to them, "Therefore every scribe instructed concerning[g] the kingdom of heaven is like a householder who brings out of his treasure things **new and old.**"

- **Beauty of the Old Testament:** Thrill of finding Jesus on every page

Luke 24:27 [Post-resurrection Bible study] ...beginning at Moses and all the Prophets, He expounded to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning Himself.

Hebrews 10:7 [Jesus to Father] 'Behold, I have come—In the volume of the book it is written of Me— To do Your will, O God.'"

- **Old ways:** Tried and true ways
- **Old Gate need repair:** Eternality of Jesus in OT/NT. Same Yesterday Today, Forever

8 Next to [...the Gibeonite] Uzziel the son of Harhaiah, one of the **goldsmiths**, made repairs. Also next to him Hananiah, one of the **perfumers**, made repairs; and they **fortified Jerusalem** as far as the Broad Wall.9 And next to them **Rephaiah** the son of Hur, leader of half the district of Jerusalem, made repairs. 10 Next to them **Jedaiah** the son of Harumaph made repairs in front of his house. And next to him Hattush the son of Hashabniah made repairs. 11 **Malchijah** the son of Harim and

Hashub the son of Pahath-Moab repaired another section, as well as the Tower of the Ovens. 12 And next to him was **Shallum** the son of Hallohesh, leader of half the district of Jerusalem; **he and his daughters made repairs.**

- Goldsmiths/Perfumers working together for one purpose

No expert builders involved: Rich and Poor, Men, Woman and Youth

- **Rephaiah** son of Hur: Rich guy getting his hands dirty
- **Jedaiah:** Repaired the gate "in front of his home" 5x mentioned in Neh. 3...

Nehemiah 3:10 mentions **Jedaiah**, and his name means **He who calls unto God**. Our homes must be places of prayer, where the family calls unto God.

Nehemiah 3:23 mentions **Benjamin**, and his name means **Son of my right hand**, speaking of a protector. Our homes must be places of protection and peace.

Nehemiah 3:29 mentions **Zadok**, and his name means **Justice**. Our homes must be places of justice and integrity, especially with integrity regarding our marital vows and promises.

Nehemiah 3:30 mentions **Meshullam**, and his name means **Devoted**. Our homes must be places of devotion and separation to God. [Guzik]

- **Malchijah:** Rebuked by Ezra years before for taking Pagan wife. Back in saddle.

A believer should never let a past failure get in the way of serving God. Repent, set it right, make a stand for righteousness - and get on serving the LORD. [Guzik]

- **Shallum:**
 1. Another Prominent guy
 2. Leader of ½ Jerusalem
 3. **He and his daughters made repairs.**

- **Each Gate had personal touch**

Psalms 139:13 For You formed my inward parts; You covered me in my mother's womb. 14 I will praise You, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made; Marvelous are Your works, And that my soul knows very well.

- **NOTE: Broad Wall v 8**

Today you can see in Jerusalem the remains of this Broad Wall - and broad it is, more than 20 feet (6 meters) wide. Critics had denied the accuracy of Bible history like this, but the archaeologist's shovel constantly confirms the truth of the Bible. [Guzik]

13 Hanun and the inhabitants of Zanoah repaired the **Valley Gate**. They built it, hung its doors with its bolts and bars, and repaired a thousand cubits of the wall as far as the Refuse Gate.

- **Valley Gate:** Fourth Gate

Speaks of Jesus with us in all of the hard, hard times

- **Life is tough...**

2 Corinthians 4:8 We are hard-pressed on every side, yet not crushed; we are perplexed, but not in despair; 9 persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed—

- Good Shepherd **walks with us through every valley**

Psalm 23:4 Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; For **You are with me**; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me.

- He will never leave us nor forsake us; ever-present help

Psalm 46:1 God is our refuge and strength, A very present help in trouble. 2 Therefore we will not fear, Even though the earth be removed, And though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea; 3 Though its waters roar and be troubled, Though the mountains shake with its swelling.

- Valley Gate also speaks of **Humility**

Psalm 34:18 The **Lord near** those who have broken heart...saves those w/a contrite spirit.

James 4:6 "God resists the proud, But gives grace to the humble."

- **Valley Gate need repair?**

Who do we turn to in the valley? Mind-numbing activities/Sin/or Jesus
Are we rebelling when things go sideways or humbling ourselves?

- **Humility:** Knowing who we are without God leads us to the **Refuse Gate**

14 Malchijah the son of Rechab, leader of the district of Beth Haccerem, repaired the **Refuse Gate**; he built it and hung its doors with its bolts and bars.

Victim/Perpetually Offended Mentality: No understanding their *dung gate needs fixing*

- **Refuse [Dung] Gate:** Fifth Gate
- Speaks of our filthy state before coming to Jesus...**no righteousness of our own**

Isaiah 64:6we are all like an unclean thing, And all our righteousnesses are like filthy rags; We all fade as a leaf, And our iniquities, like the wind, Have taken us away.

Romans 3:23 for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God..

- Refuse gate speaks of our **need for Holiness before a Holy God**

2 Corinthians 6:17 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."

2 Corinthians 7:1 let us cleanse ourselves from **all filthiness** of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.

- **Refuse Gate** speaks of our need to be cleansed by Jesus
- We are helpless to clean ourselves like a baby...

Ezekiel 16:6 "...when I passed by you and saw you struggling in your own blood, I said to you in your blood, 'Live!' Yes, I said to you in your blood, 'Live!' 7 I made you thrive like a plant in the field; and you grew, matured, and became very beautiful... 9 "Then I washed you in water; yes, **I thoroughly washed** off your blood, and I anointed you with oil.

- We were "**Made clean**" when saved...

1 Corinthians 6:9 Do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived. Neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor homosexuals, nor sodomites, 10 nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners will inherit the kingdom of God. 11 And such were some of you. But you were **washed**, but you were **sanctified**, but you were **justified** in the name of the Lord Jesus and by the Spirit of our God.

- Made clean when saved...
- **We need Daily cleansing;** washing of the feet

1 John 1:9 If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

- Dung Gate speaks of our filth contrasted with Jesus holiness
- **Dung Gate need repair?** Do we need to be cleansed by Jesus

15 Shallun the son of Col-Hozeh, leader of the district of Mizpah, repaired the **Fountain Gate**; he built it, covered it, hung its doors with its bolts and bars, and repaired the wall of the Pool of Shelah by the **King's Garden**, as far as the stairs that go down from the **City of David**. 16 After him Nehemiah the son of Azbuk, leader of half the district of Beth Zur, made repairs as far as the place in front of the tombs of David, to the man-made pool, and as far as the House of the Mighty.

- **Fountain Gate:** Sixth Gate
- **Speaks of the Indwelling of God's Holy Spirit**

John 4:13 [Jesus to sinful woman at well] "Whoever drinks of this water will thirst again, 14 but whoever drinks of the water that I shall give **him will never thirst**. But the water that I shall give him will become in him a fountain of water springing up into everlasting life."

- Every believer has God's Holy Spirit. No Spirit...no God

Romans 8:9 ...you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you. Now if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he is not His.

- Fountain gate speaks of the indwelling Holy Spirit in all believers

John 7:37 On the last day, that great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried out, saying, "If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink. 38 He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, out of his heart will **flow rivers of living water.**" 39 But this He spoke **concerning the Spirit**, whom those believing in Him would receive; for the Holy Spirit was not yet given, because Jesus was not yet glorified.

- **Jesus offers His Spirit to all who come to Him**

Revelation 7:17 for the Lamb who is in the midst of the throne will shepherd them and lead them to **living fountains of waters.** And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

Revelation 21:6 "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. I will give of the **fountain of the water of life freely to him who thirsts.**

- **Offer of the Spirit** is presented by the Bride to a dying world

Revelation 22:17 And the Spirit and the bride say, "Come!" And let him who hears say, "Come!" And **let him who thirsts come.** Whoever desires, let him take the water of life freely.

Fountain that sprang from Jesus side birthed His Bride

John 19:34 ...one of the soldiers pierced His side with a spear, and immediately **blood and water came out.**

- Bride would be filled with His **Holy Spirit**
- Fountain Gate speaks of the indwelling Holy Spirit and continuous filling of Spirit

Luke 11:13 how much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him!"

- Fountain Flowing from Temple when Jews find Jesus

Zechariah 13:1 "In that day a fountain shall be opened for the house of David and for the inhabitants of Jerusalem, for sin and for uncleanness.

- **Fountain gate need repair?** Ask Jesus to fill you to overflowing...
- **Continuing to repair the Gates of Jerusalem...**

17... the Levites, under Rehum the son of Bani, **made repairs.** Next to him Hash-abiah, leader of half the district of Keilah, **made repairs** for his district. 18 After him their brethren, under Bavai the son of Henadad, leader of the other half of the district of Keilah, **made repairs.** 19 And next to him Ezer the son of Jeshua, the leader of Mizpah, **repaired** another section in front of the **Ascent to the Armory** at the buttress. 20 After him Baruch the

son of Zabbai **carefully repaired** the other section, from the buttress to the door of the house of Eliashib the high priest. 21 After him Meremoth the son of Uri-jah, the son of Koz, **repaired** another section, from the door of the house of Eliashib to the end of the house of Eliashib. 22 And after him the priests, the men of the plain, **made repairs**. 23 After him Benjamin and Hasshub **made repairs** opposite their house. After them Azariah the son of Maa-seiah, the son of Ananiah, **made repairs** by his house. 24 After him Binnui the son of Henadad **repaired** another section, from the house of Azariah to the buttress, even as far as the corner. 25 Palal the son of Uzai **made repairs** opposite the buttress, and on the tower which projects from the king's upper house that was by the **court of the prison**. After him Pedaiah the son of Parosh **made repairs**. 26 Moreover the Nethinim who dwelt in Ophel **made repairs** as far as the place in front of the **Water Gate** toward the east, and on the projecting tower.

Gates and Walls around Jerusalem Speak of our relationship with Jesus in disrepair

- **Water Gate:** Seventh Gate speaks of the Jesus Word of God.
- God exalts His Word above His Name:

Psalm 138:2 I will worship toward Your holy temple, And praise Your name For Your lovingkindness and Your truth; For You have **magnified Your word above all Your name.**

- Jesus is the Living Word of God
- Living Word of God Jesus is God

John 1:1 [Read] In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the **Word was God**. 2 He was in the beginning with God. 3 All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made. 4 In Him was life, and the life was the light of men

- God's *spoken Word* is manifested in Jesus the **Living Word**

...14 And the **Word became flesh** and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.

- Jesus the Living Word of God is revealed in the written word of God: OT and NT

1 Peter 1:10 [Read] Of this salvation the [OT] prophets have inquired and searched carefully, who prophesied of the grace that would come to you, 11 searching what, or what manner of time, the **Spirit of Christ who was in them** was indicating when He testified beforehand the sufferings of Christ and the glories that would follow. 12 To them it was revealed that, not to themselves, but to us they were ministering the things which now have been reported to you through those who have preached the gospel to you by the Holy Spirit sent from heaven—things which angels desire to look into.

- **Old Testament prophets led by Spirit of Christ**

1. OT speaks of Jesus coming suffering
2. OT speaks of His resurrection/ascension [glories to follow]
3. OT Prophets realized they were not writing for themselves... **but for us**
4. **Salvation:** Things which Angels desire to look into
 - Sinful man's condition seemingly impossible situation
 - God's unimaginable remedy to that condition
 - Word/God becoming flesh/dying for our sins. **Angels scratch heads**

God's Precious Word. Perfect. Inerrant. Able to restore.

God's spoken Word manifested in Jesus the Living Word and revealed in God's written Word

- **The Water Gate:** God's Word; **Do** we realize what we hold in our hands.
- **Power of the Word of God to repair our Relationship with Jesus**
- **OT and NT...**

2 Timothy 3:16 All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, 17 that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.

- Teaching, Discerning right/wrong, correcting, teaching, equipping
 1. **Tried and true**/Entirely Able to be trusted
 2. **Nothing false or vaguely incorrect:** Anvil that has smashed 1000 hammers

If our life is not matching what the Word of God teaches...it is not the Word that is wrong

- Some teach the so called "Pauline Epistles" are not Scripture/Not same par as Jesus
 1. Homosexuality
 2. Gender Roles
- **Negate 2/3rds of NT?** Are Paul's writing's equally as inspired as Gospels?

2 Peter 3:14 Therefore, beloved, looking forward to these things, be diligent to be found by Him in peace, without spot and blameless; 15 and consider that the longsuffering of our Lord is salvation—as also our **beloved brother Paul**, according to the wisdom given to him, has written to you, 16 as also in all his epistles, speaking in them of these things, in which are some things hard to understand, which untaught and unstable people twist to their own destruction, as they do also the **rest of the Scriptures.**

- **OT/NT: Word of God revealing Living Word of God Jesus Christ**
- **Able to repair our broken relationship**

Psalms 119:11 Your word I have hidden in my heart, That I might not sin against You.

- **Word of God able to annihilate our enemy...**

1 John 2:14 I have written to you, fathers, Because you have known Him who is from the beginning. I have written to you, young men, Because you are strong, and the word of God abides in you, And you have overcome the wicked one.

- **Word of God able to cleanse us...**

John 15:3 You are already **clean because of the word** which I have spoken to you.

- **Word of God** able to prepare the Bride for her wedding...

Ephesians 5:25 Husbands, love your wives, **just as Christ** also loved the church and gave Himself for her, 26 that [Jesus] might sanctify and **cleans** [His bride] **with the washing of water** by the word, 27 that He might present her to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she should be holy and without blemish.

- **Water Gate:** We are cleansed as the **water of the Word washes over us**

**God's spoken Word manifested in Jesus the Living Word
...Revealed in God's Written Word.**

- **Water Gate need repair?** In the Word...every day.

27 After them the **Tekoites** repaired another section, next to the great projecting tower, and as far as the wall of Ophel.

Nehemiah 3:5 ...the Tekoites repaired; **but their nobles put not their necks** to the work of their Lord.

- Leaders did not get hands dirty...
- Tekoites continued in spite of **lazy leaders**

Matthew 23:4 [Pharisees]...bind heavy burdens, hard to bear, and lay them on men's shoulders; but they themselves will not move them with one of their fingers. 5 But all their works they do to be **seen by men.**

- **Good leaders are good examples:**
 1. Nehemiah was a leader who understood it was God who was watching
 2. Nehemiah was leader who got hands dirty
 3. Nehemiah was a leader who could sip ice tea as enjoyed completed wall

28 Beyond the **Horse Gate** the priests made repairs, each in front of his own house.

- **Horse Gate:** Eight Gate speaks of **Spiritual Battle**

Deuteronomy 20:1 "When you go out to battle against your enemies, and see **horses** and chariots and people more numerous than you, do not be afraid of them; for the Lord your God is with you, who brought you up from the land of Egypt.

- OT physical battles are representation of NT Spiritual Battle: Battle of Cosmos

Like it or not...We are part of were thrust into an the Eternal Battle of Good/Evil at birth

Ephesians 6:10 [Read] ... my brethren, **be strong in the Lord** and in the power of His might. 11 Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. 12 For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places. 13 Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.

- **All Christians' area enlisted soldiers in Eternal Battle...**
- **War is hard:** Deal with "what is" not "what we hope it was"

2 Timothy 2:3 You therefore must endure hardship as a **good soldier** of Jesus Christ. 4 No one engaged in warfare entangles himself with the affairs of this life, that he may please him who **enlisted him** as a soldier.

- War is everyday life for Christian doing God's will
 1. Courageous/Undiscouraged
 2. Battling Evil with Good
 3. Listening/following our commander to victory
 4. Not caught up in weeds of this temporal life:

Matthew 13:22 ...he who received seed among the thorns is he who hears the word, and the cares of this world and the deceitfulness of riches choke the word, and he becomes unfruitful.

- Hear the commander but disregard His instructions because too busy
- Defeated Life. Listen and do...**for victory**

Luke 6:46 "But why do you call Me 'Lord, Lord,' and not do the things which I say?"

"Lord, Lord" Why do you call me commander of your life in this war and expect to win
...If you don't do what I say? Why do you think your losing?

...47 Whoever comes to Me, and hears My sayings and does them, I will show you whom he is like: 48 He is like a man building a house, who dug deep and laid the foundation on the rock. And when the flood arose, the stream beat vehemently against that house, and could not shake it, for it was founded on the rock. 49 But he who heard and did nothing is like a man who built a house on the earth without a foundation, against which the stream beat vehemently; and immediately it fell. And the ruin of that house was great."

- Those who hear and don't do are in danger. **Period**
- **Anti-Christ:** Begins Tribulation on a Horse

Revelation 6:1 [Read] ...I saw when the Lamb opened one of the seals; and I heard one of the four living creatures saying with a voice like thunder, "Come and see." 2 And I looked, and behold, a **white horse**. He who sat on it had a bow; and a crown was given to him, and he went out conquering and to conquer.

- AC begins Tribulation on a White Horse: Against/In the place of
- **Jesus Christ:** Ends the Tribulation on a White Horse.
 1. Sherriff is back...
 2. We His deputies follow to take rightful possession back from usurper...

Revelation 19:11 [Read] Now I saw heaven opened, and behold, a **white horse**. And He who sat on him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He judges and makes war. 12 His eyes were like a flame of fire, and on His head were many crowns. He had a name written that no one knew except Himself. 13 He was clothed with a robe dipped in blood, and His name is called The Word of God. 14 And the armies in heaven, clothed in fine linen, white and clean, followed Him **on white horses**. 15 Now out of His mouth goes a

sharp sword, that with it He should strike the nations. And He Himself will rule them with a rod of iron. He Himself treads the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God. 16 And He has on His robe and on His thigh a name written: KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS.

- **Horse Gate:** Speaks of Spiritual Warfare and the Victory we have in Jesus
- Horse Gate need repair? **Follow the Commander for Victory**

29 After [the Tekoites] Zadok the son of Immer made repairs in front of his own house. After him Shemaiah the son of Shechaniah, the keeper of the **East Gate**, made repairs.

- **East Gate:** Ninth Gate facing Mount of Olives
- When Jesus returns He will touch ground on Mount of Olives

Zechariah 14:3 [Read] Then the Lord will go forth And fight against those nations, As He fights in the day of battle. 4 And in that day His feet will stand on the Mount of Olives, Which faces Jerusalem on the east. And the Mount of Olives shall be split in two, From east to west, Making a very large valley; Half of the mountain shall move toward the north And half of it toward the south. 5 Then you shall flee through My mountain valley, For the mountain valley shall reach to Azal. Yes, you shall flee As you fled from the earthquake In the days of Uzziah king of Judah. **Thus the Lord my God will come, And all the saints with You.**

- **East Gate:** Gate Jesus will Enter when He Returns

Ezekiel 43:1 [Read] [Holy Tour Guide in Ezekiel's vision] Afterward he brought me to the gate, the gate that **faces toward the east**. 2 And behold, the glory of the **God of Israel came from the way of the east**. His voice was like the sound of many waters; and the earth shone with His glory. 3 It was like the appearance of the vision which I saw—like the vision which I saw when I came to destroy the city. The visions were like the vision which I saw by the River Chebar; and I fell on my face. 4 And the glory of the Lord came into the temple by way of the gate which faces toward the east. 5 The Spirit lifted me up and brought me into the inner court; and behold, the glory of the Lord filled the temple. 6 Then I heard Him speaking to me from the temple, while a man stood beside me. 7 And He said to me, "Son of man, **this is the place of My throne** and the place of the soles of My feet, where **I will dwell in the midst of the children** of Israel forever. No more shall the house of Israel defile My holy name, they nor their kings, by their harlotry or with the carcasses of their kings on their high places. 8 When they set their threshold by My threshold, and their doorpost by My doorpost, with a wall between them and Me, they defiled My holy name by the abominations which they committed; therefore I have consumed them in My anger. 9 Now let them put their harlotry and the carcasses of their kings far away from Me, and I will dwell in their midst forever...

- From Temple will flow Living Water making the dead sea come to life

Ezekiel 47:8 ... "This water flows toward the eastern region, goes down into the valley, and enters the sea. When it reaches the sea, its waters are healed. 9 And it shall be that every living thing that moves, wherever the rivers go, **will live**.

- East Gate speaks of Jesus Second Coming
- **East Gate need repair?** Eternal Perspective. Jesus coming back make things right

30 After [Shemaiah], Hananiah the son of Shelemiah, and Hanun, the sixth son of Zalaph, repaired another section. After him Meshullam the son of Berechiah made repairs in front of his dwelling. 31 After him Malchijah, one of the goldsmiths, made repairs as far as the house of the Nethinim and of the merchants, in front of the **Miphkad Gate**, and as far as the upper room at the corner.

- **Miphkad Gate:** Tenth Gate

Where soldiers returning from battle would enter Jerusalem and meet the King

- Speaks of the **Judgment Seat of Christ**

1 Corinthians 3:12 Now if anyone builds on this foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw, 13 each one's work will become clear; for the Day will declare it, because it will be revealed by fire; and the fire will test each one's work, of what sort it is. 14 If anyone's work which he has built on it endures, he will **receive a reward**. 15 If anyone's work is burned, he will suffer loss; but he himself will be saved, yet so as through fire.

- **White Throne:** Non-believers judged works and what they did **to Christ**
- **Bema Seat of Christ:** Rewards/Loss of Rewards for what we did **through Christ**.

2 Corinthians 5:10 For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive the things done in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad. 11 Knowing, therefore, the terror of the Lord, we persuade men; but we are well known to God, and I also trust are well known in your consciences.

- **Miphkad Gate:** Tenth Gate
- Speaks of Judgment Seat of Christ where soldiers are evaluated/rewarded

32 And between the upper room at the corner, as far as the Sheep Gate, the **goldsmiths and the merchants made repairs**.

- **God motivates Nehemiah** - Nehemiah in turn motivates the people
- Goldsmiths, Merchants, Perfumers, Nobles, Men, Woman, Youths

Everyone Working Together To Join the Wall of the Holy City

- We are all **Living Stones** of Spiritual House being built up by God

1 Peter 2:5 ...you also, as **living stones**, are being built up a spiritual house, a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

- **Old Jerusalem:** Nehemiah; Temple, Gates, Walls and temporal
- **New Jerusalem:** Our Eternal home. **Vital and Alive!**

Revelation 21:9 [Revelation of The New Jerusalem] ...one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls filled with the seven last plagues came to me [John] and talked with me, saying, "Come, I will **show you the bride, the Lamb's wife.**" 10 And he carried me away in the Spirit to a great and high mountain, and showed me the **great city**, the holy Jerusalem, descending out of heaven from God, 11 having the glory of God. Her light was like a most precious stone, like a jasper stone, clear as crystal. 12 Also she had a **great and high wall with twelve gates**, and twelve angels at the gates, and names written on them, which are the names of the **twelve tribes** of the children of Israel: 13 three gates on the east, three gates on the north, three gates on the south, and three gates on the west.

- Angel tells John come and see the Bride/Lamb's wife: Shown a City?
 1. **12 Gates** [Neh.10 gates] names of 12 Tribes speaking of **OT Saints**
 2. **12 Foundations** speaking of **NT Saints**

...14 **Now the wall of the city had twelve foundations**, and on them were the names of **the twelve apostles of the Lamb.** 15 And he who talked with me had a gold reed to measure the city, its gates, and its wall. 16 The city is laid out as a square; its length is as great as its breadth. And he measured the city with the reed: twelve thousand furlongs. Its length, breadth, and height are equal. 17 Then he measured its wall: one hundred and forty-four cubits, according to the measure of a man, that is, of an angel. 18 The construction of its wall was of jasper; and the city was pure gold, like clear glass. 19 The foundations of the wall of the city were adorned with all kinds of precious stones: the first foundation was jasper, the second sapphire, the third chalcedony, the fourth emerald, 20 the fifth sardonyx, the sixth sardius, the seventh chrysolite, the eighth beryl, the ninth topaz, the tenth chrysolite, the eleventh jacinth, and the twelfth amethyst. 21 The twelve gates were twelve pearls: each individual gate was of one pearl. And the **street of the city was pure gold, like transparent glass.** 22 But I saw no temple in it, for **the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are its temple.** 23 The city had no need of the sun or of the moon to shine in it, for the **glory of God illuminated it. The Lamb is its light.** 24 And the **nations of those who are saved shall walk in its light**, and the kings of the earth bring their glory and honor into it. 25 Its gates shall not be shut at all by day (there shall be no night there). 26 And they shall bring the glory and the honor of the nations into it. 27 But there shall by no means enter it anything that defiles, or causes an abomination or a lie, but only those who are **written in the Lamb's Book of Life.**

- **Bride/Wife of Christ:** New Jerusalem
 1. 12 Gates speaks of OT Saints
 2. 12 Foundations speaks of NT Saints. Part something bigger we understand

Nehemiah 3: Ten Gates within the walls of Jerusalem need repair.
Each Gate Speaks of Our Relationship with Jesus Christ

- | | |
|-------------------------|--|
| 1. Sheep Gate | Speaks of Good Shepherd Jesus who beckons us to come to Him |
| 2. Fish Gate | Speaks of God's mandate for us to be fishers of men |
| 3. Old Gate | Tried/true ways/Eternality Jesus OT/NT Same Yesterday/Today/ Forever |
| 4. Valley Gate | Speaks of Jesus with us in hard, hard times |
| 5. Refuse Gate | Speaks of our filthy state...Jesus desire/ability to cleanse us |
| 6. Fountain Gate | Speaks of the Holy Spirit |
| 7. Water Gate | Speaks of the Word of God |
| 8. Horse Gate | Speaks of Spiritual Warfare and our victory in Jesus |
| 9. East Gate | Speaks of Jesus Second Coming |

10. **Miphkad Gate** Speaks of the Judgment seat of Christ

**We are all Living Stones and part of Spiritual House being built up by God
Presently being equipped/arranged by God to live in New Jerusalem.**

Eternal City: Vital, Alive and Eternal