

NEHEMIAH

Outline

PART ONE: REBUILDING THE WALL 1-7

Chapter 1 - Nehemiah discovers and prays/intercedes for the remnant with God

Chapter 2 - Nehemiah intercedes with Artaxerxes and returns to Jerusalem

- Nehemiah inspects, encourages and answers the enemies

Chapter 3 - The remnant rebuild the wall and gates

Chapter 4 - Opposition, threat, ridicule, and discouragement to reconstruction

Chapter 5 - Opposition through injustices & extortion and Nehemiah's unselfish example

Chapter 6 - Opposition through compromise, slander and treachery

- Completion of rebuilding

Chapter 7 - Nehemiah's organizes and registers the people (remnant)

PART TWO: RESTORATION OF THE PEOPLE AND RENEWAL OF COVENANT 8-13

Chapter 8 - Renewal of the Covenant through God's WORD through Ezra

Chapter 9 - Reaffirmation of the Covenant (revival)

Chapter 10 - Ratifiers & commitment to the Covenant (revival)

Chapter 11 - Reform of the nation and obedience to the Covenant

- Resettlement inside and outside of Jerusalem

Chapter 12 - Registration of the priest and dedication of the wall

Chapter 13 - Restoration of the People (nation)

- Old problems resurface
- Reforms are established

NEHEMIAH - HERO NARRATIVE

- Narratives have themes or threads that run all the way through them
- Historical narrative is an account of stories, reports, memoirs and lists
- Hero narratives have a main character like several Old Testament books

INTERPRETATION OF HERO NARRATIVE

- Focus on the main character's values, priorities and themes lived out
- Applications are mainly principles/pictures not to be over or under spiritualized

THEMES (SPIRITUAL, THEOLOGICAL AND MORAL PRINCIPLE)

- Sovereignty and providence
- Covenant and redemption
- Community or God's people working together for a purpose

CHAPTER 1 - NEHEMIAH HEARS A REPORT ABOUT JERUSALEM'S WALLS

- God had placed Nehemiah in the right position at the right time - cup bearer
- Esther was also made for such a time as this, the queen heard her plea
- Ezra has probably build or nearing completion of the temple
- Exile and captivity had worked but some escaped and returned home
- No government, no civil authority, no defense, no resources, no economy
- Countries like Persia are coming to prominence like Greece and Rome
- Ezra & Nehemiah never wore a crown, lead a army, won lands but were Godly
- God can make courts of princes into nurseries for His peoples cause - M. Henry
- Nehemiah was not ashamed of his people or his God/ Hanani is a brother