

EZRA

NEHEMIAH

*Renewal Amongst the Ruins*



# CALL TO WORSHIP

15 And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful. 16 Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God. 17 And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.”

-Colossians 3:15-17



# Nehemiah 11

*1 Now the leaders of the people lived in Jerusalem. And the rest of the people cast lots to bring one out of ten to live in Jerusalem the holy city, while nine out of ten remained in the other towns. 2 And the people blessed all the men who willingly offered to live in Jerusalem.*

*(rest of chapter 11) — a bunch of valiant men & places*



# Nehemiah 12

*27 And at the dedication of the wall of Jerusalem they sought the Levites in all their places, to bring them to Jerusalem to celebrate the dedication with gladness, with thanksgivings and with singing, with cymbals, harps, and lyres. 28 And the sons of the singers gathered together from the district surrounding Jerusalem and from the villages of the Netophathites; 29 also from Beth-gilgal and from the region of Geba and Azmaveth, for the singers had built for themselves villages around Jerusalem. 30 And the priests and the Levites purified themselves, and they purified the people and the gates and the wall.*

*31 Then I brought the leaders of Judah up onto the wall and appointed two great choirs that gave thanks.*



# Nehemiah 12

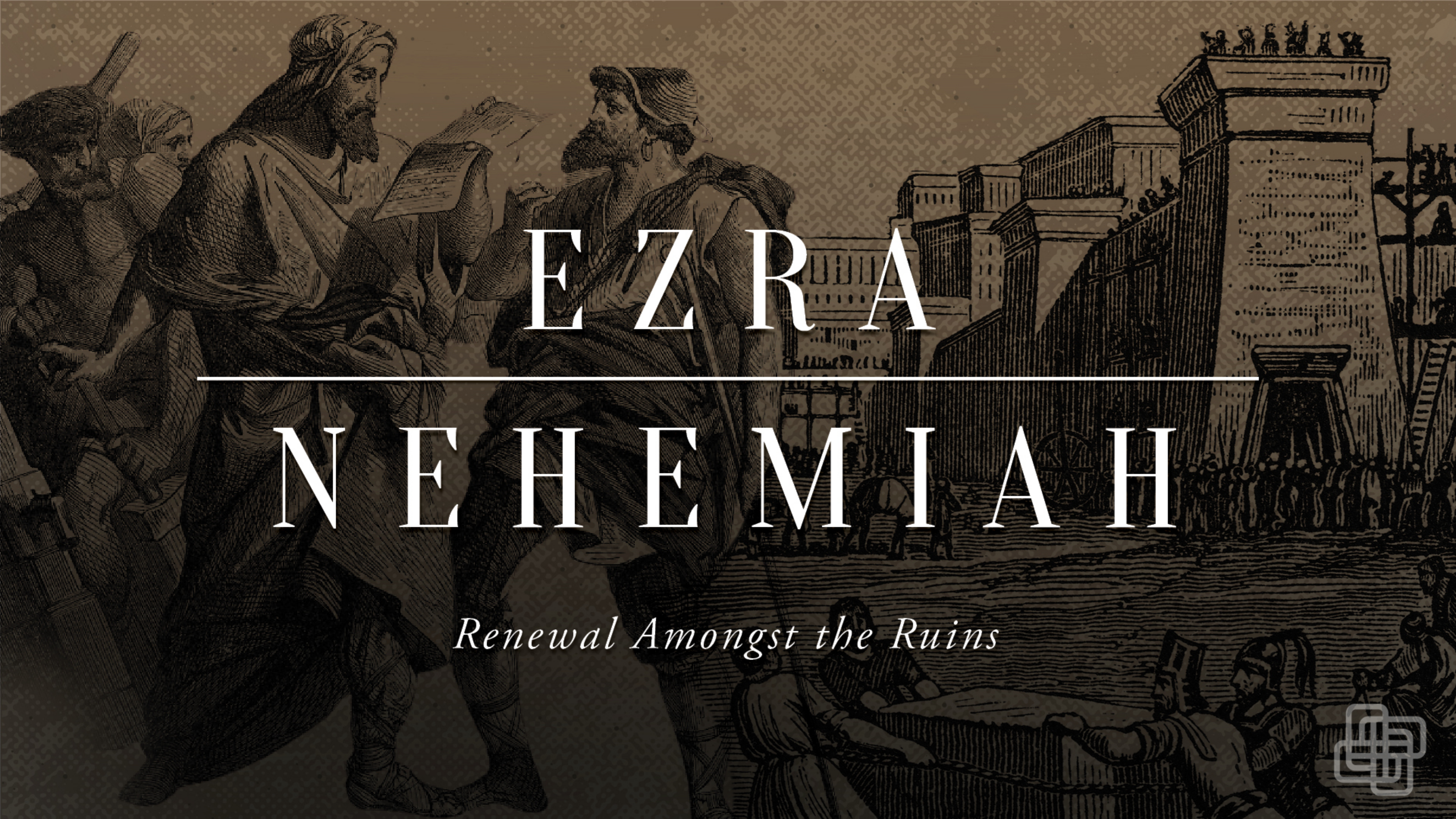
*And Ezra the scribe went before them. 37 At the Fountain Gate they went up straight before them by the stairs of the city of David, at the ascent of the wall, above the house of David, to the Water Gate on the east.*

*38 The other choir of those who gave thanks went to the north, and I followed them with half of the people, on the wall, above the Tower of the Ovens, to the Broad Wall.*

*40 So both choirs of those who gave thanks stood in the house of God, and I and half of the officials with me;*

*43 And they offered great sacrifices that day and rejoiced, for God had made them rejoice with great joy; the women and children also rejoiced. And the joy of Jerusalem was heard far away.*





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# A CHRISTLIKE SACRIFICIAL COMMUNITY & CULTURE (Ch. 11)

1 Now the leaders of the people lived in Jerusalem. And the rest of the people cast  
Desolate city unoccupied YHWH's affection was  
for 150 yrs. needed repopulated set on this city  
lots to bring one out of ten to live in Jerusalem the holy city, while nine out of ten

**Comfortable = house/land/livestock**

remained in the other towns. 2 And the people blessed all the men who willingly

Set aside what they'd "like to do" for "what the church is needing"  
offered to live in Jerusalem.

*A church is not built by consumers;  
the Lord build's His church through deeply committed disciples.*



*“I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to **walk in a manner worthy of the calling** to which you have been called, **2 with all humility and gentleness,** with **patience, bearing with one another in love,** **3 eager to maintain the unity** of the Spirit in the bond of peace. **4 There is one body and one Spirit—just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call.”***

***-Ephesians 4:1-4***



*“Culture is the shared experience of the church—the stated and lived values of the church. It’s not just the core values listed on the website—it’s what is actually lived, felt, celebrated, pursued, realized, and protected in the life of a church body.*

*-Jeff Medders, The Soul-Winning Church*



## A RIGHTLY PRIORITIZED CELEBRATION (CH. 12)

27 And at the dedication of the wall of Jerusalem they sought the Levites in all their

places, to bring them to Jerusalem to celebrate the dedication with gladness, with

**Heb. = toda = personal acknowledgment of the benefits God rendered to them**  
thanksgivings and with singing, with cymbals, harps, and lyres...

**Two parades celebrating work of the Lord**

31 Then I brought the leaders of Judah up onto the wall and appointed two great

**Ezra led one group**

choirs that gave thanks...And Ezra the scribe went before them. 37 At the Fountain

Gate they went up straight before them by the stairs of the city of David, at the

ascent of the wall, above the house of David, to the Water Gate on the east.



## A RIGHTLY PRIORITIZED CELEBRATION (CH. 12)

**Nehemiah led one group**

38 The other choir of those who gave thanks went to the north, and I followed them

with half of the people, on the wall, above the Tower of the Ovens, to the Broad

**Both parades converge at the Temple (piecing Ezra/Nehemiah together)**

Wall. 40 So both choirs of those who gave thanks stood in the house of God, and I

and half of the officials with me; 43 And they offered great sacrifices that day and

**Renewed people are rejoicing people**

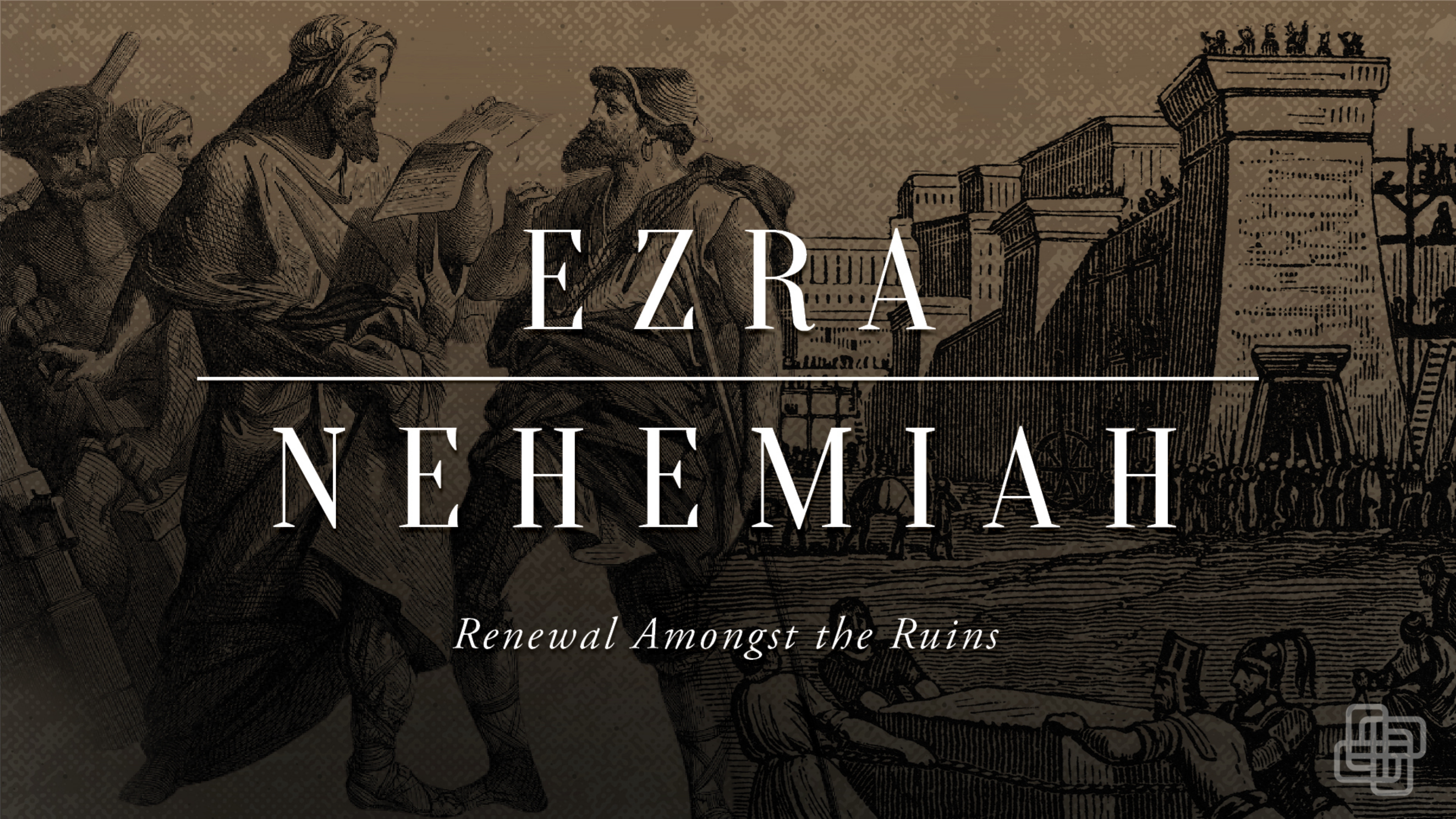
rejoiced, for God had made them rejoice with great joy; the women and children also

**Worship united the people**

rejoiced. And the joy of Jerusalem was heard far away.

***“Unless the Lord builds the house, those who build it labor in vain.” -Ps. 127:1a***



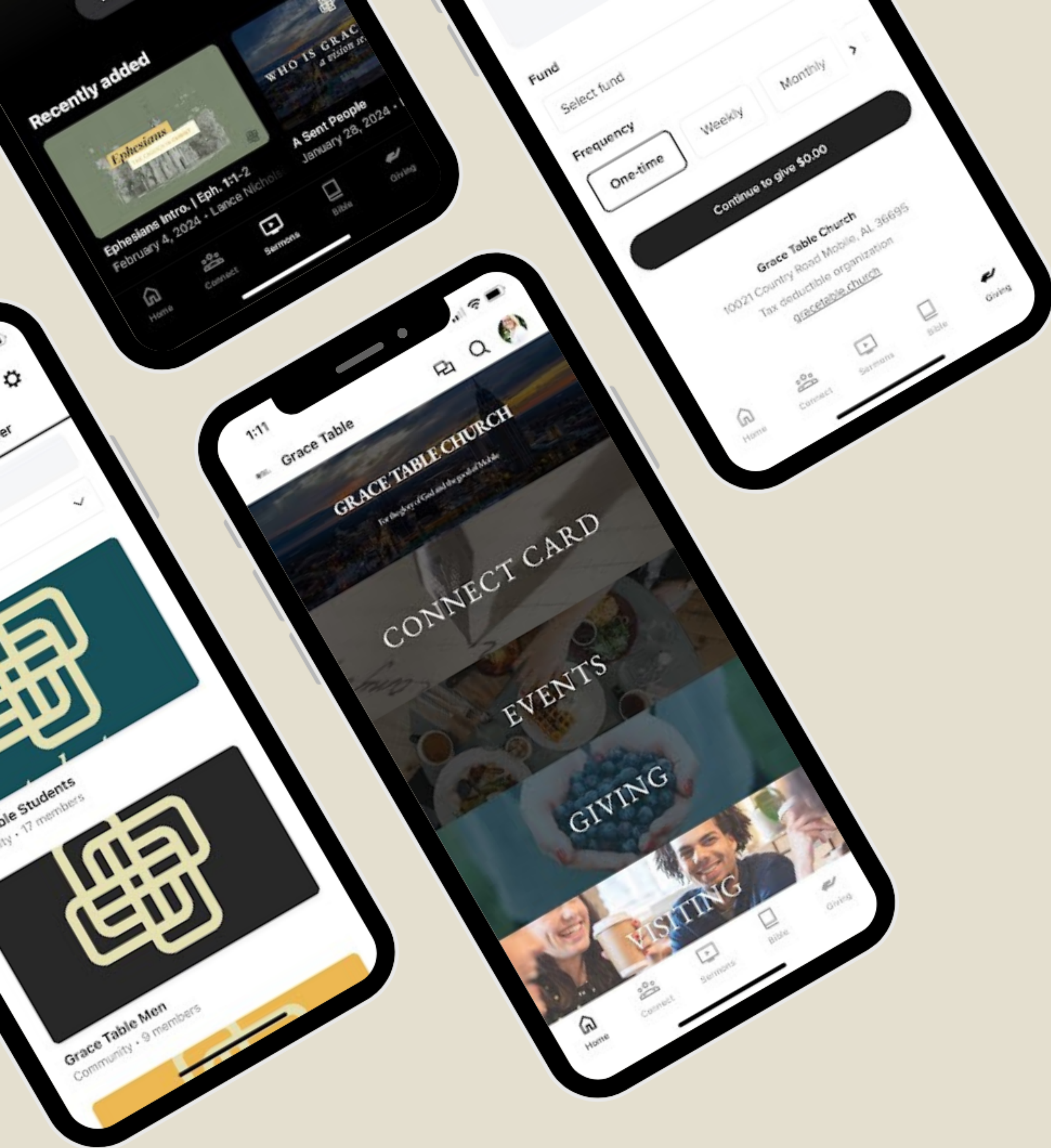


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SUNDAY**

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*students*

# BENEDICTION

## **Leader:**

“The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.”

-2 Corinthians 13:14

## **People:**

And also with you.

