

# REBUILD & DEFEND

NEHEMIAH

MAY 9<sup>TH</sup> AND 12<sup>TH</sup>

## Background:

Israel has been conquered by the Persian empire in 538 B.C. This is the 3<sup>rd</sup> of what would be several times Israel would find itself under foreign rule. The Persian king with his subordinate armies would decimate Jerusalem, destroying its defensive walls, gates and watch towers. The majority of the population would be scattered into Judea and the vast Persian empire. A Jew by the name of; Nehemiah, would serve as the Persian King Xerxes' highly coveted and respected cupbearer. Grieved by the destruction of his homeland, Nehemiah pleads first with God and then Xeres to allow him to lead in the rebuild of the Holy City's walls and gates that had been reduced to rubble.

After gaining permission and support from Xerxes, Nehemiah returns to his homeland to get to work. But the challenge he and the people of Israel faced were more immense than they could have imagined. Between the people's morale being broken, depleted population, and feuding war lords and opponents of Yahweh, Nehemiah leans on the Lord to rebuild and defend. A similar fate awaits the U.S. if we too, don't turn back to Him and allow the rebuild. We could start in Missoula, MT.

-Looking at the parallels of the church under the Soviet Union and the church during the rising modern woke version of communism in the west. Turning more inward or selling out.

1.) Above all else, our \_\_\_\_\_ must be repaired and defended.

- I. \_\_\_\_\_
- II. \_\_\_\_\_
- III. \_\_\_\_\_

2.) Our \_\_\_\_\_ are truly where our hearts are. We are called to repair and defend what God has given us.

- I. \_\_\_\_\_
- II. \_\_\_\_\_
- III. \_\_\_\_\_

3.) The broken walls of our \_\_\_\_\_, Missoula, is our frontline trench.

- I. \_\_\_\_\_
- II. \_\_\_\_\_
- III. \_\_\_\_\_