Restoring the Walls In Our Lives

(And Those Around Us)

Nehemiah 1

Matthew Zamudio, Pastor, Windsor Park Baptist Church, Desoto Tx. January 21, 2018. All scriptures are printed verbatim with translations noted.

1. HONEST EVALUATION

Of The Situation

Nehemiah 1:2-3 (ESV)- And I asked them concerning the Jews who escaped, who had survived the exile, and concerning Jerusalem. And they said to me, "The remnant there in the province who had survived the exile is in great trouble and shame. The wall of Jerusalem is broken down, and its gates are destroyed by fire."

Jeremiah 6:11 (ESV)-They have healed the wound of my people lightly, saying, 'Peace, peace,' when there is no peace.

Of Ourselves

Nehemiah 1:6b-7 (ESV)- I now pray before you day and night for the people of Israel your servants, confessing the sins of the people of Israel, which we have sinned against you. Even I and my father's house have sinned. We have acted very corruptly against you and have not kept the commandments, the statutes, and the rules that you commanded your servant Moses.

2. GODLY <u>DISCONTENTMENT</u>

Nehemiah 1:4 (ESV)- As soon <u>as I heard these words I sat down and wept and mourned for days</u>, and I continued fasting and praying before the God of heaven.

3. GODLY <u>DEPENDENCE</u>

Nehemiah 1:4 (ESV)- As soon as I heard these words I sat down and wept and mourned for days, and I continued fasting and praying before the God of heaven.

Nehemiah 1:5-6a (ESV)- And I said, "O Lord God of heaven, the great and awesome God who keeps covenant and steadfast love with those who love him and keep his commandments, let your ear be attentive and your eyes open, to hear the prayer of your servant...

2 Chronicles 20:12b (ESV-For we are powerless against this great horde that is coming against us. We do not know what to do, but our eyes are on you."

4. PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY

Nehemiah 1:6b-7 (ESV)- I now pray before you day and night for the people of Israel your servants, confessing the sins of the people of Israel, which we have sinned against you. Even I and my father's house have sinned. We have acted very corruptly against you and have not kept the commandments, the statutes, and the rules that you commanded your servant Moses.

5. POWERFUL FAITH

Nehemiah 1:8-10 (ESV)- Remember the word that you commanded your servant Moses, saying, 'If you are unfaithful, I will scatter you among the peoples, but if you return to me and keep my commandments and do them, though your outcasts are in the uttermost parts of heaven, from there I will gather them and bring them to the place that I have chosen, to make my name dwell there.' They are your servants and your people, whom you have redeemed by your great power and by your strong hand.

Matthew 17:20 (ESV)-He [Jesus] said to them, "Because of your little faith. For truly, I say to you, if you have faith like a grain of mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there,' and it will move, and nothing will be impossible for you."

6. PERSONAL RISK

Nehemiah 1:11b (ESV)-Now I was <u>cupbearer</u> to the king. Matthew 10:39 (ESV)-Whoever finds his life will lose it, and <u>whoever</u> loses his life for my sake will find it.

Here Is The Point: To rebuild the walls of our lives and our culture we must have a passion for change and a willingness to do whatever is needed.