

STRENGTHENED

O GOD, STRENGTHEN MY HANDS

NEHEMIAH 6-9

Sunday Morning, March 30, 2025 » Pastor Josiah Kagin

Message Title: People Matter to God

Message Text: Nehemiah 7

Introduction:

Since Nehemiah first heard about the condition of Jerusalem and the people, it had been about eight months. Even though there was an incredible amount of opposition from the enemies of God surrounding Jerusalem, the walls were complete and the ten gates were installed. Nehemiah remained focused on God and continually sought Him for strength to accomplish His work. It would seem like a really good time to take a vacation. However, Nehemiah took immediate action on the next phase of restoring Jerusalem. It was no longer stonework, but people work. As we step into the second section of this book, we will see how God uses Nehemiah to restore the people of God. The lessons we will learn along the way will be vital for this season of our church family.

THE BOOK OF NEHEMIAH

Rebuilding the Walls
[1-6]

Restoring the People
[7-13]

1. An _____ of Leadership (1-3)

Nehemiah 7:1 Now it came to pass, when the wall was built, and I had set up the doors...

QUOTE: A leader is a dealer in hope. —Napoleon Bonaparte

A. _____ Leadership (1)

Nehemiah 7:1 ...and the porters and the singers and the Levites were appointed,

PORTERS — Ancient security guards.

SINGERS — A designated priestly office, both vocal singers and instrumentalists.

Colossians 3:16 Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.

LEVITES — Descendants of Levi. Responsible for the priesthood and the maintenance of the tabernacle and temple. —LBD



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NOTE — When God goes about to restore a people, he raises up spiritual leaders to lead His people.

Jeremiah 23:4 And I will set up shepherds over them which shall feed them: and they shall fear no more, nor be dismayed, neither shall they be lacking, saith the Lord.

Titus 1:5 For this cause left I thee in Crete, that thou shouldest set in order the things that are wanting, and ordain elders in every city, as I had appointed thee:

B. _____ Leadership (2-3)

Nehemiah 7:2–3 That I gave my brother Hanani, and Hananiah the ruler of the palace, charge over Jerusalem: for he was a faithful man, and feared God above many. 3 And I said unto them, Let not the gates of Jerusalem be opened until the sun be hot; and while they stand by, let them shut the doors, and bar them: and appoint watches of the inhabitants of Jerusalem, every one in his watch, and every one to be over against his house.

HANANI — Nehemiah's brother; reported on the condition of Jerusalem to Nehemiah in Persia. (*cf. Nehemiah 1:2*)

HANANIAH — ruler of the palace located on the North side of the city.

DEFINITION—FAITHFUL: the quality of being faithful.

QUOTE: The greatest ability is dependability. —Dr. Bob Jones, Sr.

1 Corinthians 4:2 Moreover it is required in stewards, that a man be found faithful.

DEFINITION—FEARED GOD: having fear and profound respect for something; typically used of a person in regards to God.

Ecclesiastes 12:13 Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE CIVIC LEADERS — provide for the safety and wellbeing of the citizens.

NOTE — In our American republic, it is our privilege and responsibility to vote for civic leaders who are faithful and God-fearing.

2. An _____ of Citizenship (4-69)

Nehemiah 7:4 Now the city was large and great: but the people were few therein, and the houses were not builded.

A. An Assembled _____ (5a)

Nehemiah 7:5 And my God put into mine heart to gather together the nobles, and the rulers, and the people, that they might be reckoned by genealogy...

NOTE — God put it in Nehemiah's heart to rebuild the walls and to restore the people. (*Cf. Nehemiah 2:12*)

QUOTE: Buildings don't change lives, what happens in them does.

NEHEMIAH ASSEMBLED THE PEOPLE — nobles, rulers and the people

NEHEMIAH ACCOUNTED FOR THE PEOPLE — to verify that those repopulating Jerusalem were indeed of Jewish descent.

QUOTE: We have learned from the books of Ezra and Nehemiah that the purity of the Jewish race and its separation from the surrounding wicked nations were to safeguard God's people from extinction as a distinct entity.—Evers

B. An Archived _____ (5b-69)

Nehemiah 7:5b ...And I found a register of the genealogy of them which came up at the first, and found written therein,

NOTE — Nehemiah shared the registry from Ezra 2 as a way of encouraging the people to the same faith and courage as well as to ensure the present inhabitant were descendants from the original population.

QUOTE: It was critical that the genealogical archives should be well organized so that there would be no doubt, in years to come, that Jesus was the Messiah-King and that he came from the tribe of Judah as foretold by the ancient prophets (*Gen. 49:10; Micah 5:2; see also Matt. 2:1-6; Heb. 7:14; Rev. 5:5*). —Evers

QUOTE: These people were God's "bridge" from the defeats of the past to the hopes of the future. —Weirsbe

Revelation 21:27 And there shall in no wise enter into it any thing that defileth, neither whatsoever worketh abomination, or maketh a lie: but they which are written in the Lamb's book of life.

The Registry of Returnees

The People and
Genealogy [6-38]

The Priests [39-42]

The Levites [43]

The Singers [44]

The Porters [45]

The Nethinims [46-62]

The Priests with no
Record [63-65]

Servants, Horses and
Camels [66-69]

3. An _____ of Worship (70-73)

QUOTE: Citizenship and leadership together can make a state, but it takes worship to make that state into a *godly* nation.—Weirsbe

A. They _____ to the Work (70-72)

Nehemiah 7:70-72 And some of the chief of the fathers gave unto the work. The Tirshatha gave to the treasure a thousand drams of gold, fifty basons, five hundred and thirty priests' garments. 71 And some of the chief of the fathers gave to the treasure of the work twenty thousand drams of gold, and two thousand and two hundred pound of silver. 72 And that which the rest of the people gave was twenty thousand drams of gold, and two thousand pound of silver, and threescore and seven priests' garments.

THE WORK — Supporting the operation of the Temple and those who have given themselves full-time to the work of the Lord.

EVERYONE HAD A PART—The Tirshatha (*Nehemiah*; the Persian title for governor), the chiefs of the fathers, and the people.

NOTE — It is an act of worship when we _____ to God's work.

Malachi 3:10 Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, That there may be meat in mine house, And prove me now herewith, saith the Lord of hosts, If I will not open you the windows of heaven, And pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it.

See also 1 Corinthians 16:2, 1 Timothy 5:17-18

B. They _____ to their Place (73)

Nehemiah 7:73 So the priests, and the Levites, and the porters, and the singers, and some of the people, and the Nethinims, and all Israel, dwelt in their cities; and when the seventh month came, the children of Israel were in their cities.

EVERYONE HAD THEIR PLACE — The registry had made them aware of which cities belonged to which families according to what God had given them generations ago.

NOTE — Being committed to where God has _____ you is an act of worship.

SEVENTH MONTH (Tishri/Oct-Nov) — Feast of Trumpets, the Day of Atonement, and the Feast of Tabernacles. (*See Leviticus 23:23-44*)

Conclusion

We all have a _____ and _____ in the work of God.

Personal Considerations

- ☐ Is my name in the Lamb's Book of Life?
- ☐ Am I worshipping God by contributing to His work and by committing myself to where He has placed me?

