

Covenant

Return-Restore-Renew—Part 10 of Nehemiah

Notes for the week of March 11, 2018



(1) In Scripture, **external** covenants always symbolize **internal** realities.

(2) In Nehemiah 10, God's people are publically declaring their internal repentance through an external covenant ceremony.

(3) Now, Jesus commands that God's people publically declare their internal repentance and faith in Him through two external covenant ceremonies:

a. Baptism

b. The Lord's Supper

Ice Breakers

(1) If you are married, describe the proposal. If you are not, describe the best, funniest or strangest proposal that you've heard of.

Digging Deeper

(2) Read Nehemiah 9:38-10:39 out loud as a group, with each person reading three verses.

(3) What are the three general issues the Jews focus on in verses 30-39? How do they apply to Christians in the New Covenant?

Living Out

(4) What is the point of a public marriage ceremony, when an accepted proposal and a marriage certificate are all that is necessary in order to be married?

(5) Read Acts 2:36-38. How does the purpose of baptism parallel what the Jews did in Nehemiah 9:38?

(6) Read Romans 6:1-11. What does baptism symbolize?

(7) Why do married couples celebrate anniversaries, Valentine's Day, and regular "date" nights? How do these habits compare to taking the Lord's Supper regularly as a church?

Spend some time sharing and praying for each other as a group.