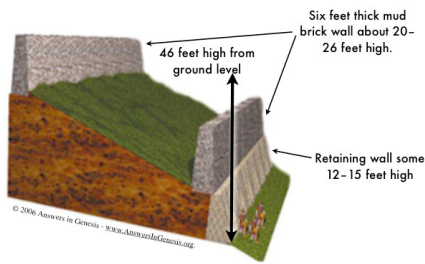


BREAK WALLS & BUILD THEM

JOSHUA 6 & NEHEMIAH 2 - ERIC SIMPSON - JANUARY 22, 2017



Joshua 6:1

Now the gates of Jericho were securely barred because of the Israelites. No one went out and no one came in.

Jericho walls = isolate, separate & intimidate; reinforce "you're not good enough to be a part of us"; walls that keep the Rahab's out; that prevent the least, the lost, the lonely & the forgotten from finding refuge

Approx. 50 ft. in height, 10-15 ft. thick, 2 miles around



Nehemiah 2:17-18

¹⁷Then I said to them, "You see the trouble we are in: Jerusalem lies in ruins, and its gates have been burned with fire. Come, let us rebuild the wall of Jerusalem, and we will no longer be in disgrace." ¹⁸I also told them about the gracious hand of my God upon me and what the king had said to me. They replied, "Let us start rebuilding." So they began this good work.

Jerusalem walls = blessing & protection; mark Jesus' people as a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God

We build-up Jerusalem walls today with...

- liturgies that are indexed to the Kingdom of God
- teachings that are anchored in the Scriptures, not blown "here and there" by the winds of culture
- songs that magnify the character of God and remind us of our identity in Christ
- structures that facilitate the spiritual development of people

Discipleship = build Jerusalem walls

Missions = tear down Jericho walls

Next Generation = start breaking walls & building them as early as possible