

BE SURE YOU'RE SERVING RIGHT!

Pastor Kedrick Brown, CBC Aberdeen, Aug 16, 2020

“Twin Towers” – One of the wonders of the modern world before 9/11/2001 – Became a memory in just one day... Indescribable trauma

586 B.C. – Destruction of entire city and walls of Jerusalem by Babylonians (2 Kings 25:8-10) → Uninhabited 70 years, as prophesied by Jeremiah. Almost same condition over 140 years later → Nehemiah's request to King Artaxerxes (Neh. 1:3;2:3,5)

→Nehemiah's appeal to residents of Jerusalem and its environs. (2:17-18)

Our focus today is not on Nehemiah, but those who worked, served, with him!

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Scripture Reading Neh. 3:1-32

- **Note Who, and Try to Count How Many were Involved in Rebuilding**
- **Look for Repeated Phrases**
- **Look for Principles regarding Serving**

Despite ridicule, criticism, and plots... Neh. 2:6; 4:3 → Builders' response 4:6 – Kept on Building; 4:9 – Kept on Praying – and Watching; 4:16-18 - Wore Their Full Armor!

Some conditions during the building: Neh. 4:6,17,23

Wall finished in _____! Length: 2.5 Miles; Avg Height: 39' (4 story building); Thickness: 8' (Minivan ~6" wide)

~2000 years later, ~4 years (1537-1541) to rebuild walls of Jerusalem!

Table of Rebuilders of the Walls and Gates during Nehemiah's Time

One Mission / One Team – Individuals, Families, Neighbors, Workmates

They succeeded because They Served Right and GOD was their Co-worker!

6:16 – The God of Israel was glorified!

Remember Phil. 4:13 - _____

Lessons about Serving Right

- **Embraced the God-appointed Leader's Call, and Directions – 2:17-18; 4:13-14**
- **Worked (not just talked) – 2:18ff**
- **Focused (didn't work too many areas – knew and played their roles) – Ch. 3**
- **Worked Cooperatively (Ch. 3 - Next to / After him; Defensive shifts - Ch. 4:22), not Competitively**
- **Prayed to God when Threatened – 4:9**
- **Were Prepared - Had Whole Armor – 4:17-18**
- **Sacrificed Convenience for the Goal – 4:23**

Fast Forward to Jesus ~30-33 A.D. – Luke 4:18-19 – He was sent to those who were:

Charge to us: John 20:21: _____

“Be Sure You’re Seeing Right” also means that we “See” those in Need, as Jesus did! Are you looking?

Serving Right? Biblical Model = Bus Model (Pastor = Driver; Members = Passengers; Bus Only Moves when Pastor's Driving)

Biblical Model = The Body (1 Cor. 12:27; 14:21)

Applications about Serving Right

Which Area will you work on?

- 1. Embrace the God-appointed Leader's Call, and Directions**
- 2. Work (Not just talk about working)**
- 3. Focus (Know and play your role)**
- 4. Work Cooperatively, not Competitively**
- 5. Pray to God when Threatened**
- 6. Be Prepared – Put on the Whole Armor of God**
- 7. Sacrifice Convenience for the Goal**

Think, and Turn, Today (Psalm 119:59-60)

“BE SURE YOU’RE SERVING RIGHT!” – MY NOTES

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