

REBUILDING THE BROKEN PLACES IN YOUR LIFE

A STUDY OF NEHEMIAH

#1: TURN TO GOD IN TROUBLE

NEHEMIAH 1:1-11

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I. GOD SPECIALIZES IN REBUILDING WHAT IS BROKEN

He heals the brokenhearted and bandages their wounds.
Psalm 147:3 (NLT)

This means that anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun!

2 Corinthians 5:17 (NLT)

“Can a mother forget the baby at her breast and have no compassion on the child she has borne? Though she may forget, I will not forget you! See, I have engraved you on the palms of my hands; your walls are ever before me.

Isaiah 49:15-16 (NIV)

II. WHAT NEHEMIAH IS ABOUT

1. The writer

The writer is Nehemiah who was the cupbearer to Artaxerxes, King of Persia. He wrote sometime between 445 and 432 BC

2. The situation

After hundreds of years in captivity—Israel is being allowed to return to their homeland. However, the walls and much of the city of Jerusalem are still in ruins. Also, the people living there are in trouble and disgrace.

3. The purpose

Nehemiah is the historical record of the rebuilding of the walls of Jerusalem, the return of God’s people from exile, and the repopulation of the city. However, this book also demonstrates how:

- God can accomplish extraordinary things through ordinary people who are willing to trust Him
- God can do what seems impossible in order to rebuild the broken places in our lives

4. The key verse

So on October 2 the wall was finished—just fifty-two days after we had begun. When our enemies and the surrounding nations heard about it, they were frightened and humiliated. They realized this work had been done with the help of our God.

Nehemiah 6:15-16 (NLT)

III. WHERE WE ARE GOING IN NEHEMIAH

We will see that Nehemiah is filled with practical wisdom about how, with God's help, we can rebuild the broken places in our lives – even when we face strong opposition.

IV. HOW I CAN TURN TO GOD WHEN I'M IN TROUBLE—NEHEMIAH 1:1-11

- 1. Identify what needs to change (v.1-3)**
- 2. Pray to the Lord for help (v.4-7)**
- 3. Remember Gods' love (v.5-6a)**
- 4. Repent for my part of the problem (v.6b-7)**
- 5. Trust the Lord's promises (v.8-9)**
- 6. Magnify the power of God rather than the trouble (v.10-11a)**
- 7. Take action toward a solution (v.11b)**

**With God's power working in us, God can do much,
much more than anything we can ask or imagine.
Ephesians 3:20 (NCV)**