

“So they strengthened their hands for this good work.”

Nehemiah 2:13-15

Nehemiah was the cupbearer to King Artaxerxes I. His position was one of responsibility and influence. He would later become an advisor to the king. Having heard that the walls of Jerusalem had not been rebuilt, he received permission to go and correct the situation. Nehemiah showed unmatched skills in both leadership and organization. Through his humility, integrity and patriotism, they completed the job in just 12 days.

1. Nehemiah's Sorrow (vss. 13-15)

- Jerusalem for us is a picture of the _____. “The wall of Jerusalem is thrown down.”
- Nehemiah takes personal _____ to seeing it rebuilt. To rebuild those walls, he must first take notice of the ruin of those walls.
- “The lightness of our sorrows may be measured by the feebleness of our works.” Nicoll

2. Nehemiah's _____

- The spirit of sacrifice – willing to give all to God.
- He gives up peace and comfort for the unknown world of faith in living for the Lord.

3. Nehemiah's Faith

- This faith can be measured by:
 1. Lack of _____
 2. Vast _____ he encounters (vss. 19-20)
- “Anything done for the Lord, in His will, will face obstacles.”

The Work (vss. 17-18)

1. It was a _____ work.

- Repair their city – build the walls
- 1 Samuel 17:29 David says to his own brethren “Is there not a cause?”

2. It was _____ work.

- “And they said, let us rise up and build.” vs. 18
- Make the goals not E.B.C. Goals but make them your goals.
- They worked from the leadership down. (4:6)
- It caused them to be strengthened (excited).

3. The alternative was not _____.

- “...that we be no more a reproach.” vs. 17
- Why did God use Nehemiah? He was responsible, faithful and trustworthy.
- “The great cause as to why we are weak in our duty is that we are cold to it.” Carey
- The work of E.B.C. is a good work and our work. Let's strengthen our hands to do it.

