



VICTORIOUS CHRISTIAN MINISTRY

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Study 10: THE REBUILDING OF THE WALL

Nehemiah 3

Once the people were motivated, Nehemiah mobilized them for the work immediately. **They did not allow the grass to grow between decision and action. They were not quick to say and slow to act.** Neither were they of the company of those who reneged on their commitment when the time for performance comes. Having thoroughly surveyed the entire broken wall, he was able to wisely distribute the work to the people. The division of labour was so thorough that the entire wall and all gates were covered. Though no mention is made of Nehemiah repairing any part of the wall, it is not because he slighted physical labour, rather he was there throughout organizing, directing, resourcing and supervising the work as well as maintaining diligent surveillance on the activities of the enemies. This chapter is full of lessons for the trusting child of God who wants to be and do his best for God.

1. Very many volunteered for service and each had a share of what to do, making the otherwise enormous task to become light. **Many hands make light work.** God expects all to be actively involved in His work. **There is no useless member in the body of Christ.**
2. (Vs 1): The chapter opens with the high priest and his brethren repairing the ship gate, despite the dignity of their office. What a good example for Christian leaders and workers to set before their people!
3. (Vs 2,7): Many who were not inhabitants of Jerusalem actively participated in the work. They were interested purely in public welfare rather than private interests. God expects us to help advance his good course despite religious background or denominational differences.
4. (Vs 12,14-18): Several rulers put in their best to advance the work. Our callings, positions and privileges in life are trusts from the Lord to be invested in his service.
5. (Vs 5): The nobles of Tekoa “put not their necks to the work of their Lord”. What a shame that these allowed the dignity and liberty of their peerage to serve as a discharge from serving God and doing good, which are indeed the highest honour and truest freedom.
6. (Vs 6): Two people joined in partnership to repair the old gate. **Two are better than one for there is a better reward for their work.**
7. (Vs 8,32): Honest tradesmen – goldsmiths, apothecaries, merchants, etc. did not think their callings excused them, nor plead that they could not leave their shop to work for God, knowing that what they lost would certainly be made up to them by the blessing of God upon their calling. God rewards faithfulness.

Your Spiritual Welfare Is Our Concern

Professionals and people of all callings can make valuable contributions towards God's work.

8. (Vs 12 See also Philippians 4:3): Women were also involved in the work as in Paul's ministry.
9. (Vs 10,23,28,29,30): Some repaired "over against their houses" and chamber. It was still a significant contribution towards the successful completion of the work. ***If everyone will sweep the front of his own door the street will be clean!*** Much progress is made when believers do the part of the work that falls nearest to them or that which they are best suited.
10. (Vs 20): It was said of Baruch that he ***earnestly*** repaired the part that fell to him. Others could see his zeal, vigour and earnestness. ***Do others notice your zeal and enthusiasm for the Lord?***
11. (Vs 30): One of the builders is described as the sixth son of his father. We do not know whether the five elder brethren participated in or declined from the work. However his being singled out in the comment suggests that he was not influenced by their decisions and behaviour. ***To live for and serve God successfully we must make personal independent decisions and never be influenced negatively by the behaviours, attitudes and opinions of the "elders".***
12. (Vs 4,5,21,27): Some, having finished their initial allocation of responsibility, helped others to complete theirs. ***God's service calls for co-operation not competition*** and we should be helpers of one another.