

NEHEMIAH - MAN OF FAITH & ACTION

Quote:

“Then I told them of the hand of my God which was good upon me; as also the king’s words that he had spoken unto me. And they said, Let us rise up and build. So they strengthened their hands for this good work.”

Nehemiah 2:18

Nehemiah: Man of Prayer and Action:

Mark at the beginning of Nehemiah.

His name means ‘The Consolation of Yah’. He becomes the vehicle by which the saving work of Yahweh for his people is accomplished. Nehemiah could be described as a ‘Restorer of Jerusalem’, ‘Protector of the Flock’ and ‘Man of Prayer’ - In all three ways he types the Lord Jesus Christ.

Nehemiah is revealed to be:

1. A born LEADER - **Neh 2:18**.
2. A man of PRAYER:
 - a. **Neh 1:4-11** - When learning of the state of the Ecclesia and Jerusalem.
 - b. **Neh 2:4** - Before requesting leave of the king.
 - c. **Neh 4:4-5** - When faced with the mocking insults of the adversaries.
 - d. **Neh 4:8-9; 6:9,14** - When confronted with threats, false accusations and conspiracies, he sought strength from Yahweh
 - e. **Neh 5:19; 13:14,22,31** - When exercising wisdom.
3. A man of OPPORTUNITY - **Neh. 2:1-5,7**.
4. A man of ACTION - **Neh 2:12-16; 4:6; 5:6-7**.
5. A man of LIBERALITY and KINDNESS - **Neh 5:14-18**.
6. A man of FAITH - **Neh. 4:20**.
7. A man of COURAGE - **Neh 4:14**.
8. A man who was CLEAR-SIGHTED - **Neh 6:2**, PLAIN-SPEAKING - **Neh 6:3**, FIRM-DEALING - **Neh 13:25, 28**, and GOD-HONOURING - **Neh 7:5; 4:5**.

Nehemiah: The Book of Reconstruction:

It begins and ends with a prayer.

Mark at the beginning of Nehemiah.

Mark the chapter breakdowns in the places they correspond to.

It reveals that the secret of success in the work of God is found in prayer (**ch 1:4**), preparation (**ch 2:12-16**), performance (**ch 4:6**) and perseverance (**ch 4:15-23**).

The book is divided into three parts. This is typical of the work of Jesus Christ which can also be divided into three stages:

1. In his first advent Christ came to perform “his Father’s business” (Lk 2:49) - typified by Nehemiah being authorised by the king to go to Jerusalem.
2. Next was Christ’s mediatorial work that followed the foundation of the ecclesia of faith (Matt 16:17-18) - typified by Nehemiah’s work rebuilding the ecclesia.
3. The Lord Jesus Christ’s second coming will be as a Judge (2 Tim 4:1) and Redeemer of His people (Heb 9:28; Rom 11:26) - just as Nehemiah returned with similar duties on the Jews of the restoration.

Chapter Breakdown

1. **Ch 1-6 - Reconstructing the Wall**
 - a. Nehemiah’s Intercession for Jerusalem - Ch 1:1-11
 - b. Nehemiah Visits Jerusalem - Ch 2:1-16
 - c. Nehemiah’s Exhortation to the People - Ch 2:17-20
 - d. Rebuilding of the Wall is Commenced - Ch 3:1-32
 - e. Rebuilding of the Wall is Obstructed - Ch 4:1-6:14
 - f. Rebuilding is Successfully Completed - Ch 6:15-19
2. **Ch 7-12 - Re-instructing the People**
 - a. Re-registration of the Remnant - Ch 7:1-73
 - b. Re-endorsement of the Law - Ch 8:1-18
 - c. Re-consecration of the People - Ch 9:1-10:39
 - d. Re-populating the city - Ch 11:1-36
 - e. Re-dedication of the Walls - Ch 12:1-47
3. **Ch 13 - The Second Return of the Governor and the Day of Judgment.**
 - a. Re-enforcement of the Covenant - Ch 13:1-31