

“Let US Rise Up And Build”
Nehemiah 3:1-32
3/30/25
Message 3

Introduction

- Title Of The Message: “Let US Rise Up And Build”

- **Illustration**

- **Working Together**

- Brother Hammer was appointed to preside over the Master Tool Convention.
 - Brother Screwdriver objected,
 - Saying “Brother Hammer, you’re too noisy to preside over this meeting.
 - You’re always driving home your point, always nailing people.
 - I call for your resignation immediately.
- Brother Hammer responded,
 - “Well, what about you, Brother Screwdriver?
 - All you ever do is spin around in circles.
- That may be true, said Brother Screwdriver,
 - But at least I’m not like Brother Plane.
 - His work is so surfacy, so shallow.
 - What right does he have to even be here?”
- If you’re going to kick me out, protested Brother Plane

- What about Brother Ruler?
 - He thinks he's always right, measuring everyone else by his standards
- Well, if you're going to come down on me, argued Brother Ruler,
 - What about Brother Plier?
 - He needs to get a grip!"
 - At least I don't rub people the wrong way, said Brother Plier, who was staring at Brother Sandpaper.
- Just then - The Master Craftsman walked in.
 - He used each tool at the perfect time
 - He created an object of great beauty.
- **This can be a picture of the church at times**
 - We need to remember we are all part of a body and Christ is the head –
 - We all have a place
 - A function a purpose
 - God wants uses US as He sees fit!
 - Use US to bring Glory to His Name

• **Now at first glance - This Chapter just looks like a lot of names...**

- **But it is much more than that**

- This is a great chapter is ALL about COOPERATION / TEAM WORK
- **Now this is also a VERY HARD Chapter**
 - Lots of names - no one really knows how to pronounce
 - Many just skip over this chapter
 - It is not the only hard chapter in this short book
 - If you have read ahead you know chapter 7 and 10-12...

- **Review**

- **Israel had SINNED Greatly**
 - Solomon Died
 - Nation Split in 2
 - Northern Kingdom
 - Jeroboam
 - Southern Kingdom
 - Rehoboam
- **Both Kingdoms Marked by**
 - Civil War
 - Idolatry
 - Immorality
- **The Kingdoms Fall**
 - The Northern Kingdom

- Fell first and the people were taken into captivity by the Assyrians in 722 B.C.
- The Northern Kingdom were absorbed into Assyria and eventually into other cultures.
- **The Southern Kingdom**
 - To the Babylonians brought in 586 B.C.
 - The Southern Kingdom remained intact in Babylon
 - After Babylon FELL by the Medes and Persians in 539 B.C.
 - Many Jews returned to their homeland.
- **The Return**
 - **Show Pic**
- **Chapter 1 - Nehemiah - A Burden & Prayer**
 - **He is living in Babylon – Born in Exile – under Babylonian Captivity**
 - After 70 years of Captivity
 - The Babylon Kingdom is replaced by Persian Kingdom
 - **Nehemiah is given a great Job**
 - Yes some risks
 - Kings cupbearer – Important
 - **ALL CHANGED in one day**
 - Bad Report – Walls are still down – Gates burned with fire

- Started with a Burden / Compassion
- THAT LED Him to Fast & Pray
- **The Commitment To Prayer vv. 4-11**
 - His Attitude (Heart) For People v. 4
 - Started with a Burden
 - He Wept
 - He Fasted and Prayed
 - His Approach (Praise) to God v. 5
 - His Acknowledgment of HIS SINS v. 6-7
 - Please hear my prayer v. 6a
 - Confesses Sin vv. 6b-7
 - His Appeal to God's Promise vv. 8-11
 - God keeps His Promises – Thank you Jesus!
- **Chapter 2 - The Good Hand of My God Upon Me"**
 - **Respond To Opportunities vv. 1-4**
 - The Need For Prayer vv. 1-4
 - Fasted & Prayed for 4 months
 - Waited all that time
 - Artaxerxes issues the Decree
 - Promise of the Messiah (Daniel 9:25)
 - The Need For A Plan vv. 4-8a

- Nehemiah was ready when asked
- **You Will Always Have Opposition vv. 9-10**
 - Sanballat the Horonite
 - Tobiah the Ammonite
- **The Obstacles To Be Overcome vv. 11-18**
 - Surveyed the damage and work to be done
- **How To Deal With Opposition vv. 19-20**
 - Speak TRUTH into it

• **Now This Morning 2 Main Points**

- Context vv. 1-32
- Application

Context vv. 1-32

• **First: Rise Up And Build By The Sheep Gate vv. 1-2**

Nehemiah 3:1–2 (NKJV)

1 Then E-li-a-shib the high priest rose up with his brethren the priests and built **the Sheep Gate**; they **consecrated it** and hung its doors. They built as far as the Tower of the Hundred, and **consecrated it**, then as far as the Tower of Hanan-el.

2 **Next to** E-li-a-shib the men of **Jericho built**. And **next to them** Zac-cur the son of Im-ri built.

○ **Show Pics**

- Over View Of Jerusalem in Nehemiah's Day x 2 or 3
- Wall Map
- **1st Eliashib the high priest**

- **Eliashib**

- Was a grandson of Jeshua (12:10)
 - Jeshua was the high priest in Zerubbabel's day (Ezra 3:2).
- Eliashib's grandson would later marry a daughter of Sanballat (Nehemiah 13:28)

- **2nd The Sheep Gate**

- **The Sheep Gate**

- It was the gate where shepherds brought their flocks to sell them
 - Including the temple sacrifices

- **Application - This gate reminds us of Jesus Christ**

- The Lamb of God who died for the sins of the world (John 1:29; 5:2)
- Nehemiah could have begun his account with any of the gates
 - But I find it fascinating
 - Started and Ended the account with the Sheep Gate.

- **3rd They Consecrated it**

- **Meaning - Set apart for God's glory and service**

- These city gates were made especially for God.

- **4th The men of Jericho built:**

- Jericho –

- There will be people from the various cities participating in the wall building project.
- It's not just the people of Jerusalem that are building.

• **Second: Rise Up And Build By The Fish Gate vv. 3-5**

Nehemiah 3:3–5 (NKJV)

3 *Also the sons of Has-se-naah built the **Fish Gate**; they laid its beams and hung its doors with its bolts and bars.*

4 *And **next to them** Mer-e-moth the son of U-ri-jah, the son of Koz, made repairs. Next to them Me-shul-lam the son of Ber-e-chi-ah, the son of Me-shez-a-bel, made repairs. Next to them Zadok the son of Ba-a-na made repairs.*

5 *Next to them the Te-ko-ites made repairs; **but their nobles did not put their shoulders to the work of their Lord.***

○ **Show Map**

○ **1st The Fish Gate**

- Most likely named because of the nearby fish market.
- Between the two stood the
 - Tower of Hammeah (“the hundred”)
 - Tower of Hananeel
 - These two towers were a part of the city’s defense system
 - They were close to the citadel,
 - Where the soldiers guarded the temple and protected the northern approach to the city which was especially vulnerable.

○ **2nd NEXT To Them / Him / That OR Beside Him & Beyond Them**

- Occurs 28 times in this chapter

- Nehemiah assigned everyone a specific place to work
- **3rd Made Repairs**
 - The word for Repairs
 - Hebrew: Chazaq,
 - Used 35 times in this chapter alone.
 - Means: Strengthening, encouraging, of making something strong.
- **4th Next to them the Tekoites made repairs**
 - **The Tekoites did their work.**
 - The people of the city of Tekoa were more than willing to work –
 - **BUT their NOBLES**
 - DID NOT put their shoulders to the work of their Lord.
 - These nobles from the city of Tekoa thought they were above the hard work, so they didn't join in.
 - Application
 - There will always be those that feel they are NOBLES and do not need to do any work for God's Kingdom

• **Third: Rise Up And Build By The Old Gate vv. 6-12**

Nehemiah 3:6–12 (NKJV)

6 Moreover Je-ho-i-a-da the son of Pa-se-ah and Me-shul-lam the son of Bes-o-dei-ah repaired **the Old Gate**; they laid its beams and hung its doors, with its bolts and bars.

7 And next to them Mel-a-ti-ah the Gibeonite, Jadon the Me-ro-no-thite, the men of Gibeon and Miz-pah, repaired the residence of the governor of the region beyond the River.

*8 Next to him Uz-zi-el the son of Har-hai-ah, **one of the goldsmiths, made repairs.** Also next to him Hananiah, one of the perfumers, made repairs; and they fortified Jerusalem as far as the Broad Wall.*

*9 And next to them **Re-phai-ah the son of Hur, leader of half the district of Jerusalem, made repairs.***

*10 Next to them Jedaiah the son of Ha-ru-maph **made repairs in front of his house.** And next to him Hat-tush the son of Hash-ab-niah made repairs.*

11 Mal-chi-jah the son of Ha-rim and Ha-shub the son of Pa-hath-moab repaired another section, as well as the Tower of the Ovens.

12 And next to him was Shal-lum the son of Ha-llo-hesh, leader of half the district of Jerusalem; he and his daughters made repairs.

○ **Show Pic**

○ **1st The Old Gate**

▪ **Some students identify this with the “Mishneh Gate”**

- The Hebrew word means “second quarter” or “new quarter” (Zeph. 1:10, NIV).
- In Nehemiah’s day, the northwest section of the city was “the mishneh” or “new quarter”; and this gate led into it.

○ **2nd Among the repairers**

▪ **Uzziel, the son of Harhaiah**

- The Goldsmiths
- The Perfumers.

▪ **Application**

- These were men of different professions
 - Not professional builders.

- They were not trained for this kind of work.
 - The most important ability in the work of the LORD is availability.
- **3rd Rephaiah the son of Hur, LEADER of half the district of Jerusalem**
 - **He worked on this section of the wall.**
 - Here was another leader
 - Being a servant leader
- **4th Made repairs in front of his house**
 - Several times in the Nehemiah 3
 - In FRONT of his HOUSE
 - Guzik; The names of the men who are said to have made repairs in front of his house are interesting:
 - Nehemiah 3:10 mentions Jedaiah
 - His name means “He who calls unto God”
 - Our homes must be places of prayer, where the family calls on God.
 - Nehemiah 3:23 mentions Benjamin
 - His name means “Son of my right hand”
 - Speaking of a protector.
 - Our homes must be places of protection and peace.
 - Nehemiah 3:29 mentions Zadok

- His name means justice
 - Our homes must be places of justice and integrity, especially with integrity regarding our marital vows and promises.
- Nehemiah 3:30 mentions Meshullam
 - His name means devoted
 - Our homes must be places of devotion and separation to God.
- **5th Malchijah son of Harim**
 - **Malchijah was mentioned in (Ezra 10:31)**
 - He confronted by Ezra for his stand against taking a pagan wife
 - That was many years before this
 - So Malchijah got things right with God and now, years later, he served Him.
 - **Application**
 - At some point you may find yourself on the WRONG side with God
 - It not too late to repent and receive forgiveness and start serving JESUS

• **Fourth: Rise Up And Build By The Valley Gate v. 13**

Nehemiah 3:13 (NKJV)

13 *Ha-nun and the inhabitants of Za-no-ah repaired the **Valley Gate**. They built it, hung its doors with its bolts and bars, and repaired a thousand cubits of the wall as far as the **Refuse Gate**.*

○ **Show Map**

- **1st The Valley Gate**

- Nehemiah began his investigation of the ruins of the city here (Nehemiah 2:13)

- **Fifth: Rise Up And Build By The Refuse Gate v. 14**

Nehemiah 3:14 (NKJV)

14 Mal-chi-jah the son of Re-chab, leader of the district of Beth Hac-ce-rem, repaired the Refuse Gate; he built it and hung its doors with its bolts and bars.

- **Show Pic**

- **1st Refuge Gates**

- Near the Pool of Siloam
- It was a main exit to the Valley of Hinnom
 - Where the city disposed of its garbage.
 - The word - Gehenna means “Valley of Hinnom”
 - This area that Jesus used as a picture of hell,

Mark 9:44 (NKJV)

44 where ‘Their worm does not die And the fire is not quenched.’

2 Chronicles 33:6 (NKJV)

6 Also he caused his sons to pass through the fire in the Valley of the Son of Hinnom; he practiced soothsaying, used witchcraft and sorcery, and consulted mediums and spiritists. He did much evil in the sight of the LORD, to provoke Him to anger.

- **Application**

- This gate did not have a beautiful name
 - But it did perform an IMPORTANT Service!

- The sanitary disposal of waste materials is essential to the health of a city.
 - It reminds us that, like the city, each of us individually must get rid of whatever defiles us, or it may destroy us (2 Cor. 7:1; 1 John 1:9).

• **Sixth: Rise Up And Build By The Fountain Gate vv. 15-25**

Don't READ

Nehemiah 3:15–25 (NKJV)

15 *Shal-lun the son of Col-Ho-zeh, leader of the district of Mizpah, repaired the Fountain Gate; he built it, covered it, hung its doors with its bolts and bars, and repaired the wall of the Pool of She-lah by the King's Garden, as far as the stairs that go down from the City of David.*

16 *After him Nehemiah the son of Az-buk, leader of half the district of Beth Zur, made repairs as far as the place in front of the tombs of David, to the man-made pool, and as far as the House of the Mighty.*

17 *After him the Levites, under Re-hum the son of Bani, made repairs. Next to him Hash-a-bi-ah, leader of half the district of Ke-il-ah, made repairs for his district.*

18 *After him their brethren, under Ba-va-i the son of Hen-a-dad, leader of the other half of the district of Keilah, made repairs.*

19 *And next to him Ezer the son of Jesh-u-a, the leader of Mizpah, repaired another section in front of the Ascent to the Armory at the buttress.*

20 *After him Ba-ruch the son of Zab-ba-i carefully repaired the other section, from the buttress to the door of the house of Eliashib the high priest.*

21 *After him Meremoth the son of Urijah, the son of Koz, repaired another section, from the door of the house of E-li-a-shib to the end of the house of Eliashib.*

22 *And after him the priests, the men of the plain, made repairs.*

23 *After him Benjamin and Ha-sshub made repairs opposite their house. After them Azariah the son of Ma-a-sei-ah, the son of An-a-niah, made repairs by his house.*

24 *After him Bin-nu-i the son of Hen-a-dad repaired another section, from the house of Azariah to the buttress, even as far as the corner.*

25 *Pa-lal the son of U-zai made repairs opposite the buttress, and on the tower which projects from the king's upper house that was by the court of the prison. After him Pe-dai-ah the son of Par-osh made repairs.*

○ **Show Pic**

- **1st Fountain Gate**

- Location near the Pool of Siloam
- The old City of David and the water tunnel built by King Hezekiah (2 Kings 20:20).
- The Gihon Spring that fed the water system was an important source of water in the city.

- **Seventh: Rise Up And Build By The Water Gate vv. 26-27**

Nehemiah 3:26–27 (NKJV)

26 Moreover the Neth-i-nim who dwelt in O-phel made repairs as far as the place in front of the **Water Gate** toward the east, and on the projecting tower.

27 After them the Te-ko-ites **repaired another section**, next to the great projecting tower, and as far as the wall of Ophel.

- **Show Pic**

- **Water Gate**

- The Water Gate led from the old City of David to the Gihon Spring, located adjacent to the Kidron Valley.
- The Water Gate reminds us of the Word of God.

- **The Tekoites repaired another section**

- The Tekoites weren't satisfied with the significant work they had done before – they went on to do even more work.

- **Eighth: Rise Up And Build By The Horse Gate v. 28**

Nehemiah 3:28 (NKJV)

28 Beyond the **Horse Gate** the priests made repairs, each in front of his own house.

- **Show Pic**

- **The Horse Gate**

- Stood north of the Water Gate, adjacent to the temple area.
 - God warned His people not to trust in horses and chariots (Deut. 17:14–20)
- Application
 - The Horse Gate reminds us that there is warfare in the Christian life (2 Tim. 2:1–4)
 - We must always be ready to do battle (Eph. 6:10–18).

- **Ninth: Rise Up And Build By The EAST GATE vv. 29-30**

Nehemiah 3:29–30 (NKJV)

*29 After them Zadok the son of Immer made repairs in front of his own house. After him Shem-ai-ah the son of Shech-a-niah, the keeper of the **East Gate**, made repairs.*

30 After him Hananiah the son of Shel-e-miah, and Hanun, the sixth son of Za-laph, repaired another section. After him Me-shul-lam the son of Ber-e-chi-ah made repairs in front of his dwelling.

- **Show Pics**

- **The East Gate**

- Led directly to the temple and is probably what we know today as the Golden Gate.
- Tradition says
 - That Jesus entered the temple on Palm Sunday through this gate.
- In the sixteenth century
 - The gate was sealed up with blocks of stone by the Turkish sultan, Sulayman the Magnificent.

- Jewish and Christian tradition both connect the Golden Gate with the coming of the Messiah to Jerusalem
- Muslims associate it with the future judgment.
- Ezekiel saw the glory of the Lord depart from the temple at the East Gate
 - (Ezek. 10:16–22; 11:22–25)
- The Lord will return to the city the same way
 - (Ezekiel 43:1–5)

• **Rise Up And Build By The Miphkad (Muster or Assembly) Gate vv. 31-32**

Nehemiah 3:31–32 (NKJV)

31 *After him Mal-chi-jah, one of the goldsmiths, made repairs as far as the house of the Neth-i-nim and of the merchants, in front of the **Miph-kad Gate**, and as far as the upper room at the corner.*

32 *And between the upper room at the corner, as far as the Sheep Gate, the goldsmiths and the merchants made repairs.*

○ **Show Pic**

○ **The Miphkad Gate (Mustard)**

- The Hebrew word has a military connotation and refers to the mustering of the troops for numbering and inspection.
- The NIV and NASB both translate it “the Inspection Gate.”
- This is where the army was reviewed and registered.

Application

• **First: The Purpose For Walls & Gates**

- **1st Even if you don't think you need walls, you do.**

- The “New Jerusalem”.
 - It too will have walls that are high

Revelation 21:12 (NKJV)

12 Also she had a great and high wall with twelve gates, and twelve angels at the gates, and names written on them, which are the names of the twelve tribes of the children of Israel:

Revelation 21:14 (NKJV)

14 Now the wall of the city had twelve foundations, and on them were the names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb.

Revelation 21:21 (NKJV)

21 The twelve gates were twelve pearls: each individual gate was of one pearl. And the street of the city was pure gold, like transparent glass.

- None of us are as perfect as the New Jerusalem will be.
- If the New Jerusalem needs walls, how much more do we need “walls”?

○ **2nd Walls of Self-Control**

- As a picture of “Self-Control”

Proverbs 25:28 (NKJV)

28 Whoever has no rule over his own spirit Is like a city broken down, without walls.

Proverbs 25:28 (NLT)

28 A person without self-control is like a city with broken-down walls.

- J. Oswald Sanders; “Before we can conquer the world, we must first conquer the self.”
- The “FRUIT” of the Holy Spirit is Self Control
- Stay on the Straight Path

○ **3rd Build walls to protect your home**

- Jedaiah (v. 10) built “even over against his house”. Azariah (vs. 23) built by his house. The priests did the same (vs. 28)
- Husband / Fathers
 - Make sure the Spiritual Wall are built around your family
 - Build them up in the Faith
- **4th Take OUT the trash**
 - A Dung Gate is Essential
 - Take out the TRASH Sin in your life

• **Second: A Plan To Build Walls**

- **1st We Need a Common Vision**
 - **1st The TASK was to build a wall**
 - For the security and protection of the city.
 - The Wall was not meant to LOOK Pretty
 - JUST functional and durable.
 - **2nd Question – What if everyone had Different Ideas**
 - One Group
 - Wanted Decorative fence.
 - One Group
 - Didn’t care about looks
 - Result would be CHAOS & TENSION

- The Building world Suffer
- It was going to take a collective effort to get this done
- **3rd The Lord Through Nehemiah gave a CLEAR VISION and PLAN**
 - To ensure successes, we have to have a clear vision
 - Rebuild the walls / that's it!!!
 - Application
 - Same thing is true of Any Task – any Ministry / Clear vision
 - Clear Vision of Calvary CP
 - Simply Jesus!!
 - Acts 2:42-43

Acts 2:42–43 (NKJV)

42 And they continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship,
in the breaking of bread, and in prayers.

43 Then fear came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were done
through the apostles.

- UP-REACH / Focus on God
- IN-REACH / Equip the Saints for the work of the ministry
- OUT-REACH / Reach out to the LOST world
- **2nd Dedicated Leaders**
 - Dedicated leaders to ensure and help everyone work toward the common vision.

- 8 leaders are mentioned in the Chapter
 - The work at 4 of the 10 gates was being spear headed by them.
 - Including 2 individuals who each controlled half of the city.
 - v. 9 Rephaiah
 - v. 12 Shallum
- **Blessed With Great Leaders here**
 - Great MEN
- **The Purpose of the Leaders was - 3 fold**
 - 1st Set the Example – doing the work!
 - Servant Leaders
 - 2nd Help Delegate
 - Critical to have others helping
 - 3rd Help Motivate
 - Motivation is a key to Productivity!
 - **Dealing with Difficulties - Trying to motivate a group of people**
 - What Motivates some
 - Might turn someone else off.
 - The Problem Nehemiah dealt with

- We read of the Nobles from *Tekoites* who refused to participate v. 5

- Sticks in the mud!

- How does Nehemiah Respond to the problem?

- Here is what is great –
- Nehemiah doesn't expend any energy trying to convince the nobles from Tekoa to participate
- He is not trying to persuade them to join the Job
- He is not trying to talk them into being involved
- Nehemiah knows that they are embarking in A GREAT WORK!
- He is focused on God
- Either they will listen to God or they wont
- Result of the attitude
- Their lack of participation simply meant that they were going to miss out on the blessing

- **What Nehemiah did to motivate the people**

- Nehemiah placed some of the people on a section of the wall that would interest them.
- **1st The priest worked at the sheep gate**

- The gate where the sheep were brought to go to the temple to be sacrificed.

- It was essential for their calling

- So the sheep gate was of interest to them.

- **2nd Others worked close to their homes**

- (Nehemiah 3:10 / Nehemiah 3:23 / Nehemiah 3:28 / Nehemiah 3:30)

- **A Key to Leading**

- See What the Holy Spirit is doing in a person's life and let them go!!!

- Get people into areas where they are gifted in let them go for it.

- Watch What people like to do and focus the efforts there

- **3rd Willing Workers**

Nehemiah 2:18 (NKJV)

18 And I told them of the hand of my God which had been good upon me, and also of the king's words that he had spoken to me. So they said, "Let us rise up and build." Then they set their hands to this good work.

- **1st Even those Outside the city**

- Jericho / Tekoites

- What is really interesting is there was a whole group of people who came from outside the city

- They came to work for the overall cause so that the Lord's name would be glorified.

- Great to see people serving in all areas
- 2nd **Willing to work and willing to cooperate**
 - They had a mind to work

Nehemiah 4:6 (NKJV)

6 So we built the wall, and the entire wall was joined together up to half its height, for the people had a mind to work.

- We too must have a mind to work
 - The body is not one member but many each having different functions
 - (1 Corinthians 12)
- **4th The RESULTS the work was blessed by God**
 - Record 52 days!

Nehemiah 6:15 (NKJV)

15 So the wall was finished on the twenty-fifth day of Elul, in fifty-two days.

- This Chapter teaches us that God's work gets done in a powerful way when willing people make themselves available to carry out God's prescribed vision

Closing

- May the Lord encourage US as we build the wall of His kingdom