

“Rededication, Again...!”
Nehemiah 13:1-31
6/8/25
Message 11

Introduction

- Title Of The Message: “Rededication, Again...!”

- **Illustration – Question**

- **How many times have you made that PROMISE...**
 - You know... I will NEVER to do that SIN again?
 - ONLY to do that sin again!
 - You know... Lord I want to live my life for you?
 - ONLY to get caught up in the same worldly pit I always seem to get stuck in
- **In Nehemiah 10:39 the people of Israel made a Promised / Covenant**
 - We Will NOT be unequally yoke in marriage
 - We Will NOT do business on the Sabbath
 - We Will Honor God with our Money / Resources
- **But NOW in Nehemiah 13**
 - Nehemiah had to ask...
 - Why is the house of God forsaken?
 - Forsaken because Israel DID NOT keep the Promise / Covenant before God!
 - So NOW in chapter 13

- We see the need for Israel to Re-Dedicate – Again
- **Take this to HEART**
 - **This Chapter and really the whole OT**
 - Makes a point clear
 - The LAW
 - RULES
 - VOWS
 - Our PROMISES / COVENANTS
 - Are POWERLESS to stop SIN
 - The Whole OT
 - Is one example after another – that the LAW could NOT SAVE
 - No matter HOW MANY Promises Israel made they would always fall short
 - **Christians**
 - We are not saved by our Promises
 - We are Saved by HIS Promises
 - Our Laws, Rules, Vows, Promises & Covenants
 - WILL NEVER SAVE US
 - Through GRACE we have a relationship with God

Romans 8:3–5 (NKJV)

3 For what the law could not do in that it was weak through the flesh, God did by sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, on account of sin: He condemned sin in the flesh,
4 that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us who do not walk according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.
5 For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit, the things of the Spirit.

- Through Jesus we are dead to the flesh and alive in His Spirit
 - The POWER over SIN as been defeated
- When we rededicate – We Focus on
 - What Jesus has done for us
 - Walking in the Spirit

Galatians 5:16 (NKJV)

16 I say then: Walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh.

- What Jesus wants
 - He wants us to be so in love with Him that our desire to live for Him is greater than our desire to live for the things of this world
- This is the way to Victorious Christian living

• Review – A Running Start

- **God Judged Israel for the Years of Rebellion**
 - 1st The Northern Kingdom FELL
 - 2nd The Southern Kingdom FELL
- **The Return**
 - 3 Mian Parts to the return

- **Chapter 1-6 – Rebuilding The WALL**

- **Chapter 1**

- Nehemiah – “A Burden & Prayer”

- **Chapter 2**

- “The Good Hand of My God Upon Me”

- **Chapter 3**

- “Let US Rise Up And Build”

- **Chapter 4**

- “Workers and Warriors”

- **Chapter 5**

- “Resolving Conflicts Within”

- **Chapter 6**

- “Doing a Great Work”

- **Chapters 7-13 – Restoring The People**

- **Chapter 7-8**

- The Priority Of God’s Word

- **Chapter 9**

- God’s Amazing Grace seen in Revival

- **Chapter 10**

- Revival = Covenant Made

- The people are making a commitment to be SOLD OUT – Taking the Plunge
- The Dedication Was Made Public vv. 1-27
- A Strong Decision Was Made to Obey vv. 28-39
 - 1st Promise Not To Intermarry vv. 28-30
 - 2nd Promise To Not Do Business On The Sabbath v. 31
 - 3rd Promise To Give Support To The Work Of God vv. 32-34
 - 4th Promise To Give Your First Fruits vv. 35-39
- **Chapter 11-12**
 - Praise & Give Thanks to God
 - Giving Ourselves To God (11-12:1-26)
 - Giving Praise & Thanksgiving For What God Has Done (12:27-43)
 - Giving Our Gifts To God (12:44-47)

• **Now This Morning 4 Main Points on Rededication Again!**

- The Reading Of God's Word vv. 1-3
- The Removal Of Tobiah (Sin) vv. 4-9
- The Renewal Of Our Commitments vv. 10-31
- The Request Of Nehemiah vv. 14, 22, 29, 31

The Reading Of God's Word vv. 1-3

• **First: The Requirements v. 1**

- **1st Context**

- **Here is the scene –**

- After the great celebration in Chapter 11-12
- Nehemiah has to go back to Persia
 - To fulfill his commitment to King Artaxerxes

- **We are NOT Sure HOW Long he is gone...**

- Some have said only 1 year
- Others a few years
- Still others 10-12 years

- **Now Chapter 13**

- Is the account of what takes place when he gets back
 - And he find Israel lost again

- **2nd No Ammonite or Moabite should ever come into the assembly of God v. 1**

Nehemiah 13:1 (NKJV)

1 On that day they read from the Book of Moses in the hearing of the people, and in it was found written that no Ammonite or Moabite should ever come into the assembly of God,

- **1st On that Day – Book of Moses – The Law**

- **Back to the Bible – The Word of God**

- Israel had failed in all their commitments to God
- So Nehemiah has now returned and the first thing they do is read God's Word

- This shows them where they have fallen from
- **2nd God's standards are clearly seen**
 - God made it very Clear that the Ammonites and Moabites were not to be regarded as part of Israel
 - Unless they have converted

Deuteronomy 23:3–4 (NKJV)

3 *"An Ammonite or Moabite shall not enter the assembly of the LORD; even to the tenth generation none of his descendants shall enter the assembly of the LORD forever,*

4 *because they did not meet you with bread and water on the road when you came out of Egypt, and because they hired against you Balaam the son of Beor from Pethor of Mesopotamia, to curse you.*

- Should ever come into the assembly of God
 - This meant to be regarded as one of the people of Israel and people of God.
 - It meant one could fully participate in the spiritual life of Israel.
 - AKA =
 - You were not a part of the people of God by birth.
 - You must choose this and leave the thinking and deeds of your anti-God culture, and truly join in the spiritual life of God's people.
 - Unless you leave one and join the other, you will never really be a part of this spiritual life
- **3rd Who are the Ammonites and Moabites**
 - From the incestuous union of Lot and two of his daughters

- (Gen. 19:30–38)

- **4th Application**

- So the first step Nehemiah takes again in getting Israel to Rededicate Again
- The WORD of GOD
 - The Word BRING CLARITY
 - Man is always attempting to confuse everything...
 - God's Word it always keeping thing easy and simple
 - Christian –
 - Stop looking to yourself, human wisdom, friends, world etc...
 - If you want to be healed look to Jesus – His Word
 - Be in His Word as much as possible
 - Please don't making excuses for why you can't...
 - Just do it
 - If you really want to know the VICTORIOUS Life In Christ
 - It's starts with Prayer and His Word

- **Second: The Reason Why v. 2**

- **1st Because they had not met the children of Israel with bread and water v. 2**

Nehemiah 13:2 (NKJV)

2 because they had not met the children of Israel with bread and water, but hired Balaam against them to curse them. However, our God turned the curse into a blessing.

▪ **They treated Israel harshly**

- When they came into the promise land at least a thousand years before this.
- They would not give the bread nor water
- Not Only that - They hired Balaam to curse Israel

▪ **But Hired Balaam**

- Number 22-24
 - The Moabites hire Balaam to put a curse on Israel
 - But instead of cursing them
 - All Balaam could do was to pronounce blessing on them.
 - When Balaam realized that God loved these people so much, he devised another way for them to fall.
 - He gave advice to the Moabites
 - Telling them to have some of their young women entice the Israelite men into worshipping the Moabite gods through sexual relations
 - 24,000 people lost their lives

▪ **God's Protection**

- It also reminds us that God is able – more than able –
 - To turn any curse into a blessing.

Genesis 12:3 (NKJV)

3 I will bless those who bless you, And I will curse him who curses you; And in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”

- The BIBLE teaches this is STILL THE CASE
 - Sadly, many evangelical churches are now teaching replacement theology

• **Third: The Response v. 3**

- **1st They separated all the mixed multitude from Israel v. 3**

Nehemiah 13:3 (NKJV)

3 So it was, when they had heard the Law, that they separated all the mixed multitude from Israel.

▪ **They Obeyed**

- They could have made many excuses
 - Like...
 - That command was made long ago and speaks to a different time
 - Things are different now
 - Let's not go too far
 - Let's assign a committee to examine the issue
- But After Hearing the Word again
 - They SIMPLY OBEYED

▪ **The Mixed Multitude**

- Somehow this “mixed multitude” had infiltrated the people of Israel
 - In spite of previous purging’s (9:2; 10:28)
- Mixed Multitudes
 - Refers to people in Israel that wanted the blessings of being around God’s People
 - But not wanting to join – Become a part of
 - The One Foot In and One Foot Out People
- NOTE
 - It was the “mixed multitude” that gave Moses so much trouble (Ex. 12:38; Num. 11:4–6)

▪ **They give the church trouble today.**

- The “mixed multitude”
 - *Is composed of unsaved people who want to belong to the fellowship of God’s people without trusting the Lord or submitting to His will.*
 - They want the blessings but not the obligations
 - Sadly, their appetite is still for the things of the world.
 - The “mixed multitude” In the church today
 - Urges us to follow the philosophy of Balaam and do what the world wants us to do

The Removal Of Tobiah (Sin) vv. 4-9

- **First: The Compromise That Had Occurred vv. 4-8**

Nehemiah 13:4–8 (NKJV)

- 4** Now before this, Eliashib the priest, having authority over the storerooms of the house of our God, was allied with Tobiah.
- 5** And he had prepared for him a large room, where previously they had stored the grain offerings, the frankincense, the articles, the tithes of grain, the new wine and oil, which were commanded to be given to the Levites and singers and gatekeepers, and the offerings for the priests.
- 6** But during all this I was not in Jerusalem, for in the thirty-second year of Artaxerxes king of Babylon I had returned to the king. Then after certain days I obtained leave from the king,
- 7** and I came to Jerusalem and discovered the evil that Eliashib had done for Tobiah, in preparing a room for him in the courts of the house of God.
- 8** And it grieved me bitterly; therefore I threw all the household goods of Tobiah out of the room.

- **1st But during all this I was not in Jerusalem v. 6**

- **This section indicates that Nehemiah left Jerusalem**

- Went back to his duties in the Persian court
- He was gone from Jerusalem for anywhere from 1 year to maybe 10 to 12 years.

- **Nehemiah left after the remarkable spiritual revival noted in the last chapters.**

- But the real test of revival –
 - The real test of God's work in our lives – is the long term.
 - It is seeing where we are with the Lord 10 years after a season of great work

- **2nd I came to Jerusalem and discovered the evil that Eliashib had done for Tobiah vv. 4-5 & 7-8**

- **Remember Tobiah –**

- He was one of Nehemiah's main enemies in Chapter 2...
- Never went away

▪ **When Nehemiah comes back**

- He sees that Eliashib the priest had entered into agreements with Tobiah.
 - This alliance led to an invitation for Tobiah to actually move into the temple itself.
- What is even worse
 - To make room for him
 - The high priest took the storerooms that was set apart for the grain, oil and incense & gave them to Tobiah to live in.

▪ **So there were 2 wrongs**

- An Ammonite and his family were actually living in the temple of God
 - Breaking God's Law – SIN
- Deliberately defrauded the Levites of their rights of storage
 - Ripping God Off

▪ **It grieved me bitterly; therefore I threw all the household goods of Tobiah out of the room.**

- No messing around
- Tobiah is OUT

- Clean Purify the temple
- **3rd Application - How the enemy works**
 - **He wants to form an Alliance – A friendship**
 - He wants you to let down your guard –
 - Get comfortable with him
 - It just a little compromise...
 - **Then he wants to occupy a place in our...**
 - Church
 - Life
 - **Tobiah...**
 - In The Church
 - False Teaching is Rampant
 - It is IMPORTANT that as a pastor
 - I MUST Warn of the “Tobiah’s” in the Church
 - *Roger Oakland; “A good shepherd must keep watch over his flock as many wolves are lurking around seeking whom they may devour. Ignoring these dangers does not make the problems go away. Sheep can easily be misled by false unbiblical teachings that are like a grain of arsenic in a milk shake. The milk shake may look and taste good but the grain of arsenic will be enough to kill someone.”*
 - In You Life

- “Tobiah” = In Christians
- Compromise
- THROW HIM OUT

• **Third: The Command v. 9**

Nehemiah 13:9 (NKJV)

9 *Then I commanded them to cleanse the rooms; and I brought back into them the articles of the house of God, with the grain offering and the frankincense.*

- **1st Nehemiah dealt with this compromise Head on**
 - **He throws Tobiah out of the temple and all of his stuff and has the place Fumigated**
 - Does NOT mess around with SIN
 - Does not worry about being politically correct
 - Nehemiah did that because he would not live with WRONG (Tobias’s evil) in a place that was made for RIGHT
 - **He runs the risk of being hated by the people**
 - But he does what is right in the eyes of the Lord
 - **Illustration**
 - Jesus cleanses the temple
- **2nd How do we deal with Sin and Compromise in Your Life?**
 - Some...
 - Ignore sin
 - Pretend that everything is ok –

- Not a problem
- Not an issue – I will take care of it later.
- Rationalize it away
 - Not that bad –
 - A lot less of a compromise than what I was doing before
 - Compared to those guys – I am a saint
 - Compared to Hitler...
- How we NEED to DEAL with Sin in our Lives

Matthew 5:29–30 (NKJV)

29 *If your right eye causes you to sin, pluck it out and cast it from you; for it is more profitable for you that one of your members perish, than for your whole body to be cast into hell.*

30 *And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and cast it from you; for it is more profitable for you that one of your members perish, than for your whole body to be cast into hell.*

The Renewal Of Our Commitments vv. 10-31

• **First: Tithe vv. 10-14**

Nehemiah 13:10–14 (NKJV)

10 *I also realized that the portions for the Levites had not been given them; for each of the Levites and the singers who did the work had gone back to his field.*

11 *So I contended with the rulers, and said, **“Why is the house of God forsaken?”** And I gathered them together and set them in their place.*

12 *Then all Judah brought the tithe of the grain and the new wine and the oil to the storehouse.*

13 *And I appointed as treasurers over the storehouse (SHEL uh MIGH uh) Shelemiah the priest and Zadok the scribe, and of the Levites, (pih DIGH uh) Pedaiah; and next to them was Ha-nan the son of Zaccur, the son of (MAT uh NIGH uh) Mattaniah; for **they were considered faithful, and their task was to distribute to their brethren.***

14 Remember me, O my God, concerning this, and do not wipe out my good deeds that I have done for the house of my God, and for its services!

○ **1st No Support for the Ministry v. 10**

▪ **The people did not obey God's word regarding giving!**

• **As a Result**

- Because of the lack of support
- Those who should give their time to the service of God and His people (the Levites and the singers) Could NOT not
- They had to leave that service.

▪ **Why is the house of God forsaken:**

- The lack of giving was a way of forsaking the house of God.

○ **2nd I gathered them all together and set them in their place:**

▪ **He Fixed this**

- Nehemiah set the situation right by expecting the Levites and the singers to recommit to the work of serving God and His people as they should.
- He also reorganized the collection and accounting of the people's tithes and gifts.
- Malachi was written at this time

Malachi 3:10 (NKJV)

10 Bring all the tithes into the storehouse, That there may be food in My house, And try Me now in this," Says the LORD of hosts, "If I will not open for you the windows of heaven And pour out for you such blessing That there will not be room enough to receive it.

- **Second: Sabbath vv. 15-22**

Nehemiah 13:15–22 (NKJV)

15 In those days I saw people in Judah treading wine presses on the Sabbath, and bringing in sheaves, and loading donkeys with wine, grapes, figs, and all kinds of burdens, which they brought into Jerusalem on the Sabbath day. And I warned them about the day on which they were selling provisions.

16 Men of Tyre dwelt there also, who brought in fish and all kinds of goods, and sold them on the Sabbath to the children of Judah, and in Jerusalem.

17 Then I contended with the nobles of Judah, and said to them, **“What evil thing is this that you do, by which you profane the Sabbath day?”**

18 Did not your fathers do thus, and did not our God bring all this disaster on us and on this city? Yet you bring added wrath on Israel by profaning the Sabbath.”

19 So it was, at the gates of Jerusalem, as it began to be dark before the Sabbath, that I commanded the gates to be shut, and charged that they must not be opened till after the Sabbath. Then I posted some of my servants at the gates, so that no burdens would be brought in on the Sabbath day.

20 Now the merchants and sellers of all kinds of wares lodged outside Jerusalem once or twice.

21 Then I warned them, and said to them, “Why do you spend the night around the wall? If you do so again, I will lay hands on you!” From that time on they came no more on the Sabbath.

22 And I commanded the Levites that they should cleanse themselves, and that they should go and guard the gates, to sanctify the Sabbath day. **Remember me, O my God, concerning this also, and spare me according to the greatness of Your mercy!**

- **1st Working on the Sabbath**

- **They are doing Business on this day that was to be set aside for God**

- A problem of priorities.
- To make money or spend money, became more important than honoring God.
- This was a clear way the people of Israel put making and spending money before glorifying God.

- **So what does Nehemiah do?**

- Nehemiah again gets radical here
- Close the gates on the Sabbath – set guards –
- Not even going to let the merchants in here
- Imagine the merchants who were fisherman – show up with all their fish

- **2nd Application**

- **Making The God the ONLY priority of your LIFE**

- **The Sabbath**

- Saturday
- We set Sunday aside –
 - First Day of the Week
 - Celebrate the Resurrection

- **The Problem – What to do with World that seeks to PULL us Away**

- *Wiersbe; “The French agnostic, Voltaire, is supposed to have said, “If you want to kill Christianity, you must abolish Sunday.” I’m not sure I agree with him, but I do know that many Christians have killed their joy, witness, and spiritual power by turning Sunday into an ordinary day and not putting Christ first in their week.”*
- During the French Revolution, there was an active effort to suppress religious observance, including Sunday as a day of rest and worship.

- New Calendar: The revolutionaries replaced the traditional Gregorian calendar with the French Republican calendar, which abolished the seven-day week and Sundays.
- Ten-Day Week: The new calendar introduced a ten-day week ("décade"), designating every tenth day for rest instead of Sunday.
- Banned Religious Holidays: Religious holidays and saints' days were banned and replaced with secular national holidays.
- Removal of Religious References: Efforts were made to remove religious references from street names and other public spaces.
- Our Country
 - Is doing everything it can to make Sunday just another day

• **Third: Biblical Marriage vv. 23-31**

Nehemiah 13:23–31 (NKJV)

23 *In those days I also saw Jews who had married women of Ashdod, Ammon, and Moab.*

24 *And half of their children spoke the language of Ashdod, and could not speak the language of Judah, but spoke according to the language of one or the other people.*

25 *So I contended with them and cursed them, struck some of them and pulled out their hair, and made them swear by God, saying, "You shall not give your daughters as wives to their sons, nor take their daughters for your sons or yourselves.*

26 *Did not Solomon king of Israel sin by these things? Yet among many nations there was no king like him, who was beloved of his God; and God made him king over all Israel. Nevertheless pagan women caused even him to sin.*

27 *Should we then hear of your doing all this great evil, transgressing against our God by marrying pagan women?"*

28 *And one of the sons of (JOY uh duh) Joiada, the son of Eliashib the high priest, was a son-in-law of Sanballat the Horonite; therefore I drove him from me.*

29 Remember them, O my God, because they have defiled the priesthood and the covenant of the priesthood and the Levites.

30 Thus I cleansed them of everything pagan. I also assigned duties to the priests and the Levites, each to his service,

31 and to bringing the wood offering and the firstfruits at appointed times.

Remember me, O my God, for good!

○ **1st This once again show the seriousness of the Lord's dealing with sin**

- Nehemiah is pulling out his hair-

Ezra 9:3 (NKJV)

3 So when I heard this thing, I tore my garment and my robe, and plucked out some of the hair of my head and beard, and sat down astonished.

- Different leaders different methods / All for God GLORY

○ **2nd Application - Down fall of many a man**

- His example of Solomon is well taken
 - Did not Solomon king of Israel sin by these things?
Pagan women caused even him to sin
 - If Solomon, one of the wisest and most blessed men ever, sinned with unwise and ungodly romance, do we think we are invulnerable to it?
- Others...
 - Samson
 - David

The Request Of Nehemiah vv. 14, 22, 29, 31

- **First: Remember Me v. 14, 22b, 29, 31**

Nehemiah 13:14 (NKJV)

14 Remember me, O my God, concerning this, and do not wipe out my good deeds that I have done for the house of my God, and for its services!

Nehemiah 13:22 (NKJV)

22 And I commanded the Levites that they should cleanse themselves, and that they should go and guard the gates, to sanctify the Sabbath day. **Remember me, O my God, concerning this also, and spare me according to the greatness of Your mercy!**

Nehemiah 13:29 (NKJV)

29 Remember them, O my God, because they have defiled the priesthood and the covenant of the priesthood and the Levites.

Nehemiah 13:31 (NKJV)

31 and to bringing the wood offering and the firstfruits at appointed times. Remember me, O my God, for good!

- Spoken After Each Rebuke
- I Believe we see 3 things in this statement
 - Dedication To God's Work
 - Nehemiah was committed to doing God's Work
 - Desired God to remember His Efforts for GOOD
 - Dependency v. 22b
 - Nehemiah's Need for Mercy to do God's Work
 - Clearly Nehemiah is sensing a little failure in accomplishing God's Work
 - The People are just NOT listening
 - Desire vv. 29 & 31
 - Remember me for the GOOD – not the peoples failures

Closing

- Many GREAT Lessons in the Book of Nehemiah
 - May we take them to heart