

Series "Route 66" "Nehemiah" Book-16

The Author – Ezra/Nehemiah These 2 books are a result of Ezra and Nehemiah's personal memoirs. Nehemiah wrote some and compiled other portions for Ezra. Ezra wrote sections and put together the books. Neh 7:5-73 is almost the same as Ezra 2:1-70.

Nehemiah was a cupbearer for the king Artaxerxes. A cup bearer for the King was a trusted position, advisor. He was also governor of Jerusalem 444-432 BC

When Written – 444-425 BC 19 years. Of the 17 Historical books of the Bible the most recent in date is the books of Ezra, Esther, and Nehemiah. They take us right up to the 400 silent years before Jesus Christ appearing.

From the first exiles to the time of Nehemiah is about 90 years still no walls, no protection, easy pray for robbers and attacks by other tribes. God raises up a man to accomplish His purposes.

Where it was Written – Jerusalem

Purpose – What could not be done in 90 years, (the walls and gates restored), God does through Nehemiah in 52 days. We see Nehemiah as a type of Jesus Christ the great master of Restoration (Jesus loves and wants to restore people out of sin.) We see this spiritual man that is under attack form outside and within, resort to prayer and the word.

Theme – "Repairing The Walls, and Restoring The People"

Key Words – Walls, Wall - 37X

Key Chapter – Nehemiah 9

Key Passage – • Nehemiah 6:15-16

• Nehemiah 8:8

Outline –

1. Repairing the Walls: Nehemiah 1-6

Preparation: Nehemiah 1-2

Cooperation—the people work: Nehemiah 3

Opposition: Nehemiah 4-6

2. Reviving the People: Nehemiah 7-13

The Citizens registered: Nehemiah 7

The Word of God proclaimed: Nehemiah 8

The Nation's sins confessed: Nehemiah 9

The Holy covenant ratified: Nehemiah 10-12

The Nation's sins cleansed: Nehemiah 13

1. Repairing the Walls: Nehemiah 1-6

Preparation: Nehemiah 1-2

- Neh 1:1-4

Neh 1:5-11 Nehemiah's Prayer:

- Neh 1:11

Nehemiah 2:1-8 Nehemiah Before The King:

- Neh 2:1-4

Nehemiah 2:9 Nehemiah Accepted Help From The King:

- Ezra 8:22
- Neh 2:10

Nehemiah 2:11-18 Nehemiah Inspects The Walls of Jerusalem:

- Nehemiah 2:19-20

Cooperation—the people work: Nehemiah 3 There are 38 individual workers that are listed, and 42 different groups that are identified.

1. People had many different occupations who help build the wall and gates. (Priests, Levites helpers of the priesthood) Perfumers, goldsmiths, politicians, guards, merchants.)

2. Different walks of life, fathers, women, bachelors, outsiders from other communities.

3. Tasks were divided up. Some had bigger sections than others. One group had a section 1500 feet long verse - 13. One man had a gate all to himself verse - 14.

- Neh 3:5

did not support the work – “put their shoulders, or neck to the work.”

Opposition: Nehemiah 4-6

Nehemiah 4:1-6 Ridicule:

How did Nehemiah answer them? He prayed to his God! His concern was only for the glory of God and the testimony of the nation.

Nehemiah 4:7-9 Force: What Satan cannot accomplish by deceit he attempts to do by force.

How did Nehemiah face this new attack? He prayed and set a watch.

Nehemiah 4:10 Discouragement:

Nehemiah 4:11-23 Fear: Fear and faith can never abide in the same heart.

How did Nehemiah face this new attack? Nehemiah put the workers back on the job, a weapon in one hand and a tool in the other.

Nehemiah 5:1-19 Selfishness:

How did Nehemiah act in this crisis? “We have been set free by the Lord,” he argued; “will you now put one another in bondage again?”

Nehemiah 6:1-4 Guile:

How did Nehemiah act in this crisis? Four invitations came (v. 4) and Nehemiah refused them all. “I am doing a great work and cannot come down!” Stay on the job when Satan invites you to quit, and God will bless you.

Nehemiah 6:5-9 Slander: The fifth time the messenger came, he brought an “open letter” filled with slanderous accusations against Nehemiah and his people.

How did Nehemiah act in this crisis? Note how Nehemiah again prayed

for God to overrule (v. 9). Servants of God cannot help what people say about them, but they can help what kind of character and testimony they have.

Nehemiah 6:10-14 Threats: Shemaiah a false prophet told Nehemiah to flee to the temple because he was going to be murdered. • Neh 6:12-13

How did Nehemiah act in this crisis? Again, he prayed for God's help and then went right back to work.

2. Reviving the People: Nehemiah 7-13

Nehemiah 7 The Citizens registered:

1. This Chapter teaches us that God loves people, they are important to Him. God takes great detail, to have recorded family names, how many in each family.
2. The names listed are those who had left the system of their time, (Babylon) willing to risk their futures on the promises of God. (That should be us to!)
3. There has to be leadership for direction and protection.
4. Worship is a way of life, must be considered part of life.

Nehemiah 8 The Word of God proclaimed:

- Neh 8:1-3
- Neh 8:7-8

Nehemiah 9 The Nation's sins confessed:

Nehemiah 10-12 The Holy covenant ratified:

Nehemiah 10 Signers of the Document: The names of the brave and godly people who entered into the covenant with God that day. Little did they realize that their names would be recorded eternally in the Word!

Nehemiah 11 Now a list of the repopulation of Jerusalem and some key people in the community.

Nehemiah 12 The actual dedication of the walls is described in 12:27-

47.

Nehemiah 13 The Nation's sins cleansed: Nehemiah is a one man army, radically dealing with every problem that arises. Permissiveness was not in Nehemiah's vocabulary. It was compromise to Nehemiah. It meant death to a relationship with God, marriage, family, society, nation, and a world.

Nehemiah 5:14 tells us that Nehemiah was governor for twelve years. That is the period of Nehemiah 2 - 12. There is a gap between Nehemiah 12 and 13. How long of a time has elapsed? We don't know, some say five years, we really don't know how long.

1. He finds out that the Levites had not received their support and left the ministry to go back to work to support themselves.

verse - 11

2. He finds out that Tobiah his arch enemy on his absence has moved right into to courts of the house of God, a store room, converted it into a Penthouse.

verse - 8

3. He finds them working, buying and selling on the Sabbath, outsiders importing and selling.

verse - 17 reprimanded the nobles, verse - 21 warned the traders and merchants, "Why do you spend the night in front of the wall? If you do so again, I will use force against you."

4. He finds that the people have married from the forbidden nations of the world.

verse - 25

• Neh 13:28-31

Application:

• 1 Cor 10:13

God will always show you a way out: but with the temptation will provide the way of escape also,

Escape – was used of sailors that would lighten their ship in the midst of a storm by throwing overboard weighty cargo.