

WEEK 1

# REBUILD IT

A STUDY OF NEHEMIAH

Pastor Kyle Chamberlain | Oct. 1st 2023

## When Things Fall Apart

*"2...I questioned them about the Jewish remnant that had survived the exile, and also about Jerusalem. 3They said to me, "Those who survived the exile and are back in the province are in **great trouble** and **disgrace**. The wall of Jerusalem is broken down, and its gates have been burned with fire." (Neh.1:2-3)*

- We're great at letting everyone know what we're doing but not how we're doing
- You can be in the right place and still have real problems.
- Nehemiah is a foreshadow of the ultimate rebuild Jesus.

*"4When I heard these things, I **sat down and wept**." (Neh. 1:4)*

What do we do when things are broken?

### 1) We face it

*"13By night I went out... examining the walls of Jerusalem, which had been broken down, and its gates, which had been destroyed by fire. 14... but there was not enough room for my donkey to get through the rubble; 15so I went up the valley by night, examining the wall...16The officials did not know where I had gone or what I was doing, because as yet I had said nothing to the Jews or the priests or nobles or officials or any others who would be doing the work." (Neh. 2:13-16)*

- We can get so used to living with it that we stop looking at it.

*"4When I heard these things, I sat down and wept. For some days I mourned and **fasted and prayed** before the God of heaven." (Neh. 1:4)*

### 2) We bring it to God. (in prayer)

- Don't just do something, sit there and pray.

*"Be still and know that I'm God, Cease striving that only leads to harm" (Ps 37:7-8)*

*"Stand still and see the salvation of the Lord." (Ex. 14:13)*

*"I set a table in the presence of your enemies." (Ps 23)*



*“5Then I said:“Lord, the God of heaven, the great and awesome God, who keeps his covenant of love with those who love him and keep his commandments, 6let your ear be attentive and your eyes open to hear the prayer your servant is praying before you day and night for your servants, the people of Israel. I confess the sins we Israelites, including myself and my father’s family, have committed against you. 7We have acted very wickedly toward you. We have not obeyed the commands, decrees and laws you gave your servant Moses....11Lord, let your ear be attentive to the prayer of this your servant and to the prayer of your servants who delight in revering your name. Give your servant success today by granting him favor in the presence of this man.” (Neh.1:5-7,11)*

- **Confess your part and take your place.**

*8“Remember the instruction you gave your servant Moses, saying, ‘If you are unfaithful, I will scatter you among the nations, 9but if you return to me and obey my commands, then even if your exiled people are at the farthest horizon, I will gather them from there and bring them to the place I have chosen as a dwelling for my Name” (Neh.1:8-9)*

*“One day in the spring, four months later... “(Neh. 2:1)*

### **3) Plan it.**

*“One day in the spring, four months later in the twentieth year of King Artaxerxes, when wine was brought for him, I took the wine and gave it to the king. I had not been sad in his presence before,” (Neh. 2:1)*

*“2so the king asked me, “Why does your face look so sad when you are not ill? This can be nothing but sadness of heart.” I was very much afraid, 3but I said to the king, “May the king live forever! Why should my face not look sad when the city where my ancestors are buried lies in ruins, and its gates have been destroyed by fire?” 4The king said to me, “What is it you want?” (Neh. 2:2-4)*

*“6Then the king, with the queen sitting beside him, asked me, “How long will your journey take, and when will you get back?” It pleased the king to send me; so I set a time. 7I also said to him, “If it pleases the king, may I have letters to the governors of Trans-Euphrates, so that they will provide me safe-conduct until I arrive in Judah? 8And may I have a letter to Asaph, keeper of the royal park, so he will give me timber to make beams for the gates of the citadel by the temple and for the city wall and for the residence I will occupy?” (Neh.2:6-8)*

- **Planning is an act of faith.**

*“Write the vision down make it plain on tablets so that he who reads it may run with it.” (Hab. 2:2)*

*“ 4The king said to me, “What is it you want?” Then I prayed to the God of heaven, 5and I answered the king,” (Neh. 2:4-5)*

### **4) Act on it.**

*“8 ...because the gracious hand of my God was on me, the king granted my requests.” (Neh. 2:8)*

