

NEHEMIAH

	Cupbearer to the King	Builder of the Wall	Governor of the People		
	Prayer May I? You may!	"So the wall was completed in fifty-two days." (6:15)	Scripture found (7:5) read (8:3-7) explained (8:8)	Lives changed (8:1–3, 9; 10:28–31)	Nation confronted and cleansed (13:10-30)
	CHAPTERS 1:1-2:10	CHAPTERS 2:11-6:19		CHAPTERS 7-13	
Location	Susa, Persia Jerusalem in Judah				
Focus	Leadership of a man		Revival of a nation		
Subject	Burden	Project	S	Scriptures	Reforms
Difficulties	The King	Enemies		Tradition	Compromise
Victories	Release	Accomplishment	C	bedience	Changes
Theme	Nehemiah's trust in the covenant-keeping God				
Key Verses	6:15–16; 8:8–10; 9:1–38				
Christ in Nehemiah	Suggested in Nehemiah, who leaves an exalted position to identify with the plight of his people and lead them into restoration; pictured in Nehemiah's prayerful dependence on God				

THE RETURNS OF JEWISH EXILES TO JUDAH

THE EDICT OF CYRUS: EZRA 1:2-4; 6:1-4 see also EZRA 1:5~8:35

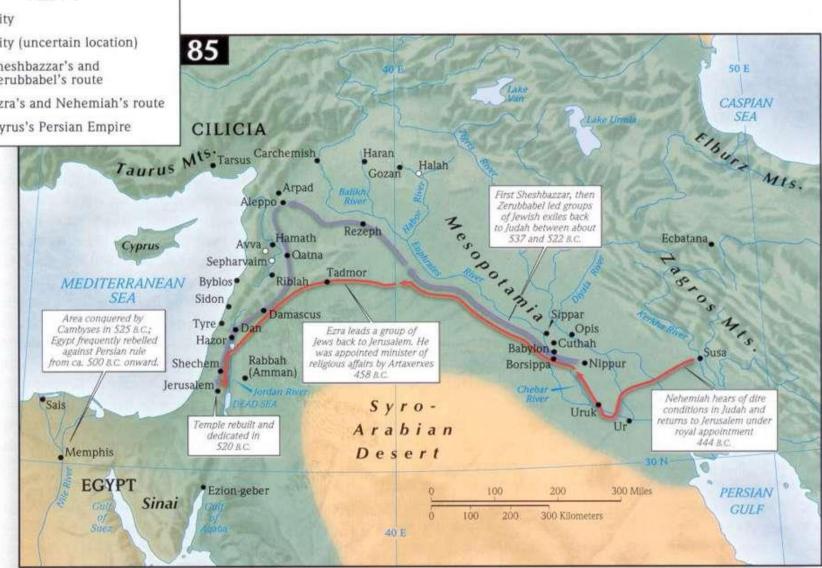
NEH. 1-3

- City
- City (uncertain location)

Sheshbazzar's and Zerubbabel's route

- Ezra's and Nehemiah's route

Cyrus's Persian Empire



Five things about Nehemiah's character:

- 1. He is a responsible man. He is the cup bearing to the king of Persia, Artaxerxes 1. Big position. When he comes back to Judah, he will be appointed governor of the province in 444BC. (ch. 5) Big position.
- 2. He is a man of vision. He sees the need. He has the vision to go and rebuild the walls. He sees what needs to be done.
- 3. He was a man of action. He not only sees what needs to be done. But he also saw how to do it. Many people will tell you what you ought to do or what they think the group needs to do. But when it comes time to do the work, they just don't have the time or desire to do any of the work. You see vision without action is only a dream.
- 4. He was a man of prayer. All the way through this book, there are at least 10 prayers listed. That is what he did all the time. Pray. Nehemiah turns things to God.
- 5. He was a man of compassion. He is pretty important. He is the governor, he is the one in charge of the entire building project, but he also had compassion for the poor people. For all the people.

PRINCIPLES OF LEADERSHIP – Chapter 1

- 1. A leader draws His strength from outside himself. That's God. They never do anything in their own power. It is always in God's power.
- 2. A leader identifies with those he leads. Nehemiah confessed 'we have blown it.'
- 3. A leader takes responsibility. He says 'I am going to go. I am going to do.' There is an old saying that says 'pray as if everything depends upon God and work as if everything depends on you.' Take it to the Lord and do all you can do. In His power of course.

PRINCIPLES OF LEADERSHIP – Chapter 2

- 1. A good leader surveys the situation before he starts. He will check things out first.
- 2. A good leader motivates the people before he delegates responsibility. He gets the people ready to do it, before he tells them what to do.



Nehemiah's nighttime ride (inspects the city's walls)

added strength to the northern wall of the Temple Mount, which also served as the northern city wall in this area. The Temple and the altar were rebuilt soon after the return The Valley Gate (2:13, 15; 3:13), the remains from exile. The dimensions of the temple, given as 60 cubits of which were excavated in 1924, was part of Sheep Gate (90 feet/27 m) high and wide (Ezra 6:3), probably refer to (hidden from view) the western city wall. The other gates and the those of the porch. (For a cutaway illustration of the temple, Tower of the Ovens, mentioned in chs. 3 and 12, see p. 813.) are unattested to in the archaeological record, Tower of but are placed in the drawing in the order in the Hundred which Nehemiah records them. The Temple Mount was The Western Hill was not occupied at this time. However, Tower of restored by Nehemiah as part of the ruins of the Broad Wall (3:8; 12:38), the Middle Gate Gate of the Guard Hananel the fortification of Jerusalem. (cf. Jer. 39:3), and the destroyed houses remained part of Fish Gate Corner Tower the landscape of Jerusalem. This area was not rebuilt until Remains of the the middle of the second century 8.c. Gate of Yeshanah The Broad Wall Middle Gate (Old Gate) Muster Gate Gate of (hidden from view) Ephraim Horse Gate Vall of the Ophel The Buttress The Great Projecting Tower (3:25-27) was tentatively identified by Charles Warren in 1867. Hinnom Valley Remains of ancient walls used The Siloam Pool was again used as the city's to support agricultural terraces. water source. There is no mention in ch. 3 of the Gihon Spring, probably because it was no longer accessible after the Babylonians had The central section of the eastern city wall destrayed its protective towers. Dam was built higher up the hill than the wall that preceded it. The two points where the new The stairs that go wall diverted from its original course were Dung Gate down from the city each called "the buttress" (3:19, 24, 25). of David (3:15) King's Garden (3:15) The Fountain Gate (2:14; 3:15; 12:37) was located in the southern part of the eastern wall, presumably close to the Siloam Pool.

The Tower of Hananel, the Tower of the Hundred, the Sheep Gate, the Gate of the Guard, and the Corner Tower

Jerusalem (after Nehemiah rebuilt the city's walls & gates)



Gihon Spring



Hezekiah's Tunnel

Here are some spiritual applications about these gates...

- First of all the Sheep Gate spiritually can be applied as the gate of Jesus Christ.
- The Fish Gate Jesus said I will make you fishers of men.
- The Old Gate represents the sovereignty of God. He has decreed everything to come to pass.
- The Valley Gate humiliation. To come to God you must humble yourself as a little child.
- The Refuse or Dung Gate is the gate that symbolizes that you need cleaning.
- The Fountain Gate picture of the washing. Being cleansed, set apart.
- The Water Gate The Word of God cleanses us and keeps us clean.
- The Horse Gate symbolic of Jesus coming out of the clouds riding on the white horse
- The East Gate where Jesus will enter again.
- The Inspection Gate where God inspects us and either say "well done, my good and faithful servant or we will be ashamed.

PRINCIPLES OF LEADERSHIP – Chapter 3

- 1. A leader has the work organized and in order. A leader has everything planned and understood by those who are doing the work.
- 2. A good leader involves everybody possible. All the people in all responsibilities.
- 3. A leader is not bothered by delegation. When he delegates someone else to do something. You see some people don't want to delegate. Because they are afraid they will lose their power. 'how about letting Joe do this?' 'No, that's ok. I can do it.' Sometimes people don't delegate because they think nobody else can do it as good as they can. And sometimes people don't delegate because they are afraid they will lose the glory for themselves. Because if they do it all, they get patted on the back. But there is a problem with that. Because if 1 person does all the work, then only the work of 1 person gets done. But if 1 person delegates to 40 others, then the work of 40 people gets down. Which is so much greater.

Application

First Baptist Church will be God's instrument in this community. That we will do His Work, His Way, at this time. And in order for that to happen, each one of us must be involved in the ministry.

Question – are you on a committee, a ministry team? How are you helping serve in this body?

Also, we need to get all involved. Get as many involved as possible. Committee chairpersons – how many people are involved with your team? Because if you are doing it yourself, that is defeating the purpose. And finally, we need to be organized. What is our plan, goals, purpose, and vision as a church?