

REBUILD, RESTORE, REVIVE: “BEYOND BROKEN” PART 1

NEHEMIAH 1:1-4

Pastor Matt Shackelford ■ Grace Bible Church ■ September 8, 2019 ■ Social Media: #GBCRevive

The Person God uses to Rebuild:

1. Be _____ to be used by God (1-2).

2. Be _____ before the Lord (2-4).

Nehemiah 1:1-4
The words of Nehemiah the son of Hacaliah. Now it happened in the month of Chislev, in the twentieth year, as I was in Susa the citadel, 2 that Hanani, one of my brothers, came with certain men from Judah. And I asked them concerning the Jews who escaped, who had survived the exile, and concerning Jerusalem. 3And they said to me, “The remnant there in the province who had survived the exile is in great trouble and shame. The wall of Jerusalem is broken down, and its gates are destroyed by fire.” 4As soon as I heard these words I sat down and wept and mourned for days, and I continued fasting and praying before the God of heaven.

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APPLICATION QUESTIONS:

1. As we think about rebuilding what is broken, the process begins with a survey of the broken walls. If we use this as a metaphor for our spiritual life and relationships, what is broken in your life that you hope the Lord will restore?
2. **Read Col 3:23.** Nehemiah worked for a literal pagan. Do you ever struggle with working a secular job? How can you successfully work in an ungodly environment and still bring glory to God?
3. Why is it important to realize that God’s purpose is primarily His glory, not our happiness? How does Nehemiah, working for a Persian King, help us see this?
4. Nehemiah was used of God because he was broken and weeping before the Lord. What are the things you ought to be weeping over, if that is the external appearance of a man serious about asking God to work? How does prayer relate to brokenness in your life?
5. Nehemiah challenges us to not just know the pain others feel, but to enter into that pain. How will you try to apply that to your life this week?

Quote for the Week. . .

by Charles Swindoll



“Godly sorrow and worldly sorrow. The first one leads to life, but the latter shoves us into a spiritual grave. Worldly sorrow only bemoans getting caught or weeps for what was lost. It never grieves for the wrong committed. Godly sorrow produces different results. When we experience godly sorrow, we are deeply grieved for the wrong we committed. We desire to ask forgiveness, to repair the damage, to make reparation for the harm done; not merely to protect ourselves from pain or regain what we didn’t want to give up. In a word, we repent.”