

Seize the Moment

Nehemiah 1
Pastor Alan Dionson
March 28, 2021

INTRO

1. A heart-wrenching moment
2. A life-changing moment

A. NEHEMIAH'S SACRIFICE

1. Destiny
2. Family
3. Sexuality
4. Identity
5. Security

B. NEHEMIAH'S SUCCESS

1. Position
2. Privilege
3. Power
4. Possession
5. Prestige

C. NEHEMIAH'S SUBMISSION

1. Logos a call to reason (Nehemiah 1:1-3)
2. Pathos a call to passion (Nehemiah 1:4-11)
3. Ethos a call to action (Nehemiah 1:11b)

CONCLUSION

Overview

In our final session from the Old Testament, we follow the story of Nehemiah. King Artaxerxes of Persia granted Nehemiah permission to return to Jerusalem, the city of his ancestors, to restore the city's gates and wall. Though he had the blessing and resources of the Persian king, those already living in the region were divided in their support of Nehemiah and his plan. It required diligence and trust on the part of Nehemiah to complete the work that God had called him to do.

1. What is something that you long to see God restore, either in your life or someone else's?

2. **Read Nehemiah 1:1–3.**
 - * Has God revealed a cause to you that is bigger than you can handle? How did you respond?

3. **Read Nehemiah 1:4–11.**
 - * What is the difference between asking God to work on your behalf and offering to serve God on His behalf? What can we learn from Nehemiah's reliance on God as he answered the calling to take action?

4. **Read Nehemiah 2:1–18.**
 - * Do you attempt to handle tasks on your own when you serve God? Why is gathering other leaders and workers to serve together important?

5. **Read Nehemiah 2:19–20; 4:1–6.**
 - * Why do you think Nehemiah experienced conflict even though he was working for God?

 - * Do you see a contradiction in praying and trusting God while also doing your part to "arm yourself" while you work? Explain.

6. **Read Nehemiah 6:15–16.**
 - * In what ways does Nehemiah's story allow you to see the big picture of God at work in the little things that all led up to the larger plan?

 - * What happens when God's plan doesn't turn out the way you had hoped or envisioned? Can you still trust Him? Why or why not?