

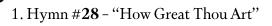
MAY 5TH, 2024 HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY

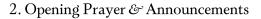
TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READING

Nehemiah 9:1-38

In 1989, our dear shepherd at that time, Pastor Ron Blough, initiated our reading through a portion of the 66 books of the Bible as a congregation, typically a chapter each Sunday. Since then, we have been through the entire Bible one full time and are currently in Nehemiah, the 16th book of the Bible.

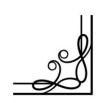
TODAY'S SERVICE

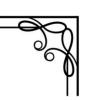




- 3. Hymn #108 "The Love of God"
- 4. Hymn #177 "Children of the Heavenly Father"
- 5. Hymn #116- "The Wonder of It All"
- 6. Reading: **Brother Mike S.**
- 7. Message: "A God Ready to Forgive"
- 8. Hymn #**141** "He Hideth My Soul"
- 9. Benediction

10. Sunday Evening Bible Study Ecclesiastes 7:15-18





A GOD READY to FORGIVE

"They refused to obey and were not mindful of the wonders that You performed among them, but they stiffened their neck and appointed a leader to return to their slavery in Egypt. But You are a God ready to forgive, gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love, and did not forsake them." NEHEMIAH 9:17, ESV

I. the Brief Background of the Book

A. Destruction of the Temple: 586 BC

B. Decree of Cyrus to Rebuild: 536 BC C. Darius' 6th Year, Finished: 516 BC

D. Departure of Ezra from Babylonia: 458 BC

E. Date Nehemiah's Ministry Begins: 446 BC

II. the Breakdown of the Chapter

A. The Congregating of Israel, vv1-5

B. The Confession of Israel, vv6-38

- 1. confessed YHVH as sovereign Creator & Covenantor, vv6-8
- 2. confessed YHVH as Savior & Sanctifier of His Promise, vv9-15
- 3. confessed YHVH as slow to anger & mercifully gracious, vv16-21
- 4. confessed YHVH as Supplier of Israel's inheritance, vv22-24
- 5. confessed YHVH as Supplicator by saviors & prophets, vv25-31
- 6. confessed their sin before YHVH & consequences thereby, vv32-37
- 7. confessed their <u>sure covenant</u> to YHVH (אֲמָנָה, am-a-NAH), v38

III. the BEAUTY & BLESSING from OUR TEXT

A. A Doctrine to be Exalted

- 1. central to their confession
- 2. centered in Jesus Christ
 - a. forgive (pardon, KJV) סְלִיחוֹת (sleey-CHŌT)
 - b. gracious תַּבּוּן (chan-NOON)
 - c. merciful בותם (ra-CHOOM)
 - d. slow to anger אָרֶד־אָפּוֹ (er-EKH_ap-PEEYM)
 - e. abounding in steadfast love

(of great kindness, KJV) ב־וֹחֶפֶר (rav_CHE-sed)

f. did not forsake

(forsookest them not, KJV) לא עובקם (lo_a-zav-TAM)

B. A Doctrine to be Embraced & Employed

- 1. central to our faith
- 2. confirmation of our faith

Book of Nehemiah

Repairing the Walls

Preparation, 1-2

Cooperation, 3

Opposition, 4-6

Reviving the People

Registration, 7

Proclamation, 8 Confession, 9

Obligation, 10-12

Purification, 13

QUOTE of the WEEK

UNDER the leadership of Moses the children of Israel had been journeying towards the land of promise. Owing to their waywardness, what might have been done in less than a month occupied many years. They wandered up and down in the wilderness, sometimes close on the border of their inheritance, and anon lost in the great desert. Alas! many of God's people are still in this unsatisfactory condition: they have come out of Egypt, the depths have swallowed up their adversaries, and they are on the way to the promised heritage; but they have not yet entered into rest. They will, we trust, ultimately reach the peace of God which passeth all understanding, for they have faith sufficient to prove them to be God's people, and, therefore, the Lord will surely bring them in; but, assuredly, they make a great deal of marching for very small progress. For lack of faith they go about, when, with a step, they might possess the promised Canaan.

To-day my earnest prayer and desire is that, going towards the promised heritage may come to an end with you this day, by your entering into heavenly blessings in Christ Jesus by an immediate act of faith. I want the Lord's people so to persevere in their seeking, by the divine strength, that they may get out of the great and terrible wilderness, and come to Mount Zion and the heavenly Jerusalem, and enter into their heritage, according to that word, "We which have believed do enter into rest." Our friends have come as far as that first verse of our Lord's invitation, "Come unto me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest"; and they have a measure of that rest which comes of pardoned sin and confidence in Jesus. The pity is that they have not advanced to his next word of exhortation, "Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me: and ye shall find rest unto your souls." This is a rest discovered and enjoyed through willing service: "Ye shall find rest unto your souls." Many people are saved in one sense, but in another sense they are seeking salvation. Oh, that we may come to be saved in every sense: may salvation be ours in the broadest, widest, deepest, highest meaning of that blessed word! May we not only be saved from but saved to! Saved from sin; that makes us safe. Saved to holiness, that makes us happy. May we realize our completeness in Christ this day, and cease from the wanderings of fear! It is time that we took possession of that goodly heritage which the Lord has made our own, for in Christ Jesus "we have obtained an inheritance," and have the earnest of it in our possession of the Spirit of God. [EMPHASIS in original]

Taking Possession of Our Inheritance" from the text, Joshua 1:22-3 intended for reading on May 12th, 1889 by **Charles Haddon Spurgeon** (1834-1892)

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MAY 2024

FAMILY READINGS			PRIVATE READINGS	
Numbers 21	Psalms 60-61	12	Isaiah 10:5	James 4
Numbers 22	Psalms 62-63	13	Isaiah 11-12	James 5
Numbers 23	Psalms 64-65	14	Isaiah 13	1 Peter 1
Numbers 24	Psalms 66-67	15	Isaiah 14	1 Peter 2
Numbers 25	Psalms 68	16	Isaiah 15	1 Peter 3
Numbers 26	Psalms 69	17	Isaiah 16	1 Peter 4
Numbers 27	Psalms 70-71	18	Isaiah 17-18	1 Peter 5
Numbers 28	Psalms 72	19	Isaiah 19-20	2 Peter 1

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