



## Leadership & Laboring Nehemiah 3:1-32

### Review

- When you are on mission with God, you get His access, His power, His checkbook!
- When you plan for God's mission--your opponents are planning & scheming too.

**“And I told them of the hand of my God that had been upon me for good.”—Nehe**

- Response of the people--And they said, “Let us rise up and build.” So they strengthened their hands for the good work.
- Are we ready??

### Intro

- How to read all these names? Pastors--“Do we or don't we read all these names?”

**2 Timothy 3:16-17** All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.

- All means all. Think we are going to see just why even these names, these family histories are recorded.

**“Only one life, twill soon be past, only what is done for Christ will last.”--C.T. Studd**

- **Legacies**

**Nehemiah 3:1-5** Then Eliashib the high priest rose up with his brothers the priests, and they built the Sheep Gate. They consecrated it and set its doors. They consecrated it as far as the Tower of the Hundred, as far as the Tower of Hananel. 2 And next to him the men of Jericho built. And next to them Zaccur the son of Imri built.

3 The sons of Hassenaah built the Fish Gate. They laid its beams and set its doors, its bolts, and its bars. 4 And next to them Meremoth the son of Uriah, son of Hakkoz repaired. And next to them Meshullam the son of Berechiah, son of Meshezabel repaired. And next to them Zadok the son of Baana repaired. 5 And next to them the Tekoites repaired, but their nobles would not stop to serve their Lord.

- Priests work! Religious leaders work. They get dirty. Assigned areas near gates.
- Jesus is our high priest. He's pretty humble too. Washes feet. Let's children come to Him. Goes to be humiliated and crucified on a cross.
- Sheep Gate important--how you brought animals in for sacrifice. Worship. Worship has always involved sacrifice--still being used recently.
- Work went counter-clockwise.
- God always starts with worship.
- Every job is an opportunity to show Christ in you, the hope of glory.
- Next to them...next to him. Did this thing TOGETHER.
- Tekoite Nobles that don't want to work. Stiff-necked and stubborn. Proudful. Only people who got mentioned for NOT working!

**Nehemiah 3:6-15** Joiada the son of Paseah and Meshullam the son of Besodeiah repaired the Gate of Yeshanah. They laid its beams and set its doors, its bolts, and its bars. 7 And next to them repaired Melatiah the Gibeonite and Jadon the Meronothite, the men of Gibeon and of Mizpah, the seat of the governor of the province Beyond the River. 8 Next to them Uzziel the son of Harhaiah, goldsmiths, repaired. Next to him Hananiah, one of the perfumers, repaired, and they restored Jerusalem as far as the Broad Wall. 9 Next to them Rephaiah the son of Hur, ruler of half the district of Jerusalem, repaired. 10 Next to them Jedaiah the son of Harumaph repaired opposite his house. And next to him Hattush the son of Hashabneiah repaired. 11 Malchijah the son of Harim and Hasshub the son of Pahath-moab repaired another section and the Tower of the Ovens. 12 Next to him Shallum the son of Hallohesh, ruler of half the district of Jerusalem, repaired, he and his daughters. 13 Hanun and the inhabitants of Zanoah repaired the Valley Gate. They rebuilt it and set its doors, its bolts, and its bars, and repaired a thousand cubits of the wall, as far as the Dung Gate. 14 Malchijah the son of Rechab, ruler of the district of Beth-haccherem, repaired the Dung Gate. He rebuilt it and set its doors, its bolts, and its bars. 15 And Shallum the son of Col-hozeh, ruler of the district of Mizpah, repaired the Fountain Gate. He rebuilt it and covered it and set its doors, its bolts, and its bars. And he built the wall of the Pool of Shelah of the king's garden, as far as the stairs that go down from the city of David.

- Goldsmiths, perfumers, sons, daughters. All hands on deck. **No 80/20 rule in effect here.**
- Gates primarily. First repairs.
- Repaired--fastened, strengthened; , rebuilt--set up surely, set--establish.  
How are you securing the gate around your soul?  
How are helping to secure the gate around our church?  
How are you helping to secure the gate around our city?

### Construction of the Eastern Wall

**Nehemiah 3:16-27** After him Nehemiah the son of Azbuk, ruler of half the district of Beth-zur, repaired to a point opposite the tombs of David, as far as the artificial pool, and as far as the house of the mighty men. 17 After him the Levites repaired: Rehum the son of Bani. Next to him Hashabiah, ruler of half the district of Keilah, repaired for his district. 18 After him their brothers repaired: Bavvai the son of Henadad, ruler of half the district of Keilah. 19 Next to him Ezer the son of Jeshua, ruler of Mizpah, repaired another section opposite the ascent to the armory at the buttress. 20 After him Baruch the son of Zabbai repaired another section from the buttress to the door of the house of Eliashib the high priest. 21 After him Meremoth the son of Uriah, son of Hakkoz repaired another section from the door of the house of Eliashib to the end of the house of Eliashib. 22 After him the priests, the men of the surrounding area, repaired. 23 After them Benjamin and Hasshub repaired opposite their house. After them Azariah the son of Maaseiah, son of Ananiah repaired beside his own house. 24 After him Binnui the son of Henadad repaired another section, from the house of Azariah to the buttress 25 and to the

corner. Palal the son of Uzai repaired opposite the buttress and the tower projecting from the upper house of the king at the court of the guard. After him Pedaiah the son of Parosh 26 and the temple servants living on Ophel repaired to a point opposite the Water Gate on the east and the projecting tower. 27 After him the Tekoites repaired another section opposite the great projecting tower as far as the wall of Ophel.

- New line of wall had to be built here, because pre-exilic wall was so badly destroyed.
- Priests, men of surrounding areas. Temple servants.
- Tekoite nobles don't want to help...but the people do!

**Nehemiah 3:28-32** Above the Horse Gate the priests repaired, each one opposite his own house. 29 After them Zadok the son of Immer repaired opposite his own house. After him Shemaiah the son of Shecaniah, the keeper of the East Gate, repaired. 30 After him Hananiah the son of Shelemiah and Hanun the sixth son of Zalaph repaired another section. After him Meshullam the son of Berechiah repaired opposite his chamber. 31 After him Malchijah, one of the goldsmiths, repaired as far as the house of the temple servants and of the merchants, opposite the Muster Gate, Z and to the upper chamber of the corner. 32 And between the upper chamber of the corner and the Sheep Gate the goldsmiths and the merchants repaired.

- Repairing the walls opposite their houses. This is personal.

Viggo Olsen, who helped rebuild ten thousand houses in war-ravaged Bangladesh in 1972, derived unexpected inspiration from reading a chapter ordinarily considered one of the least interesting in the Bible: 'I was struck ... that no expert builders were listed in the "Holy Land brigade." There were priests, priests' helpers, goldsmiths, perfume makers, and women, but no expert builders or carpenters were named.

### Takeaways—"So What"

1. Everybody is working. Everybody.

- What brings people together like this? Big, God sized missions!
- Gifts are important. So is just picking up a rock and moving it. Whether you are a goldsmith, servant, priest, or perfumer.
- Focus on your wall. Then help the guy to the left or right.
- Keep the walls of the city in mind--remember the Master Plan.
- Nobody is too important to move rocks in God's Kingdom.
- Together. Unity. How important is this to Jesus? To the world?

**John 17:21** that they may all be one, just as you, Father, are in me, and I in you, that they also may be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me.

2. Legacy. Leave one. A good one.

- Louie Giglio at Passion--"You are writing your obituary now."
- What does a godly legacy look like?
- We are all leaving a legacy.
- God is the ultimate King of do-overs. You get to start a new legacy.
- What would be YOUR family story, if written down by God for history?

3. Jesus. Always at the center of redemptive history.

- He is the Sheep Gate.

**John 10:9** I am the door. If anyone enters by me, he will be saved and will go in and out and find pasture.

- He is the Shepherd.

**John 10:11** I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.

- He is the Sheep.

**Acts 8:32** Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter and like a lamb before its shearer is silent, so he opens not his mouth.