

Nehemiah, Servant to the King: "Building More Than a City"

(Nehemiah 7)

Pastor Stephen Schultze

Sunday, July 3, 2011

Introduction:

God did not send the people back to Jerusalem with Ezra and Nehemiah to rebuild the temple and the wall so that a city could be built, but that His people might be restored and preserved!

I. The Building of the _____ was a _____.

A. The People of the city were provided _____. (v. 2)

B. The People of the city were provided _____. (v. 3)

C. The People of the city were provided _____. (v. 1, 5)

Rather than minimize the stuff of daily life, we should seek to live even these mundane things in a way which glorifies God. We do so by understanding how the work of _____ fits into the greater work of _____ God's people.

II. The Building of a _____ was the _____.

A. Nehemiah continued to _____ to the will of God. (v. 5a)

B. God continued to _____ what Nehemiah needed. (v. 5b)

- God's will is found on the path of obedience. Simple obedience IS His will.
- Nehemiah and his fellow builders were just the most recent players in God's great work of preserving a remnant of His people!

We do not have a choice between the _____ of the city and _____ God's redemptive mandate for our lives.

We have been called to do both wholeheartedly to the glory of God.

(1 Corinthians 10:31; Colossians 3:23; Jeremiah 29:4-7;

Genesis 12:1-3; 1 Peter 2:9-12; Matthew 5:14-16)

We are to live in and among the city, with its _____ in mind
...a welfare that extends on into _____!

Outreach is our joyful mission!

Outreach is our passionate mission, both as individuals and as a community of believers, to joyfully join God's plan to reach men and women of all people groups with the Gospel of Jesus Christ (Genesis 12:2-3; Matthew 28:19-20; Acts 1:8; Revelation 5:9).(2 Corinthians 5:18-21; Acts 2:41; 4:18; Romans 10:15).God is greatly glorified when His people show Christ-like mercy to those in need, whether they be widows, orphans, poor, sick, imprisoned or hurting (James 1:29; Luke 4:18-21; Matthew 25:34-40). Genuine compassion may be a point of connection for the Gospel. Extending mercy to those in need communicates the nature and love of God. However, because God is most glorified when individuals from all people groups become worshippers of God by faith in the Son of God, compassionate outreach must be accompanied by the message of the Gospel. (Romans 15:8-9; Revelation 5:9; Luke 4:18-21; Rom 15:8-9; James 2:14-17)We believe that a pattern of outreach and missions was established and demonstrated by the early church, whereby they went out, proclaiming and making disciples, and establishing churches of new believers. Our outreach responsibility begins locally and extends globally. This pattern is God-originated, Christ-centered, and Spirit-empowered. It is our joyful responsibility, individually and corporately, to be equipped to share the Gospel as we nurture loving relationships with the lost, consistently identifying and demonstrating compassion for those in need. (Matthew 28:19-20; Acts 11:22 13:1; Romans 16:1; 1 Corinthians 1:2; Acts 1:8)

**We must not claim to be only _____ the Gospel,
for men and women must _____ the Gospel to be saved.**

**We must not only _____ the Gospel,
for the inhabitants of the city must _____ the Christ-exalting,
life transforming effects of the glorious Gospel in every facet of our lives!**

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God did not send the people back to Jerusalem with Ezra and Nehemiah to rebuild the temple and the wall so that a city could be built, but that His people might be restored and preserved!

I. The Building of the City Was a Great Work.

- A. The People of the city were provided leadership. (v. 2)**
- B. The People of the city were provided protection. (v. 3)**
- C. The People of the city were provided organization. (v. 1, 5)**

Rather than minimize the stuff of daily life, we should seek to live even these mundane things in a way which glorifies God. We do so by understanding how the great work of living fits into the greater work of building God’s people.

II. The Building of a People Was the Greater Work.

- A. Nehemiah continued to humbly submit to the will of God. (v. 5a)**
- B. God continued to graciously reveal what Nehemiah needed. (v. 5b)**
 - God’s will is found on the path of obedience. Simple obedience IS His will.
 - Nehemiah and his fellow builders were just the most recent players in God’s great work of preserving a remnant of His people!

**We do not have a choice between the livelihood of the city
and living out God’s redemptive mandate for our lives.**

We have been called to do both wholeheartedly to the glory of God.

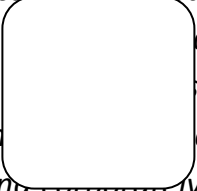
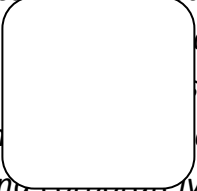
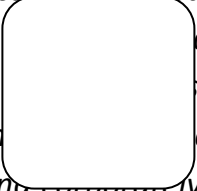
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We are to live in and among the city, with its complete welfare in mind

...a welfare that extends on into eternity!

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**We must not claim to be only *living* the Gospel,
for men and women must HEAR the Gospel to be saved.
We must not only *proclaim* the Gospel,
for the inhabitants of the city must SEE the Christ-exalting,
life transforming effects of the glorious gospel in every facet of our lives!**