

## NEHEMIAH

- Originally part of \_\_\_\_\_ larger book with Ezra
- Both Ezra and Nehemiah are grounded in \_\_\_\_\_ through the use of lists, records, royal edicts, memoirs and the like
- Written to form the people of God during \_\_\_\_\_ days – 445 BC, approximately 150 years after Babylon destroyed Jerusalem, the Temple, and the surrounding villages and enslaved the Jews
- The primary \_\_\_\_\_ for God in Ezra-Nehemiah is, “God of Heaven”
- Filled with descriptions of what happens when God’s people \_\_\_\_\_ hard, \_\_\_\_\_ hard, and \_\_\_\_\_ God who is always working on behalf of His people
- Nehemiah was an exiled Jew who had risen to high office in the Persian Empire = the king’s “cup-bearer” (1:11)
- By the end of the book, Nehemiah’s \_\_\_\_\_ work of rebuilding the wall is accomplished, but his \_\_\_\_\_ work was far from completed

*“These are the memoirs of Nehemiah son of Hacaliah.*

*In late autumn, in the month of Kislev, in the twentieth year of King Artaxerxes’ reign, I was at the fortress of Susa. Hanani, one of my brothers, came to visit me with some other men who had just arrived from Judah. I asked them about the Jews who had returned there from captivity and about how things were going in Jerusalem.*

*They said to me, ‘Things are not going well for those who returned to the province of Judah. They are in great trouble and disgrace. The wall of Jerusalem has been torn down, and the gates have been destroyed by fire.’*

*When I heard this, I sat down and wept. In fact, for days I mourned, fasted, and prayed to the God of heaven.” – NEH 1:1-4*

## THE PROBLEM IN JUDAH

1. There was a \_\_\_\_\_ in the land  
*“We have such large families. We need more food to survive... We have mortgaged our fields, vineyards, and homes to get food during the famine... We have had to borrow money on our fields and vineyards to pay our taxes. We belong to the same family as those who are wealthy, and our children are just like theirs. Yet we must sell our children into slavery just to get enough money to live. We have already sold some of our daughters, and we are helpless to do anything about it, for our fields and vineyards are already mortgaged to others.” – NEH 5:2-5*
2. The wall around Jerusalem had not been \_\_\_\_\_  
*“The wall of Jerusalem has been torn down, and the gates have been destroyed by fire.” – NEH 1:3*
  - The Jews were \_\_\_\_\_ to attack
  - Rebuilding the walls was a \_\_\_\_\_ to Israel’s enemies
  - Rebuilding the walls showed that God was \_\_\_\_\_ His people
  - Rebuilding of the walls showed God’s \_\_\_\_\_ on His people

## NEHEMIAH’S MODEL FOR FACING ADVERSITY

- Take our \_\_\_\_\_ to God in \_\_\_\_\_
1. Prayer is the place to \_\_\_\_\_ God’s work in our hearts
  2. Prayer is the place to \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ God’s call on our lives
  3. Prayer is the place to \_\_\_\_\_ a rock-solid faithful foundation