

THE BIG IDEA...

When we get away from **LEARNING, LOVING, and LIVING** the Word of God, we will miss out on the **BLESSINGS** of God

"I want you young men always to bear in mind that it is the nature of a fire to go out; you must keep it stirred and fed and the ashes removed." GENERAL WILLIAM BOOTH, FOUNDER-SALVATION ARMY

THE PEOPLE'S THREE COLOSSAL FAILURES

FAILURE #1 = The _____ Promise (13:1-9; 23-31)

"We promise not to let our daughters marry the pagan people of the land, and not to let our sons marry their daughters." NEH 10:30

"No Ammonite or Moabite or any of their descendants for ten generations may be admitted to the assembly of the Lord. These nations did not welcome you with food and water when you came out of Egypt. Instead, they hired Balaam son of Beor from Pethor in distant Aram-naharaim to curse you." DEUT 23:3-4

"Today the world has taken so many things out of the church, and the church has taken so many things out of the world, that it is difficult to know where you are." OSWALD CHAMBERS

"Today the world has so influenced the church that we are more beset by traitors within than by foes without. Satan is not fighting churches – he is joining them." VANCE HAVNER

FAILURE #2 = The _____ Promise (13:10-14)

"We promise together not to neglect the Temple of our God." NEH 10:39

When God's people start to decline spiritually, one of the _____ indicators is in their giving.

"The world is full of two kinds of people: the givers and the takers. The takers eat well – but the givers sleep well."

FAILURE #3 = The _____ Promise (13:15-22)

"We also promise that if the people of the land should bring any merchandise or grain to be sold on the Sabbath or on any other holy day, we will refuse to buy it." NEH 10:31

"If you want to kill Christianity, you must abolish Sunday." VOLTAIRE, FRENCH AGNOSTIC

LESSONS FROM NEHEMIAH 13

1. It's easy to spiritually _____ when we spiritually _____
2. We need other believers to help us _____ when our faith begins to drift or detour
3. Holiness is a _____ - _____ pursuit that involves our passions, our priorities, and the people we hang out with the most

"Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a huge crowd of witnesses to the life of faith, let us strip off every weight that slows us down, especially the sin that so easily trips us up. And let us run with endurance the race God has set before us. We do this by keeping our eyes on Jesus, the champion who initiates and perfects our faith." HEB 12:1-2