



UNFINISHED

**“Prayer Must
Be Priority #1”**

Nehemiah 1

August 14, 2022

Pastor Brad Eubank

Nehemiah’s Character vs. 1-4, 11

- 1) He was capable & close v. 11
- 2) He was deeply concerned & moved with compassion

“Let us learn this lesson from Nehemiah: you never lighten the load unless first you have felt the pressure in your own soul. You are never used of God to bring blessing until God has opened your eyes and made you see things as they are.” Alan Redpath

Nehemiah’s Conclusion - It was to Pray vs. 5-10

“To be a Christian without prayer is no more possible than to be alive without breathing.” Martin Luther

- 1) He was certain God was in charge & he wasn’t v. 5
- 2) He was confident to ask the Lord v. 6a

“Do not pray for tasks equal to your powers, pray for power equal to your tasks.” Phillip Brooks

“Pray for great things, expect great things, work for great things, but above all, PRAY!” R.A. Torrey, Evangelist

- 3) He was consistent v. 6
- 4) He was convicted and moved to confess vs. 6b-7
Deuteronomy 4:25-31 & Leviticus 26:40-42
- 5) He was counting on God’s covenant (faithfulness) vs. 8-10

Nehemiah's Commitment v. 11

- 1) He collected others to pray
- 2) He confirmed he was willing and available for the Lord to use him

Why Should We Pray?

From Charles Swindoll, "Hand Me Another Brick"

- 1) Prayer makes me wait
- 2) Prayer clears my vision
- 3) Prayer quiets my heart
- 4) Prayer activates my faith

Our Response:

- 1) How do you think Nehemiah became a person who was concerned about Jerusalem? What do you need to do to increase your concerns for your church, community and the ends of the earth?
- 2) What is usually your first reaction when problems or challenges arise? What can you do to make prayer the "got to" and a normal rhythm & pattern in your life?
- 3) Does Nehemiah need to remind God of His promises and covenant? Why does Nehemiah pray this prayer in vs. 8-10? What does it do for us?
- 4) How does your prayer & willingness need to change so you can be available for the Lord to use you in His plan to finish the task?
- 5) When you look at the 4 reasons to pray – what challenges you the most and why? How could this change your prayer life?