

## **“THROUGH THE BIBLE”**

Union Chapel M.B. Church

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### **NEHEMIAH**

#### ***Going Home-To Rebuild and Restore***

***“O Lord, I pray, please let your ear be attentive to the prayer of your servant... and grant him mercy... For I was the King’s cupbearer.” Nehemiah 1:11.***

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#### **INTRODUCTION**

*The study of the Old Testament is so very valuable for Christians because, The Lord treated it as divinely inspired Scripture. The Book you are reading is not just any book. It is verifiably, “God-breathed” (2 Timothy 3:16). The Apostle Paul reminded Timothy of this. If we fellowship with HIM, and allow HIM to “breathe” on us, we will hear HIS Voice!*

*The Books of Ezra, Nehemiah, and Esther tell the stories of God’s people covering the last century of Old Testament history. Ezra and Nehemiah, originally a one volume (unified) book, together provide a full account of God’s restoration of Jerusalem. God chooses and raises up a series of dynamic leaders to take charge of the “home-going.”*

*In the **Hebrew** language, Nehemiah’s name means “the Lord is compassionate.” The **Latin** title of the book was known as the “Second Book of Ezra” (Ezra was the first book). “At this point, it is considered a separate book from Ezra, and is later called the “Book of Nehemiah.” Therefore, the book is named after the chief character, (Neh.1:1). This is his story! Nehemiah had vision and a great need. He must have God’s favor, and Artaxerxes permission to travel to Jerusalem. The Books must be read and studied together. The background of the Book: the Jews returning home to Jerusalem from the Babylonian captivity to rebuild their nation. Nehemiah’s purpose was to rebuild the city’s walls.*

#### **BRIEF OUTLINE OF THE BOOK**

- I. REBUILDING THE CITY WALLS (Neh. 1-7)**
- II. THE REVIVAL AND RESTORATION OF THE PEOPLE (Neh. 8-13)**

**THE MAJOR THEME OF THE BOOKS: GOD’S PLAN- The “Preservation of those through whom the promised seed (Messiah) would come!” God will be faithful**

*to preserve a righteous remnant. This history continues to develop the language of God's promise-covenant with Abraham, Moses at Mt. Sinai, Joshua, and David in 2 Samuel 7. Note: At the appointed time, David would become the designated channel of the Abrahamic promise-covenant fulfillment. (2 Samuel 7:8-16).*

#### **DIFFERENCE-MAKERS IN THE BIBLE**

*Can one person make a difference? Overwhelming yes! GOD IS FAITHFUL!*

*"...God has dealt to each one a measure of faith" (Rom. 12:3; Col. 3:17).*

The Biblical Record proves one person can make a difference. The "Good News" is that God accomplishes His "extraordinary workings" through ordinary individuals, and the person does not have to be famous! We can see this for ourselves as *Ezra, Zerubbabel, and Nehemiah* led the Jews home to Jerusalem in "three expeditions." Everyone has a part to play. God really was not searching for a committee. He just needed *one person* willing to stand for what was right.

*Conclusion: However, in order to take part in His vision our "heart" must be devoted, loyal, and trusting completely in Him! (2 Chron. 16:9). Our love for him must be exclusive and enduring (Matt. 22:37-39; Ps. 103:1). The "strength" to do this comes from the indwelling Spirit of God.*

#### **NOTES:**

**GOD IS DEPENDABLE, AND FAITHFUL! FOR EVERY PURPOSE, GOD HAS A PERSON!**