

“So We Built The Wall”

Around 445 BC, Nehemiah led the third and final wave of exiles back to Jerusalem for the purpose of rebuilding the walls. Despite the many attempts made by the opposition to stop their progress, Nehemiah and his counterparts were determined to complete the task at hand.



What an amazing story of courage, commitment, unity, and hard work. And nowhere in the book of Nehemiah is this more evident than in the following passage: “So we built the wall. And all the wall was joined together to half its height, for the people had a mind to work” (Neh. 4:6).

Notice from the above-cited text that “WE, (not Me) built the wall.” The work of God, past and present, is not about one particular person. Kingdom labor is not about who’s greatest. In fact, Jesus said that the greatest in the kingdom are those having a servant mentality (Matt. 23:11). There’s no place in the kingdom of God for a Diotrephean attitude (3 John 9-10). We must remember that we’re all in this together!

Notice also that the text says, “We BUILT...” Those who returned were required to take an active part in the work. The wall would not have been completed had the people refused to build. To build up the kingdom of God requires active participation from those within it. Those refusing to build will one day answer for their inactivity (Matt. 25:14, 24-27).

In addition, notice from the text that “the wall was JOINED TOGETHER...” As the wall was coming together, so too were they! They weren’t working against each other, nor were they going in opposite directions. As they worked, they drew closer together (4:19-20). And that’s how successful works get accomplished. When people determine to work together instead of against each other, not only will successfully complete the task, they too will be drawn closer to one another.

Walls are down! Let’s get busy and work together to rebuild that which is broken!

- Terry R. Townsend (*Bulletin Digest*) -

U nited we stand, hand in hand
N urturing bonds that forever expand
I n a world where differences collide
T ogether we rise, side by side
Y earning for peace, love as our guide.

The devil is not afraid of a dust covered Bible.

News & Notes

CONFESSION & RESTORATION: Kim Powell.

CAMP RECAP: 4:45 this afternoon here at the church building.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL: Tomorrow through Friday, 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at the Weirton Heights Church of Christ. Classes: Cradle roll through adult. Additional details on the bulletin board.

CARE & SHARE BEARS: Each Tuesday, 9:00-11:00 a.m. here at the church building. All ladies are invited to come and help make stuffed bears for kids in the hospital or elsewhere.

CONVERT’S CLASS: NO class this Thursday, July 25th. Resumes next Thursday, August 1st at 11:00 a.m.

PANTRY: Ritz crackers.

REMEMBER THESE SICK & SHUT-IN: *At Home:* Lois Hissom, Becky McKitrick, Zachary Guiddy (Tim Martin’s grandson), Dean Spencer, Peggy Linger, Claudette Miller, Nancy Cox, Barbara DeLong, Cheryl Renfro Walker, Lori Stocks (Karen Strum’s niece). *Fox - Chester:* Audrey Geer (Linda Hall’s mother), Janice Hutchins, Mary Johnson. *Elsewhere:* Brenda Harris, 102 Cardinal Dr., Rockwell, NC 28138. Herman McHan, 7401 Elmwood Dr., Lisbon, OH 44432.

HEAVEN BOUND

We talk about going home to be with God in heaven. We sing about the beauties of heaven. Our prayers acknowledge our hope of heaven. Heaven is mentioned at almost all funerals. Most of us think about heaven every day.

The Bible tells us that heaven is a place of joy and eternal bliss; a place where there are no tears, no sorrows, nor death; a place where we will see our friends and loved ones once more, and a home in the eternal presence of God and Jesus. Isaiah and Paul both describe heaven as a home so beautiful that man cannot describe it, or even imagine what God has prepared for those who love Him (Isaiah 64:4; 1 Corinthians 2:9).

Heaven is for everyone—but contrary to what is often expressed by some, not everyone will be there. Jesus said just professing to love God is not enough. “Feeling good about your spirituality” is not God’s measuring stick, nor is the word of any man. Jesus is the Judge, and He said it will be those who do (obey) the will of the Father that will enter heaven (Matthew 7:21; John 12:48).

You and I will someday give an account of what we have done while on earth (Romans 14:12). To hear Jesus say “Well done, good and faithful servant,” should be incentive enough for each of us to know and serve God to the best of our ability—and be heaven bound. - John K. Wills (*Bulletin Digest*)