

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

# RESTORED

LESSONS IN NEHEMIAH

## Lesson 3 – Be Bold!

### Nehemiah 2:1-10

Last week, we learned that Nehemiah went to the Lord in prayer regarding the burden he had for the horrible condition of Jerusalem. In this week's lesson, we will see that although Nehemiah was afraid, he made his request of King Artaxerxes to restore the wall of Jerusalem. Since Artaxerxes was a pagan, there was no reason for him to consider God's people or Nehemiah's request unless, of course, God was at work behind the scenes – and He was! Knowing that he had God's backing for the project, Nehemiah boldly made his requests and King Artaxerxes rolled out the red carpet and made a way for Nehemiah to go and rebuild the walls of Jerusalem.

Open your Bible and begin with a word of prayer

#### This Week's Scripture: Nehemiah 2:1-10

*<sup>1</sup>And it came to pass in the month of Nisan, in the twentieth year of King Artaxerxes, when wine was before him, that I took the wine and gave it to the king. Now I had never been sad in his presence before.<sup>2</sup>Therefore the king said to me, "Why is your face sad, since you are not sick? This is nothing but sorrow of heart." So I became dreadfully afraid,<sup>3</sup>and said to the king, "May the king live forever! Why should my face not be sad, when the city, the place of my fathers' tombs, lies waste, and its gates are burned with fire?"<sup>4</sup>Then the king said to me, "What do you request?" So I prayed to the God of heaven.<sup>5</sup>And I said to the king, "If it pleases the king, and if your servant has found favor in your sight, I ask that you send me to Judah, to the city of my fathers' tombs, that I may rebuild it."<sup>6</sup>Then the king said to me (the queen also sitting beside him), "How long will your journey be? And when will you return?" So it pleased the king to send me; and I set him a time.<sup>7</sup>Furthermore I said to the king, "If it pleases the king, let letters be given to me for the governors of the region beyond the River, that they must permit me to pass through till I come to Judah,<sup>8</sup>and a letter to Asaph the keeper of the king's forest, that he must give me timber to make beams for the gates of the citadel which pertains to the temple, for the city wall, and for the house that I will occupy." And the king granted them to*

me according to the good hand of my God upon me. <sup>9</sup>Then I went to the governors in the region beyond the River, and gave them the king's letters. Now the king had sent captains of the army and horsemen with me. <sup>10</sup>When Sanballat the Horonite and Tobiah the Ammonite official heard of it, they were deeply disturbed that a man had come to seek the well-being of the children of Israel.

**This Week's Memory Verse:**

**Have I not commanded you? Be strong and of good courage; do not be afraid, nor be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.**

**Joshua 1:9(NKJV)**

1. Nehemiah was a cupbearer not a construction worker, architect or project manager. Nevertheless, he was the man God chose to use in this situation to accomplish His purpose. What does Nehemiah's life teach you about how to respond when you feel overwhelmed or inadequate to do what God has called you to? \_\_\_\_\_  
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2. Never forget that God is sovereign. He is in control and He rules and overrules in the affairs of every nation and every people – including us! Look up the verses below and share what you learn.
  - a. Psalm 135:6: \_\_\_\_\_  
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  - b. Romans 9:18-21: \_\_\_\_\_  
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  - c. 2 Chronicles 20:6: \_\_\_\_\_  
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  - d. Isaiah 43:13: \_\_\_\_\_  
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