

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

RESTORED

LESSONS IN NEHEMIAH

Lesson 12 – Faithful Leaders

Nehemiah 7:1-73

You would think that because the wall was complete, the attacks of the enemy would stop but that wasn't the case. The enemy is relentless and will never raise the white flag in surrender. He may remain quiet for a time, but rest assured he is not finished. Nehemiah knew that it was not enough to just restore the walls of Jerusalem. He would need to appoint faithful leaders to diligently guard the walls, and more importantly, guard the people living inside those walls. Chapter 7 records the people assigned to help protect the work they accomplished. It may be easy to overlook this endless list of names. However, we should never forget these people were the ones who left the comforts of Babylon to return to Jerusalem so they could once again worship their God in freedom. God knew who they were and what they had done, and He left their names to forever be remembered as faithful leaders.

Open your Bible and begin with a word of prayer

This Week's Scripture: **Nehemiah 7:1-73**

Then it was, when the wall was built and I had hung the doors, when the gatekeepers, the singers, and the Levites had been appointed, ² that I gave the charge of Jerusalem to my brother Hanani, and Hananiah the leader of the citadel, for he was a faithful man and feared God more than many. ³ And I said to them, "Do not let the gates of Jerusalem be opened until the sun is hot; and while they stand guard, let them shut and bar the doors; and appoint guards from among the inhabitants of Jerusalem, one at his watch station and another in front of his own house." (Verses 4 through 73, although important, were intentionally left out.)

This Week's Memory Verse:

Shepherd the flock of God which is among you, serving as overseers, not by compulsion but willingly, not for dishonest gain but eagerly; nor as being lords over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock.

1 Peter 5:2-3(NKJV)

1. Nehemiah 7 contains a long list of those who made their way back to Jerusalem in order to once again serve and worship the Lord. The list itself could easily be ignored, but it shouldn't be! Pause for a moment and think of why God would make sure these names were recorded. Look up Luke 12:6-7 for insight. How do these verses speak to your heart when you feel forgotten or insignificant? _____

2. The wall was finished, but Nehemiah's work wasn't done. He needed to protect the work they accomplished. He began this task by choosing faithful leaders described as ones who "feared God" and not man. They were great examples to the flock God had entrusted to them and to us too! Read the verses below and share what you learn regarding the fear of God versus the fear of man.
 - a. Deuteronomy 10:12-13: _____

 - b. Proverbs 29:25: _____

 - c. Galatians 1:10: _____

3. When most people hear the word "leader," they immediately think of people who hold positions like teachers, pastors or CEO's. Very few Christians think of themselves in this way and yet, the truth is, all of us are leaders. We all have the awesome responsibility of being examples and influencing others for Christ. Read Matthew 5:13-16 and share how we can be an influence in the world around us. _____
