

Building for Christ: Nehemiah Lesson 10

Nehemiah 13

Lesson Title: What in the World?

A Bible Study Series of The Mt. Zion Church

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We Have the Vision to be a LEARNING Church!
We are Rooted in Christ and Reaching the One!



II. Nehemiah Returns to Babylon—verses 4-5, and 8

When we read verses 4-5, and 8, we find that certain behaviors such as favoritism have become accepted by the main priest.

1. Issue # 1

Who is receiving the favoritism and what benefit do they get?

Name	Behavior
Why is this a Problem?	

Remember, the purpose of the temple was to be 100% for the worship of God. The storehouse, the bathrooms (if they had them), the trash cans, the knobs on the door to the offices were consecrated for God’s work. When was the last time you thought of the seat you sit on in the sanctuary as holy to God?

- How can your understanding of the “temple” impact your attitude?
- Would this change how you behave?
- Would it change your worship?

2. Issue # 2, # 3, and # 4 Group Activity

Directions: Read verses 10, 15, and 23. Identify the issue and answer the questions that follow.

Issue 2 verse 10	Behavior
Why is this a Problem?	

Issue 3 verse 15	Behavior
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Why is this a Problem?	

Issue 4 verse 23	Behavior
Why is this a Problem?	

Consider Verse 18 as you consider this part of the lesson.



What do you think is wrong with the people when you consider the promises (covenant) the people made to God after finishing the wall?

- Do you ever have this same problem? What do you think causes you to behave in this way?

III. Nehemiah’s Response—verses 9, 11, 17, and 22

How would you feel if you were Nehemiah and you realized the people reverted to behaviors which got them in the position they were in from the beginning. How do you think God feels when this is the way we behave? As the people of God, we must never forget that sin continually creates the reason Jesus had to die. If we never understand this issue, then when He rebuilds the broken parts of our lives it will not matter nor will it have lasting impact.

How does Nehemiah respond to the people’s unfaithfulness?

Action verse 9	Why?

Action verse 11	Why?

Action verse 17	Why?

IV. Nehemiah’s Request—verses 14, 22, 29-31

Nehemiah was a man of conviction. The work he took on did not directly benefit him. It actually created more headaches for him than he may have hoped. The reforms he initiated seemed to have short-term impact. However, he did not give up on the people. He continued to lead in hopes that their behaviors would change and honor God. This is the sign of a godly leader. Within this chapter, we get a hint of why Nehemiah was so serious about the impact that he hoped for in Jerusalem.

- What do verses 14 and 29-31 help us to understand about Nehemiah?
 - In your mind, what is significant about his requests to God?
- What can you do over your lifetime that would allow you to make a request of this kind?
 - Does your work need to be “big”?

Conclusion: The work of “building” is a large task. You are not alone in the work. There are others who will be faithful to the task, but most faithful is God. If He has put on your heart work for Him, you can rest assured that He will provide everything you need to accomplish the task. You are the right person, at the right time, to do that “thing” for The Lord!

PART 2

Reflection of Nehemiah Lessons

Directions: If you have been present for each lesson, you have now spent 10 weeks of your life studying Nehemiah. My hope is that you have gained a new understanding of the book in general, but have also acquired new insight into how you as a “Builder for Christ” should approach the work God has set before you. Please answer the following questions and send to your teacher so that we as a teaching team can debrief this study.

1. What stood out most to you from the lessons you studied?

2. What would have made these lessons more interesting to you in terms of teaching approach?

3. What resources should we consider including during our next set of lessons?

4. What was your least favorite aspect of this particular study?

5. What positive comment does your teacher need to hear so they know you appreciate their efforts in this study?
