

Empowering People to Change the World

Building with Bloodstained Allies Steve Holt

The Road Declaration...

Building with Bloodstained Allies

Nehemiah 2-3

Introduction:

Last week we were in the first part of Nehemiah, chapter 2

How to Release the Grip of Fear:

1) Face your fears.

- Fear will enslave you! Most of us live "fear-based" lives.
- Fear is a motivation...a negative emotion and a negative purpose.
- Fear will make you sick!
- Fear will ruin your health, and your immune system; I believe most headaches, depression, and sickness comes from fears in our lives.

2) Be vulnerable about your fears.

- Remember, Nehemiah is writing this. He didn't have to add that last line, but he did. "I became dreadfully afraid."
- Another synonym would be exceedingly afraid.
- Being open about your fear with some bloodstained allies can set you free!

3) Build your faith, starve your fears.

• Focus on faith—build up the walls of faith in your life!

 Face it, be open about it, but then turn from it, and build up your faith. The more you focus on fear, the more your fears will grow; the more you focus on building up your faith, the more your faith will grow.

Building New Walls with Bloodstained Allies:

Nehemiah 2-3

Vs. 11-12

- It appears that none of the nobles or governors of the area come out to greet Nehemiah.
- The walls, the gates, and the streets are a mess!

1) Build New Walls with the Right People.

- <u>He takes a "few men" with him</u>. How many of you know you only need a few good men to make a difference?
- Sometimes you need new people for building new walls!
- Nehemiah obviously does not want any of the official's opinion. They've done nothing up to this point, so why would Nehemiah care about their opinion now?

2) Honestly Assess Your Situation.

- I have wondered if the opposition of what he had come to do was so great, even among the Jewish leaders, that this is why Nehemiah went out at night.
- He told no one because he little trusted anyone.
- He is checking the old foundations to see if they have enough integrity to be built upon.

- A good leader can't propose a new work unless he understands the ruins of the old work.
- You see what he's checking? The gates! These gates are the access points into the city...soft spots, vulnerable access points.

Vs. 17-18

 Nehemiah motivates the people to action! They begin to work together.

3) Build Walls as a Unified Family.

- We all need each other! We need brothers and sisters in Christ who will help and guide us.
- We need people who can speak into our lives and support and love us.
- Look at chapter 3 with me...they begin rebuilding the walls together.
- This is the body of Christ at work! The word "repair" and "build" is used 44x in just chapter 3.
- "Next to them" or "after them" is used over 20x.
- Hundreds of families are involved in rebuilding the walls.
- Not everyone will help, vs. 5, but most will...people will help you if you will call out for help.
- These are families building next to families!
- Ex. I remember recently asking a bunch of men to come out to my home and pray for me...

 Ex. So many people have helped us in our parenting...I love that there are so many of you who love and mentor my kids.

Vs. 19-20

- Nehemiah is not intimidated by opposition!
- He mobilizes the people.

4) Speak to the Enemy with Boldness.

- The "Unholy Trinity!"
- There are demonic powers that want to keep you down and intimidated!

How the Opposition Works:

- 1) Derision
- 2) Despising
- 3) Deception

The Theme of Nehemiah: Arise and Build!!

- When you start working hard to rebuild your life; when we start putting our shoulder to rebuilding our nation, expect opposition!
- Jesus said, "Assuredly, I say to you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven." Matthew 18:18
- Bind demons in prayer! Bind that spirit of depression, envy, jealousy, lust...
- 1 John 2:13-14, I write to you, fathers,
 Because you have known Him who is from the beginning.
 I write to you, young men,

Because you have overcome the wicked one.

I write to you, little children,

Because you have known the Father.

I have written to you, fathers,

Because you have known Him who is from the beginning.

I have written to you, young men,

Because you are strong, and the word of God abides in you,

And you have overcome the wicked one.

- 1 John 4:4, You are of God, little children, and have overcome them, because He who is in you is greater than he who is in the world.
- 1 John 5:4, For whatever is born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith.
- We are overcomers in Christ! Our faith makes us overcomers.
- Face your Fears with Faith! You are an overcomer!

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