



1. Introduction

- a. Nehemiah asked Jew from Judea about how the people were ~~doing~~ doing in Judea
- b. Nehemiah was cup bearer to the king in Persia (1:1)
 - he had high ranking position inside inner circle in king's house
- c. Jewish residents in great distress (1:3)
- d. Humans cannot set the winds, but Christians can set the sails
- e. When Jews returned back to Israel
 - 538 BC Zerubbabel led first returns to Jerusalem
 - Ezra in 2nd wave of return
- f. 520 BC Second temple finished

2. Steps necessary to revival

- a. Nehemiah cried, & fasted and prayed to God (1:4)
 - walls of Jerusalem broken
- b. Nehemiah confesses
 - God keeps His Covenant & mercy
 - God's people who love & obey God
 - God open to these people
- c. Prayer began with a burden
 - Nehemiah cared for his people
 - He grew concerned for welfare of people in Jerusalem
 - Revival first started within Nehemiah's heart

2d. Burden continued with prayer

- fasting & prayer

* Mt 17:21 demon thrown out
by prayer & fasting

* Mk 9:29 particular kind of
demon cast out by prayer &
fasting

* Dan 9:3 Daniel looked to God
with prayer, supplications,
fasting (with sackcloth & ashes)

* Ps 35:13 (psalm of David)
David even humbled himself
to fast & pray for his enemies

~~- 1 Cor 7:5 Marriage relations stop entirely~~

e. Nehemiah prayed from December
(Chislev) to April (Nisan)

3. Seek God Fearfully

a. Give God shock & awe in worship

- Lord God of heaven
- great & awesome God

b. Recognize God's character

- all powerful God - Creator God

c. Repent of your own sinful condition

- Nehemiah confesses sin of
children of Israel (1:6)

- 1 Jn 1:9 if we confess our sins, God
is faithful & just to forgive our sins

- Jms 2:18 show my faith by my
works (of repentance)

4. Seek God Faithfully

a. Remember God's Word (1:8)

- "remember your word"

b. Reread God's Word

- 2 Cor 7:9-10 godly sorrow works
repentance to salvation

c. Nehemiah's heart burned for God
redeeming Israel to return them to
Jerusalem