

A TIME OF REFLECTION

[Pastor Gene Henderson edited by Pastor Pier]

The Old Testament books of Ezra and Nehemiah and Esther happen hundreds of years after Ruth. By their time Jerusalem was a despicable mess; its walls had been destroyed and its inhabitants had very little resources and no real protection. Politically it was unstable. Ultimately, it was at the mercy of a gang of bullies. Artaxerxes gave Ezra access to protection and finances, so Ezra concentrated on rebuilding God's house. This was not the Temple of Solomon, and getting the people to respect God's Word to them was not an easy task. Considering how many had married foreign women, being told by Ezra they had to break up their families and devote themselves to God's plan was not popular. You can imagine how that went over! But Ezra spoke a strong word and many responded.

Nehemiah was sent from the King's palace to Jerusalem to rebuild the walls of the city and to get the social behavior of the people in line. First, Nehemiah immediately went to work on the city walls. Sanballat and Tobiah, leaders of the bullies that did not want the city protected, caused as much trouble as possible, but God gave Nehemiah wisdom and courage. Like Ezra, he believed in God's Word and worked hard to straighten out the city leaders as soon as the walls were rebuilt. While Ezra focused on the spiritual life of the city, Nehemiah worked on the social and financial activities of Jerusalem.

If you wonder why the city had fallen into such terrible condition, remember that Nebuchadnezzar had taken the best educated, the wealthiest and the most industrious of the city families as captives when he broke the city down. Now Ezra and Nehemiah were rebuilding. 3,000 years later, what they did still stand as examples of how to rebuild our lives. Around the world the Church is doing that. Here in America, we are not far from having to do that ourselves. Sobering. Job 12:13-16 (English Standard Version):

"With God are wisdom and might; He has counsel and understanding. If He tears down, none can rebuild; if He shuts a man in, none can open. If He withholds the waters, they dry up; if He sends them out, they overwhelm the land. With Him are strength and sound wisdom; the deceived and the deceiver are His."

Welcome!

January 28th, 2024



"The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I have come so they can have life. I want them to have it in the fullest possible way."

SERVICES

Sunday Morning Worship: 10:30 AM
Unity in Prayer & Youth: 6:00 – 7:00 PM
Wednesday – Bible Study: 7:00 PM; Kid's Club
Prayer ½ hour before services

JESUS IS KING

TEXT: Revelation 11:15-17

Jesus, _____ now is seated as King and Lord over _____ things!
Colossians 1:19-20; 2:9-10; Ephesians 1:16-23

I. THE _____ – PREVIOUS

The battle is _____! Revelation 12:7-10; Colossians 2:15;
Isaiah 40:15, 17

II. THE _____ – POSITION Exodus 33:21-23; 34:6-7; 2
Corinthians 3:14-15:

The veil, the _____ is taken away in Christ! 2 Corinthians
3:16

OUR _____ IS MOST EVIDENT IN OUR PLACE OF _____.
Exodus 25:22

The very moment you _____ your place of prayer, the very
moment you _____ your knee in prayer, the very moment you
_____ your voice in prayer to God,

He is there to put to _____ all His power on your _____.!
Ephesians 3:20-21

III. THE _____ – PLANNED FUTURE NOW

All things are under His _____ and _____.
Psalm 24:7-10; 68:32-33; 99:1-3; 93:1-2; 96:10; Isaiah 52:7; 2;
19:1; Kings 6:17; Revelation 19:11

We are the main _____ at a wedding! Revelation 19:6-9;
Psalm 149:2-5

The King Jesus has _____ your life and house with a
multitude of all powerful heavenly _____ – Calvary – He is
ready, He sits upon His white horse.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Wednesday Bible Study – we continue
our new study, “The Great
Disappearance” – Rapture of the church,

taken from Dr. David Jeremiah’s study. We have student study
guides available for \$10 each. Please see the Pastor for more
details.

Flagging Class – begins again on Wednesday evening,
February 7th at 6:00 PM. We will be focusing on a praise
presentation for our Easter Service on March 31st. Parents,
please try to have your children here on time. Thank you!

Special Fellowship Dinner – after the service today. Please
plan to stay and fellowship together. A special thanks to all who
have brought food and help make this a success.

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