

Nehemiah: Building a Life of Faith
“Getting Up To Speed”
Selected Scripture

Sunday, January 16, 2011

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Rewind...How did we get here?

A brief historical perspective:

- Israel: United Kingdom (c 1050-931 BC):
 - One nation, under one king (Saul, David, Solomon)
- Israel: Divided Kingdom (931-605 BC):
 - Ten Northern tribes = Israel
 - Two Southern Tribes = Judah
- Two Captivities:
 - Northern Kingdom (Israel) conquered by Assyria (722 BC)
 - Southern Kingdom (Judah) conquered by Babylon (605 BC)
- Three Returns:
 - Zerubbabel 550 BC (Ezra 1-6)
 - √ Haggai 520 BC (Haggai 1-2)
 - √ Zechariah 518-520 BC (Zechariah 1-14)
 - Ezra 458 BC (Ezra 7-10)
 - Nehemiah 445 BC (Nehemiah 1-13)
 - √ Malachi 432 BC (Malachi 1-4)

An Overview of the Book of Nehemiah

- It is Nehemiah's testimony of his faith and God's faithfulness
- The book has two main sections:
 - Chapter 1-7 cover the reconstruction of the walls of Jerusalem
 - Chapters 8-13 cover the restoration of the people

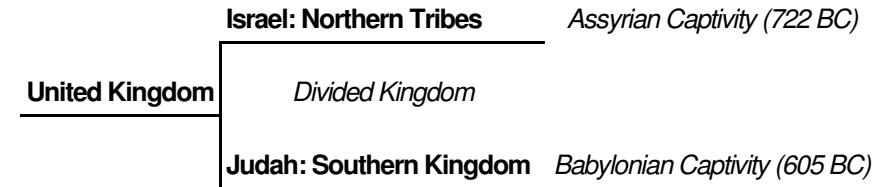
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Some Big Lessons to Glean from Nehemiah

- God keeps His Word
- There is no victory without warfare
- God uses ordinary people to do extraordinary things
- Our individual lives, the life of the church and God's kingdom are developed and advanced by those who are willing to sacrifice and leave their comfort zone.

Historical Perspective:

Israel and their captivities:



The Return to Their Land

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|--------------------|---------------|------------------|---------------------|
| Zerubbabel | (Esther) | Ezra | Nehemiah |
| Temple Rebuilt | Becomes Queen | Spiritual Reform | The Wall is Rebuilt |
| 538 BC | 516 BC | 458 BC | 444 BC |
| Haggai / Zechariah | | | Malachi |