

## PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR REVIVAL

TEXT: (Nehemiah 2:1-5, NIV)

<sup>1</sup> In the month of Nisan in the twentieth year of King Artaxerxes, when wine was brought for him, I took the wine and gave it to the king. I had not been sad in his presence before; <sup>2</sup> so the king asked me, “Why does your face look so sad when you are not ill? This can be nothing but sadness of heart.”

I was very much afraid, <sup>3</sup> but I said to the king, “May the king live forever! Why should my face not look sad when the city where my fathers are buried lies in ruins, and its gates have been destroyed by fire?”

<sup>4</sup> The king said to me, “What is it you want?”

Then I prayed to the God of heaven, <sup>5</sup> and I answered the king, “If it pleases the king and if your servant has found favor in his sight, let him send me to the city in Judah where my fathers are buried so that I can rebuild it.”

### I. UNDERSTANDING THE NEED

#### A. Taking Responsibility

1. “What good is it, my brothers, if a man claims to have faith but has no deeds? Can such faith save him? Suppose a brother or sister is without clothes and daily food. If one of you says to him, ‘Go, I wish you well; keep warm and well fed,’ but does nothing about his physical needs, what good is it? In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead” (James 2:14-17, NIV).
2. “Then he said to his disciples, ‘The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few’” (Matthew 9:37, NIV).

#### B. The Walls of God's Kingdom Must Be Built.

1. “As you come to him, the living Stone—rejected by men but chosen by God and precious to him— you also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ” (1 Peter 2:4-5, NIV).

### II. THE POWER OF TEAMWORK

1. “Joshua fought the Amalekites as Moses had ordered, and Moses, Aaron and Hur went to the top of the hill. As long as Moses held up his hands, the Israelites were winning, but whenever he lowered his hands, the Amalekites were winning. When Moses’ hands grew tired, they took a stone and put it under him and he sat on it. Aaron and Hur held his hands up—one on one side, one on the other—so that his hands remained steady till sunset. So Joshua overcame the Amalekite army with the sword” (Exodus 17:10-13, NIV).

#### A. A Winning Team

1. “Tomorrow I will stand on top of the hill with the staff of God in my hands” (Exodus 17:9, NIV).
2. “Now the body is not made up of one part but of many” (1 Corinthians 12:14, NIV).

#### B. Jethro Taught the Need for Delegation

1. “Jethro, Moses’ father-in-law, together with Moses’ sons and wife, came to him in the desert, where he was camped near the mountain of God” (Exodus 18:5, NIV).
2. “Moses’ father-in-law replied, ‘What you are doing is not good. You and these people who come to you will only wear yourselves out. The work is too heavy for you; you cannot handle it alone. Listen now to me and I will give you some advice, and may God be with you. You must be the people’s representative before God and bring their disputes to him. Teach them his decrees and instructions, and show them the way they are to live and how they are to behave’” (Exodus 18:17-20, NIV).

#### C. The Early Church

1. “Those who accepted his message were baptized, and about three thousand were

- added to their number that day" (Acts 2:41, NIV).
2. "And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved" (Acts 2:47, NIV).
  3. "But many who heard the message believed, and the number of men grew to about five thousand" (Acts 4:4, NIV).
  4. "Nevertheless, more and more men and women believed in the Lord and were added to their number" (Acts 5:14, NIV).
  5. "In those days when the number of disciples was increasing, the Grecian Jews among them complained against the Hebraic Jews because their widows were being overlooked in the daily distribution of food" (Acts 6:1, NIV).
  6. "So the Twelve gathered all the disciples together and said, 'It would not be right for us to neglect the ministry of the word of God in order to wait on tables'" (Acts 6:2, NIV).

### III. THE POWER OF SERVITUDE

1. "Jesus, knowing their thoughts, called them to his side and said, 'Kings and those with great authority in this world rule oppressively over their subjects, like tyrants. But this is not your calling. You will lead by a completely different model. The greatest one among you will live as the one who is called to serve others, because the greatest honor and authority is reserved for the one with the heart of a servant'" (Matthew 20:25-27, TPT).

#### A. The Way to Greatness

1. "You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things" (Matthew 25:21, NIV).
2. "Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving" (Colossians 3:23-24, NIV).

#### B. Serving within Your Capacity

1. "To one he gave five talents of money, to another two talents, and to another one talent, each according to his ability" (Matthew 25:15, NIV).
2. "God has arranged the parts in the body, every one of them, just as he wanted them to be" (I Corinthians 12:18, NIV).

#### B. Under Nehemiah, Every Person Had an Assigned Task

1. "Eliashib the high priest and his fellow priests went to work and rebuilt the Sheep Gate. They dedicated it and set its doors in place, building as far as the Tower of the Hundred, which they dedicated, and as far as the Tower of Hananel. The men of Jericho built the adjoining section, and Zaccur son of Imri built next to them. The Fish Gate was rebuilt by the sons of Hassenaah. They laid its beams and put its doors and bolts and bars in place. Meremoth son of Uriah, the son of Hakkoz, repaired the next section. Next to him Meshullam son of Berekiah, the son of Meshezabel, made repairs, and next to him Zadok son of Baana also made repairs. The next section was repaired by the men of Tekoa, but their nobles would not put their shoulders to the work under their supervisors" (Nehemiah 3:1-5, NIV).
2. "But in fact God has arranged the parts in the body, every one of them, just as he wanted them to be" (I Corinthians 12:18).

### CONCLUSION:

1. "Nevertheless at thy word I will let down the net. And when they had this done, they inclosed a great multitude of fishes: and their net brake" (Luke 5:5-6, KJV).