

Holiness is a tough job (Nehemiah 11-13)

Nehemiah chapter 11-12:

Nehemiah 11-12:21 The leaders and priests of Jerusalem are listed.

Read Nehemiah 12:27-30, 43-47 The dedication of the wall!

What was happening at the dedication of the wall? Why is this important? Who is getting the glory from the wall being completed?

The priests and singers were brought in to give praise to God. The priests purified the wall, the people and themselves. Then all the people rejoiced (the sound was heard from far away).

Nehemiah 12:44-47

People were appointed over the areas of contributions, first-fruits, tithes etc.. These are all of giving that God commanded. People gave as commanded to the priests, singers and gate keepers.

How long did the people follow God's commands?

The passage states that the people did these things all the days of Nehemiah and Zerubbabel.

Nehemiah chapter 13:

What changes were made during the time of Nehemiah's leadership?

1. God's command that no Ammonite or Moabite enter the assembly is honored (verses 1-3)
2. God's command to keep the house of God holy is honored by expelling Tobiah and returning the utensils of the house of God (verses 4-9)
3. God's commands on tithing to the Levites and collections of goods is restored. Men of character are put in position to carry out this task. (verses 10-14)
4. Nehemiah keeps the Sabbath holy and orders that the gates would be closed so that the Sabbath would be kept. He warns the people that this is why trouble came upon the city, because of sin (verses 15-22)
5. Nehemiah ends mixed marriages and severely deals with those who had committed this sin. He reminds them of Solomon and his downfall with foreign woman (verses 23-31)

How did Nehemiah deal with the sin of the people?

1. Tackled it head on while using God's Word as his guide
2. Condemned it severely
3. Worked towards a permanent solution
4. Prayed

Valley Bible Church Youth Study

Is there sin in our life that we are tolerating or committing?

Let's examine our lives (EVERY PART) and pray that God would reveal sin to us. Consider Proverbs 3:5-6.

What should our response be? Let's not forget; God's requirement of us is that our heart mind and soul are His!

If we have been convicted of any sin, let's pray now that we would seek to turn and go the opposite direction toward God.

Is there sin in the life of a believer that we know? What are we going to do about it? Look carefully to see that we are not in sin, confront in love, share the Word, pray for them

Are we in prayer for the church, for others and ourselves in the area of holiness?

NONE OF US SHOULD EVER BE CONFUSED. IT IS A HEART THAT SEEKS AFTER HIM THAT GOD IS LOOKING FOR! IT IS A LIFE WHICH PLEASURES HIM THAT HE WANTS! GOD WANTS US TO WORSHIP AND OBEY HIM!

Micah 6:8

He has showed you, O man, what is good. And what does the LORD require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.

Romans 6:11-14

Even so consider yourselves to be dead to sin, but alive to God in Christ Jesus. Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body so that you obey its lusts, and do not go on presenting the members of your body to sin as instruments of unrighteousness; but present yourselves to God as those alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness to God. For sin shall not be master over you, for you are not under law but under grace.

2 Chronicles 16:9a

For the eyes of the LORD range throughout the earth to strengthen those whose hearts are fully committed to him.

Psalms 4:5-6 4

Tremble, and do not sin; Meditate in your heart upon your bed, and be still. Offer the sacrifices of righteousness, And trust in the LORD

Psalms 51:16-17

For You do not delight in sacrifice, otherwise I would give it; You are not pleased with burnt offering. The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; A broken and a contrite heart, O God, You will not despise.

Let's pray! Pray for the church, believers around us and for our own holiness.