

## **Revival in the Land (Nehemiah 8:1-9:38)**

### **Nehemiah chapter 7:**

A census is taken of the exiles.

### **Nehemiah chapter 8:**

What is the description of the people given in verse 1?

"The people gathered as one man" Ezra is a priest and a judge. As a priest, he is able to interpret scripture and go into the temple and represent the people.

Were the people forced to come? (verse 2)

No, they willingly came.

How long did Ezra read the Word?

Early a.m. to noon while they were standing!

What three things did Ezra say the people did concerning God's Word? (verses 6-8)

1. They praised the scripture (verse 6)
2. They worshipped God (verse 6)
3. They understood it (verses 7-8)

It is very important for us to get a picture in our mind of what is happening. This is so amazing, that the people would come, hear God's Word and respond to it!

What were the men's role who are listed (verse 7)?

Interpreting scripture

What was the people's response to hearing the Word? Why did they respond in this way? (verse 9)

They mourned and wept. The people were crushed by their sin and realized how far from the Lord they were. Hopefully, this is our response to our sin.

What did Ezra, Nehemiah and the priests command? Why did they say not to be grieved? verses 9-12

Focus on the fact that even though they had sinned there is joy when we repent and return to the Lord!!! In God, we have joy, peace, and strength.

Read and summarize verses 13-18. They read in scripture of the feast of the booths and implement it.

### **Nehemiah chapter 9:**

## *Valley Bible Church Youth Study*

How many hours did they read the Law of God? (verses 1-4)

How long did they confess their sin and worship God?

Read and summarize verses 5-37, it is a confession of their sin.

What is the result of their confession in verse 38?

This is an agreement/covenant to keep the Law.

### **Application:**

How are you doing with the walls in your life? Consider these verses of encouragement to strengthen us; Hebrews 4:15-16, James 1:2-4, 2 Peter 1:2-3.

What is your response to the Word of God?

Do you repent of sin? Do you stay in prayer until you can honestly say to God that you are right before Him, that you have repented and gone the other direction from your sin? 1 John 1:9 tells us to confess (to say the same thing or agree with God) our sins. If we do this he is faithfully to forgive us. Since we are to look at sin the same way God does, we should hate the sin in our lives.

Look at these chapters, the people read the Word and were greatly impacted! They wept because of their sin, rejoiced over God's forgiveness/love and sought to change their lives by following His Word!

Can God's Word have this kind of impact in our lives today?

Yes!!! Same God, same kind of people (sinners).

What are the keys to having God's Word change our lives?

Open ears/heart, prayer for the Holy Spirit to work & teach, follow through on what you know God wants, understanding the Word correctly.

Psalm 86:11 Teach me Thy way, O LORD; I will walk in Thy truth; Unite my heart to fear Thy name.