SERMON SERIES NEHEMIAH: Recommitting God's People to God's Glory



WHAT GOD BEGINS,

HE WILL COMPLETE

NEHEMIAH 7





TODAY'S MESSAGE | MAY 16, 2021

What God Begins, He Will Complete

NEHEMIAH 7

What does God do in the hearts of His people (and behind the scenes) when He wants to revive them? The first six chapters of Nehemiah show how God used a building project to bring His people together and to set them up for something crucial for them and redemptive history as well. The last seven chapters of Nehemiah, starting with our passage, now tell us what that is.

It's well said that "Well-begun is more than half done". See the truth of this in our story, as we look at the three main movements in the narrative:

1. THE SITUATION THAT REQUIRED RENEWAL: vv. 1-4

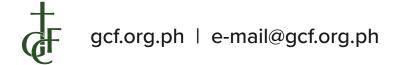
- The Context: initial success (vv. 1-2)
- The Current Concern: the immediate problem of enemy threats (v. 3)
- The Continuing Problem: nobody wanted to be part of a former reproach (v. 4)

2. THE SOLUTION THAT LED TO RENEWAL: vv. 5-65

• A Recuring Theme throughout the book: God is the Prime Mover behind it all. Nehemiah 6:5 *"Then <u>my God put it into my heart</u> to assemble the nobles and the officials and the people to be enrolled by genealogy. And <u>I found the book of the genealogy</u> of those who came up at the first..."*

God will keep His work going. No matter how bad the situation seems, don't be discouraged. God will always accomplish His purposes.

- The Prime Mover's Plan (vv. 6-65): Repopulate Jerusalem with people who met two important criteria:
 - 1) People willing to leave their comfort zones and stake their future on the promises of God.
 - 2) People who are genuinely the Covenant People of God.





- God keeps account of those who are truly His. Romans 14:7–12 reveals that when we stand before God, we must give an account for our lives.
- You must make sure you really belong God.
 "If I'm wrong about God then I wasted my life. If you're wrong about God, then you wasted your eternity" (Lecrae)

3. THE SETUP FOR A RENEWAL vv. 66-73

- a) The People were Present for Renewal (vv. 66-69):
- b) Their Possessions were Presented for Renewal (vv. 70-72)
- c) The Priesthood was Prepared for Renewal (v. 73)

FINAL THOUGHTS

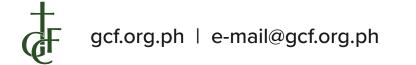
When God wanted to build His kingdom on earth, He called a rag-tag band of Jewish refugees to leave the comfort zone of Babylon and return to a devastated homeland. He used common people willing to stake their future on the promises of God. God started a work in them that He completed to their renewal.

May God, find you a believer willing to stand and up and be counted for Him, who'll live for Him and work for Him. And you'll end up being forever with Him.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

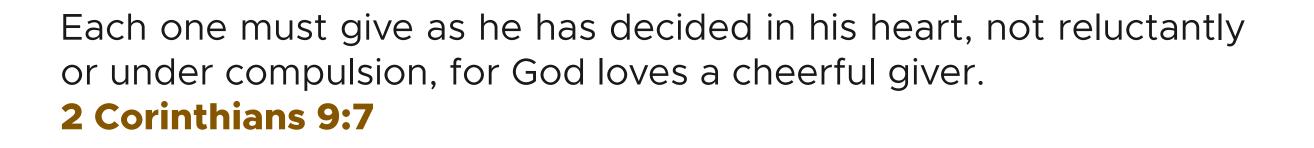
- 1. In view of Nehemiah 7:4, what are possible reasons why some find it hard to start over after public humiliation? Given that even believers experience this, what would be the advantage that they have to help them not just survive but thrive thereafter?
- In view of Nehemiah 7:5, let someone in the group share about an experience when a seeming coincidence, really wasn't, i.e., an answer to somebody's prior or persistent prayer.
- 3. Pray together, and ask God to make everyone in the group unashamed to be counted as God's people, and unafraid to live as God's people (Nehemiah 7:66-73).

Download the study guide: **<u>bit.ly/NehemiahStudyGuides</u>**



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WORSHIP THROUGH GIVING



If you are led to give, you may do so through the following means:

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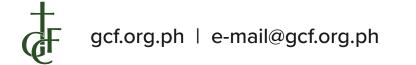
GCF BAYANIHAN FOOD STALLS

The GCF Mercy Ministry continues to accept donations, here's how: **For In-Kind Donations:** drop off at the GCF Lobby from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM. **For Cash Donations:** give via the GCF bank accounts (gcf.org.ph/give). Email your deposit slip to finance@gcf.org.ph with the subject *"For Bayanihan Food Stall"*.

For questions, contact the Mercy Ministry at 0917 532 7672 or mercy@gcf.org.ph

COVID-19 EMERGENCY RESPONSE EFFORTS

You may also give to support the church family's COVID relief efforts. Just indicate "**For COVID-19 Fund**" when you email your transaction document.



CHURCH UPDATES

TELECONSULTATION SERVICE IS NOW OPEN

For appointments or questions, please contact: gcfocstef@gmail.com (9:00 AM – 12:00 NN) • gcfocluan@gmail.com (1:00 – 4:00 PM)

REMINDERS OF GOD'S CARE AND FAITHFULNESS DEVOTIONALS

Mondays and Fridays | 8:00 p.m. | Livestream on GCF Facebook and YouTube

LIVEstream (Youth LIVE Worship)

Saturdays | 5:00 p.m. | on youtube.com/user/gcfyouthlive

KIDS' L.I.F.E. ONLINE SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sundays | 1:00 p.m | on Facebook at @GCFKidsLIFE

THE GCF FAMILY'S HOUR OF PRAYER

Thursdays | 8:00 p.m. | 9 p.m. | via Zoom

HEAVEN, HELL, AND LIFE AFTER DEATH (7-WEEK ONLINE BIBLE STUDY)

Sundays | 8:15 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. | via Zoom Pre-registration required: (Precept) Ms Goldie/Jen: 0917-7732378 • (GCF) Marj: 0917-7791549 Register here: https://forms.gle/AbFBoqYT9Wc1y5FX7

YA TALKS: TOUGH TOPICS ONLINE DATING (PART 2)

May 19, 2021 | 8:00 p.m. | LIVE on GCF Facebook and YouTube page

THE CALL TO STEWARD HIS GIFTS AND TALENTS

Naomi Post-Mother's Day event May 16 | Sunday | 1:00 — 3:00 p.m. | via Zoom | with Ms. Lorna Sadorra For the Zoom details, contact Angie at 0917 532 1921

HOW CAN WE PRAY FOR YOU?

Message us your prayer requests at: Facebook: Greenhills Christian Fellowship | E-mail: pray@gcf.org.ph

GROW IN A GROWTH GROUP

BURNING HEARTS PHILIPPIANS | MIXED (AGE 35 TO 69) Friday | 8:00 p.m. | via Google Meet | with Monette Almirez

ONLINE VISITOR'S CENTER

Are you joining us for the first time? We would love to get to know you more! Visit **bit.ly/GCFwelcome**



Greenhills Christian Fellowship

