TIME TO RESTART

NEHEMIAH'S GUIDE TO STARTING OVER

Destruction leads
to Decision

DESTRUCTION: What Was Broken

Nehemiah 1:1 The words of Nehemiah the son of Hacaliah. Now it happened in the month Chislev, *in* the twentieth year, while I was in Susa the capitol,
2 that Hanani, one of my brothers, and some men from Judah came; and **I asked them concerning the Jews** who had escaped *and* had survived the captivity, and about Jerusalem. 3 They said to me, **"The remnant there in the province who survived the captivity** are in great distress and reproach, and the wall of Jerusalem is broken down and its gates are burned with fire."

DESTRUCTION: Why Was it Broken?

- **Nehemiah 4:7** "We have acted very corruptly against You and have not kept the commandments, nor the statutes, nor the ordinances which You commanded Your servant Moses."
- **Nehemiah 4:1** Now it came about that when Sanballat heard that we were rebuilding the wall, he became furious and very angry and mocked the Jews.

DESTRUCTION: What About Us?

- **We all have broken walls**
- **Sometimes it is our fault: Drugs, alcohol, lying, cheating, adultery, selfishness, unkindness, laziness…**
- **Sometimes it is not: Natural disaster, cancer, illness, accident, death, parents divorce, down economy…**

Destruction leads
to Decision

DECISION: Broken Hearted

- When I heard these words, I sat down and wept and mourned for days; and I was fasting and praying before the God of heaven. Nehemiah 1:4

- IT HURTS WHEN PEOPLE & PLACES WE LOVE ARE HURTING
- IT HELPS TO ASK FOR HELP FROM HEAVEN

DECISION: But Not Broken

- I said to the king, "If it please the king, and if your servant has found favor before you, send me to Judah, to the city of my fathers' tombs, that I may rebuild it."
  Nehemiah 2:5

- HE PRAYED AND THEN MADE A PLAN
- HE WEPT AND THEN WENT TO WORK

PAUL'S DECISION

- SAW HIS SIN AND LOST HIS SIGHT (Acts 9)
- WEPT AND PRAYED (Acts 9:9, 11)
- WASHED AND PREACHED (Acts 9:18-20; 22:16)

Destruction leads
to Decision

TIME TO RESTART

- **LIFE DOESN'T PROMISE A ROSE GARDEN**
- **LORD PROMISES…**
  - To be with his followers (Matt. 28:20)
  - To Provide for those who put him first (Matt. 6:33)
  - To provide rest when this life is over (Col. 1:5)
- **WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO ABOUT IT?**

When life DESTROYS your walls
DECIDE to
REBOOT
And Start Over

TIME TO RESTART

NEHEMIAH'S GUIDE TO STARTING OVER