

# From Ruin to Revival

## A Study of the Book of Nehemiah

**LESSON TWO Introduction:** The value of a leader's relationship with God cannot be overestimated. Unless his relationship to God is right, the leader will never be His choices for any situation, nor will he ever truly be effective. But similarly, we must have a right relationship with our superiors also. We cannot expect to be blessed with success if we are disrespectful and difficult to work with.

### 1. The Good Hand of God's Providence (2:1-8)

- a. The Countenance of Nehemiah (v.1-3).
  - i. The Desecration of Jerusalem.
  - ii. The Dishonor on Jerusalem.
  - iii. The Distance to Jerusalem.
- b. The Challenge for Nehemiah (v.2-3).
  - i. Loyalty.
  - ii. Tact.
  - iii. Honesty.
  - iv. Prayer.
- c. The Commission of Nehemiah (v.4-7).
  - i. A Leave of Absence for the Work (v.5-6).
  - ii. Letters of Authorization for the Way (v.7).
  - iii. A Letter of Allocation for the Wood (v.8).
- d. The Contribution to Nehemiah (v.8).

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## 2. The **Wise Manner** of God's Servant (2:9-16).

- a. The **Survey** of the City.
- b. The **Stirring** of His Heart.

## 3. The **Ready Response** of God's People (2:17-18).

- a. Nehemiah **Inspired** the People (v.17).
- b. Nehemiah **Involved** the People (v.17).

## 4. The **Bitter Animosity** of God's Enemies (2:19-20).

- a. They were **disturbed** by Nehemiah's concern (v.10).
- b. They showed **disdain** for Nehemiah's challenge (v.19).
  - i. The People's **Past**.
  - ii. The People's **Proposition**.
  - iii. The People's **Pride**.

**Conclusion:** What if the hand of God was upon us? This is the one motivating force that brings everybody and everything together. There's nothing more satisfying and motivating than to know **God's hand is on your life**. By His hand, they were strengthened to do this good work; and so may we.