

## **“Praying Beyond Yourself”**

Nehemiah 1 and 2:5

### **Historical Context:**

**930 BC** Israel was \_\_\_\_\_ into two kingdoms.

**722 BC** Assyria attacked \_\_\_\_\_ and took the Northern Kingdom into exile.

**586 BC** Babylon burned down the temple, the \_\_\_\_\_ around Jerusalem, and took the Southern Kingdom into exile.

**539 BC** Cyrus, the King of Persia, sent the proclamation out to the exiles to go rebuild the \_\_\_\_\_. (Ezra 1:1-5)

### **I. Characteristics of Nehemiah’s \_\_\_\_\_:**

*“<sup>11</sup>...Now I was the cupbearer to the king.”*  
(Psalm 137:1; Psalm 137:6; Jeremiah 29:4-7)

God’s \_\_\_\_\_ of protection was on Nehemiah in the midst of exile.

**Nehemiah had a heart of \_\_\_\_\_.**  
(Proverbs 20:7; Psalm 78:72)

*“<sup>1</sup>The words of Nehemiah the son of Hacaliah. Now it happened in the month Chisleu, in the twentieth year, while I was in Susa the capitol, <sup>2</sup>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.”*

**Nehemiah had a heart that was \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_ people and for the Lord.** (Matthew 22:37-39; John 13:34)

*“<sup>3</sup>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.’  
<sup>4</sup>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 had a heart that \_\_\_\_\_ for the Jewish people and for \_\_\_\_\_.**

**Nehemiah had a heart that was \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.** (Matthew 6:16-18; Mark 2:19-20)

### **II. The \_\_\_\_\_ on Nehemiah’s Prayer:**

*“<sup>5</sup>I said, ‘I beseech You, O LORD God of heaven, the great and awesome God, who preserves the covenant and lovingkindness for those who love Him and keep His commandments.’”*

**Nehemiah starts by \_\_\_\_\_ God for who He is and what He does.**

He is the God of \_\_\_\_\_.

He is great and is to be \_\_\_\_\_.

LORD: \_\_\_\_\_ (Exodus 3:15)

God of Heaven: \_\_\_\_\_ (Genesis 1:1)

Great and Awesome God: \_\_\_\_\_

He \_\_\_\_\_ His promises to those who \_\_\_\_\_ Him and \_\_\_\_\_ Him.

*“<sup>6</sup>Let Your ear now be attentive and Your eyes open to hear the prayer of Your servant which I am praying before You now, day and night, on behalf of the sons of Israel Your servants...”*

**Nehemiah asked God to \_\_\_\_\_ his prayer and \_\_\_\_\_ on the behalf of the sons of Israel.** (Ephesians 2:17-18)

**Nehemiah prayed \_\_\_\_\_ for his people.**  
(Luke 11:9-10)

*“<sup>6</sup>...Confessing the sins of the sons of Israel which we have sinned against You; I and my father's house have sinned. <sup>7</sup>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 \_\_\_\_\_ his sins, his family's \_\_\_\_\_, and the sins of the sons of Israel.** (Psalm 26:2)

*“<sup>8</sup>Remember the word which You commanded Your servant Moses, saying, ‘If you are unfaithful I will scatter you among the peoples; <sup>9</sup>but if you return to Me and keep My commandments and do them, though those of you who have been scattered were in the most remote part of the heavens, I will gather them from there and will bring them to the place where I have chosen to cause My name to dwell.’” (Deuteronomy 30:1-5)*

**Nehemiah “\_\_\_\_\_” God of His word!** (1 John 1:8-10)

*“<sup>10</sup>They are Your servants and Your people whom You redeemed by Your great power and by Your strong hand.”*

**Nehemiah \_\_\_\_\_ to God for the Jewish people.**

**Nehemiah reminded God that He had \_\_\_\_\_ the people of Israel beforehand by His \_\_\_\_\_.**

*“<sup>11</sup>O Lord, I beseech You, may Your ear be attentive to the prayer of Your servant and the prayer of Your servants who delight to revere Your name, and make Your servant successful today and grant him compassion before this man. Now, I was the cupbearer of the King.”*

**Nehemiah asked the Lord again to \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ their prayers.**

**Nehemiah and his praying friends \_\_\_\_\_ to lift up God's name in \_\_\_\_\_.**

**Nehemiah asked for God's \_\_\_\_\_ before the king.**

*“<sup>5</sup>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*

**Nehemiah asked the king for permission to go back to Jerusalem to rebuild the \_\_\_\_\_.**

**What Should You Do?**

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