

NEHEMIAH

The Wall Around the Word

Nehemiah 1–2 • 4–6 • 8

B I G I D E A

God rebuilds the boundaries of his people so they can hear his voice again.

1. THE BROKEN WALL *Nehemiah 1:3, 7–8*

Nehemiah 1:3

“The wall of Jerusalem is broken down, and its gates are destroyed by fire.”

- Torah abandoned produces scattering. The rubble is what a life without the Word looks like over time.
- Nehemiah inspects the wall alone at night — he sees the real condition before he says a word publicly.
- Every break in the wall is a way for the enemy in: busyness, concerns of the world, intellectual pride.
- Broken wall → broken life. You are burned out, anxious, and more lost than scripture would ever leave you.

2. THE BUILT WALL *Nehemiah 4–6*

- The moment rebuilding starts the enemy responds: mockery, threats, distraction, accusation, false prophecy.
- Nehemiah 4:17 — one hand on the trowel, one hand on the sword. Build while the threat is still active.

Nehemiah 6:3

“I am doing a great work and I cannot come down.”

- “I am doing a great work” — connects the ordinary to the extraordinary. This brick is not just a brick.
- “And I cannot come down” — before he builds boundaries for the city, he builds them for himself.
- Four invitations. Four refusals. Distraction always sounds reasonable — evaluate it by what it costs.

3. THE WORD BEHIND THE WALL *Nehemiah 8:1, 8–10*

- The wall is finished. Nobody organizes what happens next. The people ask for the scroll.
- The busy hear — Exodus 33:14: “My presence will go with you, and I will give you rest.”
- The anxious hear — Ecclesiastes 4:6: “Better a handful of quietness than two hands full of toil.”
- The proud hear — Proverbs 3:5: “Trust in the LORD and do not lean on your own understanding.”

Nehemiah 8:9–10

“Do not mourn or weep... the joy of the LORD is your strength.”

- The wall served the Word. The Word never served the wall.

Build the wall. Defend it. Refuse to come down. And when it's up — open the scroll.