



Mount Vernon
Baptist Church

Midweek Study

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REBUILDING my BROKEN WORLD



Through Nehemiah

For God and For Each Other

Nehemiah 11-12

Nehemiah 7:4 says, "Now the city was large and spacious, but the people in it were few and the houses were not built."

I. They Were Selected (11:1-2)

Nehemiah 11:1-2 — 1 Now the leaders of the people dwelt at Jerusalem; the rest of the people cast lots to bring one out of ten to dwell in Jerusalem, the holy city, and nine-tenths were to dwell in other cities.

2 And the people blessed all the men who willingly offered themselves to dwell at Jerusalem.

- a. Some were chosen (11:1)
- b. Some volunteered (11:2)

In church work, we refer to those who “volunteer” and those who are “voluntold.” In Nehemiah 11, we see the resettlement of the people from the suburbs outside the city to the city itself. Some volunteered and some were “voluntold.” The Hebrew word for “volunteer” means “to have something impel you from within you.” Your motivation is coming from within, not from outside pressure. The ones who volunteered were “blessed” by the people (11:2), more than others.

When it comes to the work of the church, do you willingly serve, or do you have to be “drafted” for service?

David Jeremiah writes, “The last time there was a draft in our country was during the Vietnam War. A lot of people...aren’t old enough to remember mass protests against the war, which, in large measure were protests against the draft.”^a **Read Nehemiah 11:1 again.** Jeremiah continues, “Doesn’t sound very promising, does it? When you hold a drawing to give away a free house and people hope their name isn’t called, you’ve got a problem.”^b

^a David Jeremiah, *Reset – Ten Steps to Spiritual Renewal* (San Diego, CA: Turning Point, 2015), 160.

^b *Ibid.*, 161.

II. They Served Faithfully (11:3-12:26)

These are lists of names of individuals who helped in all aspects of repopulating Jerusalem.

Read Isaiah 6:1-8 – Lord, here am I, send me!

Read Romans 12:1-2 – the living sacrifice.

1 Corinthians 12:12-31 – Each person is valuable in God's church!

Hebrews 6:10 – God knows our work and labor of love when we minister.

III. They Sang Joyfully (11:27-42)

Nehemiah 12:27 — Now at the dedication of the wall of Jerusalem they sought out the Levites in all their places, to bring them to Jerusalem **to celebrate** the dedication with gladness, both with thanksgivings and singing, with cymbals and stringed instruments and harps.

Nehemiah 12:31 — So I brought the leaders of Judah up on the wall, and appointed **two large thanksgiving choirs...**

Nehemiah 12:42 — ...The **singers sang loudly** with Jezrahiah the director.

Nehemiah 12:43 — Also that day they offered great sacrifices, and **rejoiced, for God had made them rejoice with great joy;** the women and the children also rejoiced, **so that the joy of Jerusalem was heard afar off.**

See also verse 46.

IV. They Sacrificed Financially (11:43-47)

Nehemiah 12:44 — And at the same time some were appointed over the rooms of the storehouse for the offerings, the firstfruits, and the tithes, to gather into them from the fields of the cities the portions specified by the Law for the priests and Levites; for Judah rejoiced over the priests and Levites who ministered.

Applications for Today:

- 1) Only God knows every believer who has faithfully served Him and His church.
- 2) When God asks us to do something hard, let's respond, "Here am I, Send me."
- 3) When God does a miracle, don't forget to celebrate!
- 4) God uses our resources collectively to continue His work in the church and in the world.