

# Taking It Home:

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## HOPE

### TIMELINE

While some dates are certain, others are approximated based upon contextual evidence. All dates are B.C.

- 722-721 Northern Kingdom exiled Isaiah prophecies Micah prophecies Jeremiah prophecies
- 605 First deportation of the Southern Kingdom
- 597 Second deportation of the Southern Kingdom
- 586 Third and final deportation of the Southern Kingdom (Solomon's temple destroyed) Ezekiel prophecies
- 538 Cyrus issues a decree for the rebuilding of the temple First return from exile
- 520 Haggai prophecies
- 520-515 Zechariah prophecies
- 516 The rebuilding of the temple is completed
- 483-465 The events of Esther's narrative unfold
- 457 Second return of the people led by Ezra Malachi prophecies
- 445 Third return of the people led by Nehemiah
- 426 Nehemiah's second return and final reforms of the people
- 331 The Persians are supplanted by the Greeks under Alexander's rule
- 164 Maccabean rebellion
- 63 Palestine submits to Roman rule

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Pastor David Redmond

Nehemiah 1

"Prayer is not getting man's will done in heaven, but getting God's will done on earth. It is not overcoming God's reluctance but laying hold of God's willingness." Richard Trench

### Nehemiah became \_\_\_\_\_ by the \_\_\_\_\_ of Jerusalem.

*Hanani, one of my brothers, came to visit me with some other men who had just arrived from Judah. I asked them about the Jews who had returned there from captivity and about how things were going in Jerusalem. <sup>3</sup>They said to me, "Things are not going well for those who returned to the province of Judah. They are in great trouble and disgrace. The wall of Jerusalem has been torn down, and the gates have been destroyed by fire." <sup>4</sup>When I heard this, I sat down and wept. In fact, for days I mourned, fasted, and prayed to the God of heaven.*

*Nehemiah 1:2-4 (NLT)*

*Like a city that is broken down and without walls [leaving it unprotected] Is a man who has no self-control over his spirit [and sets himself up for trouble]. Proverbs 25:28 (AMP)*

*Give all your worries and cares to God, for He cares about you.  
1 Peter 5:7 (NLT)*

The LORD your God will delight in you if you obey his voice and keep the commands and decrees written in this Book of Instruction, and if you turn to the LORD your God with all your heart and soul.  
Deuteronomy 30:10 (NLT)

## **Nehemiah carried the \_\_\_\_\_ to God.**

Then I said: "LORD, the God of heaven, the great and awesome God, who keeps his covenant of love with those who love him and keep his commandments, <sup>6</sup>let your ear be attentive and your eyes open to hear the prayer your servant is praying before you day and night for your servants, the people of Israel."  
Nehemiah 1:5-6a (NIV)

- God keeps His \_\_\_\_\_;  
therefore I have \_\_\_\_\_.

Let us hold tightly without wavering to the hope we affirm,  
for God can be trusted to keep his promise. Hebrews 10:23 (NLT)

- God \_\_\_\_\_ and responds;  
therefore I am not \_\_\_\_\_.

I pray that your hearts will be flooded with light so that you can understand the confident hope he has given to those he called—his holy people who are his rich and glorious inheritance. <sup>19</sup>I also pray that you will understand the incredible greatness of God's power for us who believe him. This is the same mighty power <sup>20</sup>that raised Christ from the dead and seated him in the place of honor at God's right hand in the heavenly realms.  
Ephesians 1:18-20 (NLT)

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him,  
so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.  
Romans 15:13 (NIV)

And it is impossible to please God without faith. Anyone who wants to come to Him must believe that God exists and that He rewards those who sincerely seek Him.  
Hebrews 11:6 (NLT)

## **Nehemiah \_\_\_\_\_ sin.**

I confess the sins we Israelites, including myself and my father's family, have committed against you. <sup>7</sup>We have acted very wickedly toward you. We have not obeyed the commands, decrees and laws you gave your servant Moses.  
Nehemiah 1:6b-7 (NIV)

If I had cherished sin in my heart, the Lord would not have listened;  
<sup>19</sup>but God has surely listened and heard my voice in prayer. <sup>20</sup>Praise be to God, who has not rejected my prayer or withheld His love from me!  
Psalm 66:18-20 (NIV)

## **Nehemiah \_\_\_\_\_ God would do a \_\_\_\_\_ through him.**

"Remember the instruction you gave your servant Moses, saying, 'If you are unfaithful, I will scatter you among the nations, <sup>9</sup>but if you return to me and obey my commands, then even if your exiled people are at the farthest horizon, I will gather them from there and bring them to the place I have chosen as a dwelling for my Name.' "They are your servants and your people, whom you redeemed by your great strength and your mighty hand. <sup>11</sup>Lord, let your ear be attentive to the prayer of this your servant and to the prayer of your servants who delight in revering your name. Give your servant success today by granting him favor in the presence of this man." I was cupbearer to the king.

Nehemiah 1:8-11 (NIV)

**"Whenever God determines to do a great work,  
He first sets His people to pray." C.H. Spurgeon**

Unless the LORD builds a house, the work of the builders is wasted. Unless the LORD protects a city, guarding it with sentries will do no good. Psalm 127:1 (NLT)