

# Rebuilding The Broken: Taking The Risk, Part 1

Nehemiah 1:1-2:9

## INTRODUCTION:

This world is full of brokenness. Satan, we are told, is like a lion - seeking whom he may destroy. He and his demons spend every moment of every day breaking people, hindering - as best he can - the work of God in this world.

On the other hand, God's work in this world is Rebuilding The Broken. Taking what has been broken, bruised and discarded and restoring to a place of usefulness. God allows us to enter into that mission with Him, and so I want to talk to you today about "Rebuilding The Broken: Taking The Risk" and our text is from Nehemiah, beginning in chapter 1. If you have your Bibles, please turn with me to Nehemiah, chapter 1.

To Rebuild The Broken, we must ask ourselves: Do we have a burden for others; and, Are we willing to take a risk. Let's consider that first question: Do We Have A Burden For Others? I want us to reflect on that from the life-story of Nehemiah.

## #1 - Do You Have A Burden For Others, Nehemiah 1:1-11

What do you do when you come upon someone in need? What is your response when you learn of someone in trouble?

In our text, Nehemiah learns that his fellow Jews were in great distress and reproach and vulnerable to physical attack. He could have just shook his head and went on with his busy life, but he didn't! Instead, Nehemiah reacts to the news by:

Weeping & mourning

Fasting & praying

## #2 - Are You Willing To Take A Risk & Leave Your Comfort Zone, Nehemiah 2:1-9

To Rebuild The Broken, we first are motivated by a burden for others. But, without taking a risk, all we are left with is pity. To Rebuild The Broken, we must be willing to take a risk and that means leaving our comfort zone.

Nehemiah, upon learning of the destitute nature of his people, after he prays and demonstrates his burden - he is now ready to take a risk to rebuild. So, Nehemiah goes to the king of Persia to seek permission and resources to rebuild the broken walls and gates of Jerusalem.