

Rebuilding The Broken: Vigilance On The Wall, Part 3

Nehemiah 13

#1 - Things Seemed To Be Going So Well!, vs. 1-3

Since the walls had been rebuilt, there was a renewed interest of the people in hearing God's word. Not only did they listen with interest, they followed what they heard. What a refreshing idea!! To hear God's instructions and then, actually follow them!! Yes, things seemed to be going so well, after so many years of difficulty. Unfortunately, it didn't last.

#2 - Eliashib's Compromise, vs. 4-9

Even the Chief Priest was not immune from letting his guard down and compromising. Here in this paragraph, concessions were made in following God's word because of strong, personal relationships. What may have seemed to have been a small thing at first, a small crack in the wall, was contaminating the house of God.

We must remain Vigilant On The Wall.

#3 - The Neglect Of The Levites, vs. 10-14

God's people stopped bringing their gifts and neglected the work of God which caused the Levites who served in the Temple to abandon their ministry posts to return to the fields just to survive. Just chapters earlier, the people had pledged they would not neglect God's house and here they were doing the very thing they said they wouldn't do.

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#4 - Working On The Sabbath, vs. 15-22.

Some sin seems small to man, while others appear large. Here, they are violating one of the Big 10, number 4 to be specific! They are abandoning time reserved for God for the purpose of getting ahead. Much could be said of this in our day and culture. Like so many things that appear in our lives, they begin small and blossom into large departures from following God.

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#5 - Marrying Pagan Partners, vs. 23-31

God knew the spiritual dangers of uniting in marriage with someone of a different faith. Even the great and wise king, Solomon transgressed God's law and it cost him and his people. Love can create a fissure in the walls of spiritual integrity in our lives that erupt into brokenness and devastation between us and our Heavenly Father.

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