

"Rebuilding the Walls"

Sunday Morning Message by Ray Reynolds (December 29, 2013)

Introduction: Do you have a bug in your ear? Do you need a bug in your ear? In **The Story** we learn something important as we transition from the Old Testament into the New Testament. God is using some great people to rebuild His people. Let's look at **Nehemiah 8** and study together....

Discussion:

I. The Exiled People Return to Jerusalem

- A. Group #1 & Zerubbabel
- B. Group #2 & Ezra
- C. Group #3 & Nehemiah

II. The Exiled People Return to the Word of the Lord

- A. The Rarity of the Assembly
Nehemiah 8:1-12, Acts 20:7, Hebrews 10:24-25
- B. The Reading of the Word of God
Nehemiah 8:1-12, Acts 17:11, Psalm 119
- C. The Response to the Reading
Nehemiah 8:1-12, Romans 10:17, 10:14, Mathew 28:18-20

III. The Exiled People Return to the Lord

- A. Repentance Leads to Physical Changes
Nehemiah 8:10-12, II Samuel 13:22-23
- B. Repentance Leads to Community Changes
Nehemiah 8:13-17, Leviticus 23:29-43
- C. Repentance Leads to Spiritual Changes
Nehemiah 9:1-38, Romans 10:9-10

Conclusion: We don't see much public confession of sin today (**James 5:16**). Like being a public witness to the work of Christ in the world (**Luke 24:46-49, Acts 1:7-8**), it is something that has not been fully restored for many Christians in the kingdom of God. Sharing our story, and our struggles, in a public way demands us to be more than vocal. We have to be real, genuine, and authentic as we live our faith out loud. We should tell our story. Why? Because our story is God's story! It's all part of the GREATEST story ever told. Are you willing to trust in Jesus? Are you ready to give your life to Him? Are you ready to repent, confess, and be immersed into Jesus' precious blood? Are you ready for the King to come again?