

Recap of 12/9/18 (Nehemiah 2:17-3:1):

1. Nehemiah establishes the case for rebuilding the wall of Jerusalem in 2:17-18. The people of Jerusalem embraced the vision.
2. “Once again Nehemiah brought the task—both in the eyes of Judah and his enemies—into clear focus. Their dependence was not to be on their abilities, human resources, or personal genius. Their hope was in the God of Heaven!” (Getz)
3. Opposition dogged Nehemiah and the people of Israel from the time of his arrival and throughout the construction process. The enemies of the Jews tried to demoralize the Jews first through ridicule and mocking, and then by charging them with rebelling against the king. As Richards points out: “Nehemiah kept his eyes on God, and we must too.”
4. “...God does His best work with us oftentimes when it seems that the time and place are most unpropitious. We do not come to know the deeper things by rocking on the porch of some lazy rest spot, sipping lemonade, reading a novel.” (Vance Havner)
5. The six features of Nehemiah’s plan for reconstruction:
 - They worked side-by-side and shoulder-to-shoulder
 - They worked near their own homes
 - The sparsely populated areas were worked on by those outside the city.
 - Everyone participated (with one exception)
 - They were united by a common sense of purpose
 - Nehemiah gave credit to the workers by name (Richards)