

Recap of 3/24/19 (Nehemiah 8:1-8):

1. The events of chapter 8 of Nehemiah occur one week after the walls are completed (6:15). The first day of the seventh month (Tishri) was the day of the Feast of Trumpets. The story of chapter eight is the profound effect the Word of God had upon the people.

-“Every person in the world has 24 hours a day. The rich have no more, the poor have no less. Generally, these 24 hours are ours to use at our discretion, and we make time for the things we most want to do or that we think are the most important. We do them by choice, and not because someone forces us. The question that continually prods me is, How much do I want to go deeper into God’s Word and in knowing Him intimately, and what am I willing to give up in order to do it?” (Warren Myers)

2. Getz gives us the following outline of chapter eight:

-vv. 1-8 Intellectual response to the Word

-vv. 9-12 Emotional response to the Word

-vv. 13-18 Volitional response to the Word

3. Ezra the Priest and Scribe was invited to bring out the Book of the Law of Moses (the Pentateuch- the first five books of the Old Testament). The people listened intently, the Word was read then the meaning was given by the Levites as they went through the crowds.

-“Ezra’s accomplishments can be attributed to his diligent obedience to God’s Word. He studied it seriously and applied it faithfully. Ezra affirms for us that personal achievement should be secondary to a personal commitment to live for God. Your growing relationship with God is always more profitable for you and your family than any pay raise, promotion, or position in social standing. What does your lifestyle reveal about your priorities? What changes could you incorporate, beginning today, to guard your time alone with God? Our greatest accomplishment is a growing relationship with God.” (350 Life Lessons from Bible People)