

Recap of 7/14/19 (Nehemiah 12:1-24):

1. In Nehemiah 12, he qualifies the Temple workers, giving us genealogies of the priests, the Levites, the family of the High Priest, going back to the return of Zerubbabel almost 100 years before. He “registers and organizes the priests” (Richards).

2. Genealogies are a reminder to us that we are always connected to the past, to faithful people who have gone before us. (Hebrews 12:1ff). May we be a faithful link for those who follow us.

3. David, the man after God’s own heart (Acts 13:22) is mentioned six times in this chapter (vv. 24,36,37 [2x’s], 45,46). The impact of his life cannot be overstated. Tozer writes of David: “How long the influence of David has lingered over the world, like the afterglow of a sunset! Mark the characteristic in him which laid the foundation of his supremacy over the hearts of his countrymen. He was pre-eminently ‘a man of God.’ Notwithstanding his terrible fall, his people recognized that his salient character was Godward.”

4. Of David, it could be said that:

-he alone of all his brothers had a heart for God (1 Samuel 16:1ff, esp. vs. 7)

-he alone had the courage to face Goliath (1 Samuel 17:24ff)

-he could have taken the throne by force but did not. He had several opportunities to kill Saul but did not. He waited for God’s timing to ascend the throne.

-he was a worshipper par excellence.

-he was a sinner, humbled and forgiven by God (2 Samuel 11; Psalm 51, 32)