

Character Study: Nehemiah
Part 4 – Celebrating Success
Nehemiah 6:15-12:43

What's happening?

- The people continued their work until the wall of Jerusalem was rebuilt. After just 52 days, the project was completely finished. The hard work had paid off. (6:15)
- When the enemies of Israel heard that the wall had been rebuilt and that the city was once again secure, they became disheartened, realizing that God's hand of blessing was upon the Israelites. (6:16)
- Following the work, the people requested Ezra to read from God's Word. He did so from morning to midday as the people listened attentively. A revival broke out among the people. They confessed their sins to God, and then praised Him for His faithfulness. (8:1-9:38)
- Nehemiah gathered the people together to dedicate the wall. There was singing, offering up of sacrifices, and rejoicing in recognition of what God had done. (12:27-43)

What's God doing?

> God had once again displayed His faithfulness to His people. Seen by how fast the job was completed, God left no doubt that His blessing was truly behind the project. His goodness had caused a mix of conviction and rejoicing among the people as they saw Him working on their behalf.

What's to learn?

→ When God wants something done, He makes sure it gets done. The Israelites were able to experience the joy of being used by God to accomplish His will. In what ways are you allowing God to use you to accomplish His will in the world?

→ When the Israelites finished their project, they desired to show their appreciation to God. When God brings us success in our lives, we too should respond by recognizing Him and giving Him the glory.

→ The city wall had been rebuilt in just 52 days. Though many people may have believed it to be an overwhelming task, it was accomplished in amazing time. As we are faithful to serve God, we must trust that He can accomplish amazing results if He so desires!

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