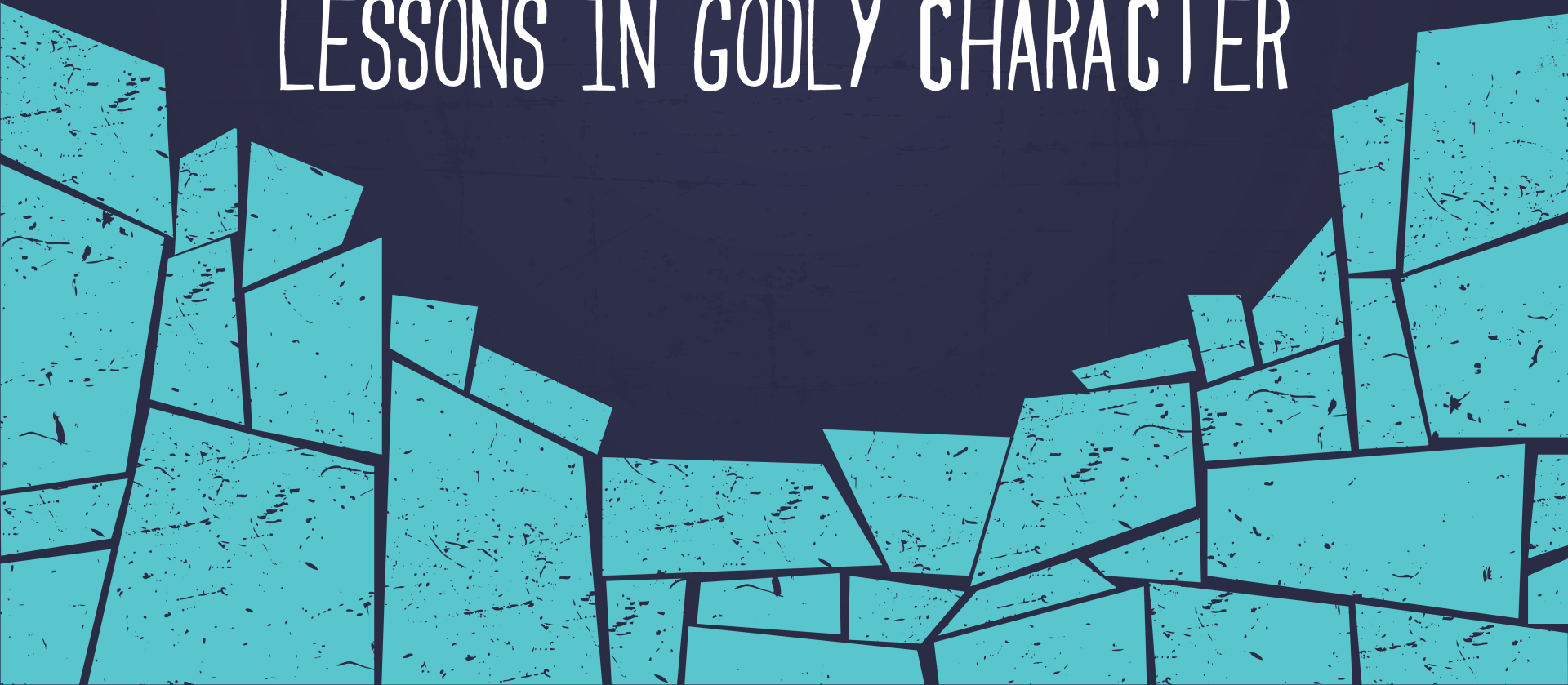


NEHEMIAH

LESSONS IN GODLY CHARACTER



¹ The words of Nehemiah the son of Hacaliah. Now it happened in the month of Chislev, in the twentieth year, as I was in Susa the citadel, ² that Hanani, one of my brothers, came with certain men from Judah. And I asked them concerning the Jews who escaped, who had survived the exile, and concerning Jerusalem. ³ And they said to me, "The **remnant** there in the province who had survived the exile is **in great trouble and shame**. The **wall** of Jerusalem is **broken down**, and its gates are destroyed by fire."

NEHEMIAH 1:1-11



NEHEMIAH

⁴ As soon as I heard these words I sat down and **wept and mourned** for days, and I continued **fasting and praying** before the God of heaven. ⁵ And I said, "**O Lord** God of heaven, the great and awesome God who keeps covenant and steadfast love with those who love him and keep his commandments, ⁶ let your ear be attentive and your eyes open, to hear the prayer of your servant that I now pray before you day and night for the people of Israel your servants, confessing the sins of the people of Israel, which we have sinned against you. Even I and my father's house have sinned.

NEHEMIAH 1:1-11

Godly Character

Spend time with people
Weep. Mourn. Fast. Pray.

NEHEMIAH

COMPASSIONATE

NEHEMIAH

SPIRITUALLY DISCIPLINED (fasting & praying)

COMPASSIONATE

NEHEMIAH

John 11:33: When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who had come with her also weeping, he was deeply moved in his spirit and greatly troubled.

NEHEMIAH

⁶ And the king said to me **(the queen sitting beside him)**, "How long will you be gone, and when will you return?" So it **pleased the king to send me when I had given him a time.**

NEHEMIAH 2:1-16

Colossians 3:23: Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men,

NEHEMIAH

18 And I told them of the hand of my God that had been upon me for good, and also of the words that the king had spoken to me. And they said, **“Let us rise up and build.” So they strengthened their hands for the good work.**

NEHEMIAH 2:17-20

EMPOWERS (based on God's vision)

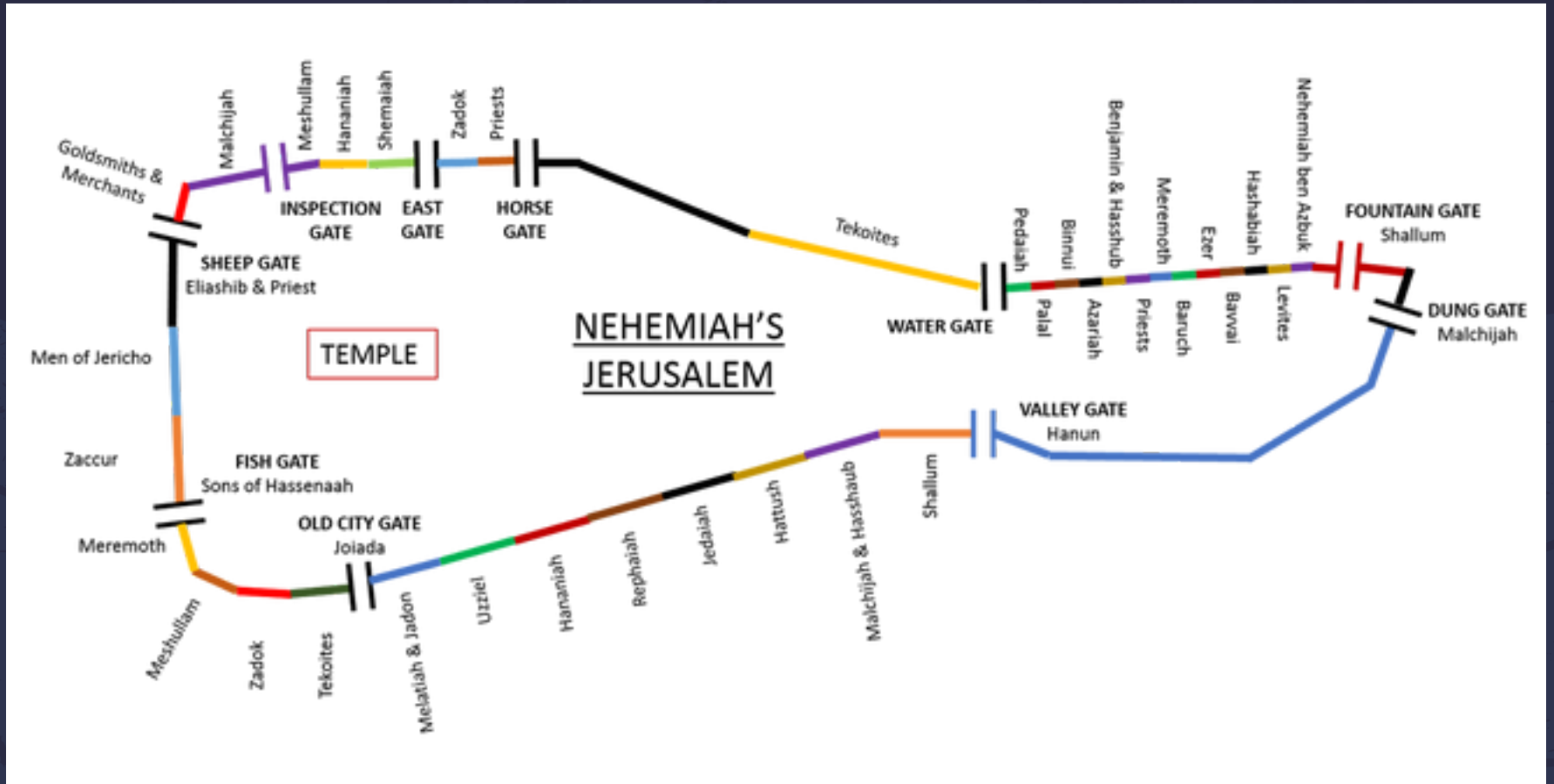
SPIRITUALLY DISCIPLINED (fasting & praying)

COMPASSIONATE

NEHEMIAH

We build the kingdom of God together.

NEHEMIAH



NEHEMIAH

COMMUNAL (each person has a role to play)

EMPOWERS (based on God's vision)

SPIRITUALLY DISCIPLINED (fasting & praying)

COMPASSIONATE

NEHEMIAH

Now when Sanballat heard that we were building the wall, he was angry and greatly enraged, and he jeered at the Jews. ² And he said in the presence of his brothers and of the army of Samaria, "What are these feeble Jews doing? Will they restore it for themselves? Will they sacrifice? Will they finish up in a day? Will they revive the stones out of the heaps of rubbish, and burned ones at that?" ³ Tobiah the Ammonite was beside him, and he said, "Yes, what they are building—if a fox goes up on it he will break down their stone wall!"

NEHEMIAH 4:1-23

⁷ But when Sanballat and Tobiah and the Arabs and the Ammonites and the Ashdodites heard that the repairing of the walls of Jerusalem was going forward and that the breaches were beginning to be closed, they were very angry. ⁸ And they all plotted together to come and fight against Jerusalem and to cause confusion in it.

Evil becomes strategic

NEHEMIAH 4:1-23

13 So in the lowest parts of the space behind the wall, in open places, I stationed the people by their clans, with their swords, their spears, and their bows.

14 And I looked and arose and said to the nobles and to the officials and to the rest of the people, "Do not be afraid of them. Remember the Lord, who is great and awesome, and fight for your brothers, your sons, your daughters, your wives, and your homes."

NEHEMIAH 4:1-23

Ephesians 6:10-13: Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. ¹¹ Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. **¹² For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.** ¹³ Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand.

NEHEMIAH



*"Put on the
whole armour
of God, that ye
may be able to
stand against
the wiles of
the devil."*

Ephesians 6:11

STEADFAST (even in the midst of opposition)

COMMUNAL (each person has a role to play)

EMPOWERS (based on God's vision)

SPIRITUALLY DISCIPLINED (fasting & praying)

COMPASSIONATE

NEHEMIAH

⁶ When I heard their outcry and these charges, I was very angry. ⁷ I pondered them in my mind and then accused the nobles and officials. I told them, "You are charging your own people interest!" So I called together a large meeting to deal with them ⁸ and said: "As far as possible, we have bought back our fellow Jews who were sold to the Gentiles. Now you are selling your own people, only for them to be sold back to us!" They kept quiet, because they could find nothing to say. ⁹ So I continued, "What you are doing is not right. **Shouldn't you walk in the fear of our God** to avoid the reproach of our Gentile enemies?"

NEHEMIAH 5:1-19

FEARS THE LORD

STEADFAST (even in the midst of opposition)

COMMUNAL (each person has a role to play)

EMPOWERS (based on God's vision)

SPIRITUALLY DISCIPLINED (fasting & praying)

COMPASSIONATE

NEHEMIAH

¹² And I understood and saw that God had not sent him, but he had pronounced the prophecy against me because Tobiah and Sanballat had hired him. **¹³ For this purpose he was hired, that I should be afraid and act in this way and sin, and so they could give me a bad name in order to taunt me.** ¹⁴ Remember Tobiah and Sanballat, O my God, according to these things that they did, and also the prophetess Noadiah and the rest of the prophets who wanted to make me afraid.

NEHEMIAH 6:1-19

15 So the wall was finished on the twenty-fifth day of the month Elul, in fifty-two days. **16 And when all our enemies heard of it, all the nations around us were afraid and fell greatly in their own esteem, for they perceived that this work had been accomplished with the help of our God.** 17 Moreover, in those days the nobles of Judah sent many letters to Tobiah, and Tobiah's letters came to them.

NEHEMIAH 6:1-19



What FEAR is:
F - False
E - Evidence
A - Appearing
R - Real

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Fear: is an unpleasant emotion caused by the **belief** that someone or something is dangerous, likely to cause pain, or a threat

NEHEMIAH

DISCERNING

FEARS THE LORD

STEADFAST (even in the midst of opposition)

COMMUNAL (each person has a role to play)

EMPOWERS (based on God's vision)

SPIRITUALLY DISCIPLINED (fasting & praying)

COMPASSIONATE

NEHEMIAH

Now when the wall had been built and I had set up the doors, and the gatekeepers, the singers, and the Levites had been appointed, ² I gave my brother Hanani and Hananiah the governor of the castle charge over Jerusalem, for he was a more faithful and God-fearing man than many.

NEHEMIAH 7:1-73

³ And I said to them, "Let not the gates of Jerusalem be opened until the sun is hot. And while they are still standing guard, let them shut and bar the doors. Appoint guards from among the inhabitants of Jerusalem, some at their guard posts and some in front of their own homes." ⁴ The city was wide and large, but the people within it were few, and no houses had been rebuilt.

NEHEMIAH 7:1-73

⁵ Then my God **put it into my heart to assemble the nobles and the officials and the people to be enrolled by genealogy.** And I found the book of the genealogy of those who came up at the first, and I found written in it:

⁶ These were the **people of the province who came up out of the captivity** of those exiles whom Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon had carried into exile. They returned to Jerusalem and Judah, each to his town.

NEHEMIAH 7:1-73







VALUES PEOPLE

DISCERNING

FEARS THE LORD

STEADFAST (even in the midst of opposition)

COMMUNAL (each person has a role to play)

EMPOWERS (based on God's vision)

SPIRITUALLY DISCIPLINED (fasting & praying)

COMPASSIONATE

NEHEMIAH

⁷ They came with Zerubbabel, Jeshua, Nehemiah, Azariah, Raamiah, Nahamani, Mordecai, Bilshan, Mispereth, Bigvai, Nehum, Baanah.

The number of the men of the people of Israel: ⁸ the sons of Parosh, 2,172. ⁹ The sons of Shephatiah, 372. ¹⁰ The sons of Arah, 652. ¹¹ The sons of Pahathmoab, namely the sons of Jeshua and Joab, 2,818. ¹² The sons of Elam...

NEHEMIAH 7:1-73

⁷³ So the priests, the Levites, the gatekeepers, the singers, some of the people, the temple servants, and all Israel, lived in their towns.

And when the seventh month had come, the people of Israel were in their towns.

NEHEMIAH 7:1-73

1 Peter 2:9-10: But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. **10 Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people;** once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

NEHEMIAH

LEADER

VALUES PEOPLE

DISCERNING

FEARS THE LORD

STEADFAST (even in the midst of opposition)

COMMUNAL (each person has a role to play)

EMPOWERS (based on God's vision)

SPIRITUALLY DISCIPLINED (fasting & praying)

COMPASSIONATE

NEHEMIAH

Hebrews 2:14: Since the children share in flesh and blood, He Himself likewise also partook of the same, that through death He might render powerless him who had the power of death, that is, the devil, and might free those who through fear of death were subject to slavery all their lives.

NEHEMIAH

NEHEMIAH

LESSONS IN GODLY CHARACTER

