



“...a time to break
down, and a time
to build up..”

Ecclesiastes 3v3

Building Work

As a boy, I always had a fascination for building. Whether it was with toy diggers in the sandpit or a little later on when “Lego” bricks were all the rage, I just loved spending time building things. Furthermore, on into my early teens, I spent many happy hours designing and making bridges, stations and signal boxes for my miniature model railway landscape.

Reading through the Bible, I’ve discovered that many other people were just as equally passionate about building. Nehemiah, for example, had a great desire to build or rather rebuild the city of Jerusalem that had lain desolate in ruins for decades. The Bible records that Israel repeatedly turned their back on God. Part of the judgement that befell them was a violent invasion by the Babylonians and the utter destruction of their beloved city, Jerusalem.

That destruction, in many ways, pictures the spiritual state of those who turn their back on God. Lives today are being pulled down, destroyed and ruined because of sin and living in disobedience to God. However, as is the case in the story of Nehemiah, God can do a great work of restoration within men’s lives when Christ is the chief cornerstone. In Nehemiah 1:4-7,

you will discover that the restoration of Jerusalem began with Nehemiah’s tearful prayers of repentance for both his sin and that of the nation. In Nehemiah 1:8-10, Nehemiah reminded the Lord of His promises, including the promise of God’s great work of redemption. True repentance and the redemptive work of God in Christ leads to spiritual prosperity. Nehemiah prospered when King Artaxerxes released him from his duties to go to Jerusalem and sent him with building materials and bodyguards. Nehemiah prospered because although he had new enemies to face who opposed the rebuild, God brought their evil schemes to nought. God helped him to complete the task in record time, just 52 days, thus securing the city from further occupation.

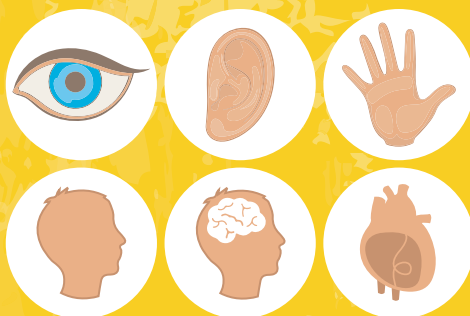
But what about you? How can the sinful ruins of your life be sorted out? The answer is simple. You need tearful prayers of repentance. You need to depend on the promises of God, especially the redemption and pardon found in Christ alone. Then, and only then, can you be fully restored and go on to experience the prosperity and victory found in God. Is it not time for the building work to commence? ■



READ THE STORY OF THE REBUILDING OF THE CITY
WALLS OF JERUSALEM IN THE BOOK OF NEHEMIAH.

There are some body
parts also mentioned in the
story. Which body part
pictured is not mentioned
in the storyline?

Clue: All the answers are in
Chapters 1, 2 and 4*



ANSWER:

NAME:

ADDRESS:

CHURCH:

PRIZES!

Are you 12 or under?
Send your answer, name,
address and church to:

Rev Garth Wilson

Email: answer@fpvision.org
39 Millreagh Ave, Dundonald,
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£5 WINNERS LAST TIME

- » Daniel Cuppler (Antrim)
- » James McNeilly (Rasharkin)
- » Erin Barnes (Hillsborough)
- » Lewis Wilson (Tandragee)
- » Naomi Carson (Cookstown)
- » Caleb McRoberts (Ardaragh)
- » Grace Marshall (Aughnacloy)
- » Hannah Logan (Ballymena)

