

# Rebuilding Through Prayer

## Nehemiah 1

### Nehemiah's Background

Babylonian captivity - 70 years 605 BC - 536 BC Lev 26; 2 Chr 36:15-23; Jer 25:8-14  
Zerubabel returned 538 BC - Rebuild the temple - finished 516 BC Ezra 1-6  
Ezra returned 458 BC - Rebuild the people Ezra 7-10  
Nehemiah returned 444 BC - Rebuild the walls Neh 1-6  
Nehemiah in Jerusalem 12 years 432 BC Neh 5:14  
Nehemiah returned again to Jerusalem about 425 BC Neh 13:6-7

Nehemiah returns almost 100 years after the exile  
Esther, Ezra, Haggai, Zechariah, Malachi and Nehemiah are contemporaries

### Nehemiah's Burden 1:1-7

From his brother Hanani who returned from Israel  
I questioned him about Jews & Jerusalem  
About broken walls & gates in Jerusalem Ez 4:6-24  
I wept Ezra 10:1  
I mourned Ezra 10:6  
I fasted Ezra 8:23; 2 Sam 12:16; 1 Kgs 21:27; Zech 7  
I prayed 1:4, 6, 11; 2:4; 4:9  
I confessed my sins & sins of my people Ezra 9:6-15; Dan 9:4-6

### Nehemiah's Belief 1:8-11

God was bringing Jews back to Israel according to His Word 8-10; Deut 28-30  
God will bring me back to Israel  
Burden of a practicing cupbearer  
Belief of a potential wall builder  
Artaxerxes stopped the work once & only he could reverse it Ezra 4:21  
Would he reverse it? Would he allow me to build it?

### My Next Steps

Am I asking the right questions?  
Am I broken over my sin and the sins of my family?  
Am I trusting God for my next steps?  
Am I a cupbearer or a wall builder?