

As we continue our study of How the O.T. ended, we now turn our attention to the book of **Nehemiah**.

1. After the fall of Babylon (Dan 5:30-31), Cyrus, the Persian king allowed the Jews to return to Jerusalem.

- There were three waves of Jews returning to Jerusalem**
1. 538 B.C. led by Zerubbabel : temple is rebuilt (Ezra 1:1-3)
  2. 458 B.C. led by Ezra: the law is restored (Ezra 7:1)
  3. 445 B.C. led by Nehemiah: the walls are rebuilt (Nehemiah)
    - Most of the Jews DID NOT Return
    - Estimated that 6 million Jews were killed in the Holocaust
    - There are 7.6 million Jews living in the U.S.

1. What is significant about the book of Nehemiah? \_\_\_\_\_
2. Who is Nehemiah: \_\_\_\_\_
3. Where is Nehemiah living: \_\_\_\_\_

**A Couple of Math Questions:**

1. If Babylon destroyed the walls in 586 and Nehemiah is rebuilding them around 444, how many years have passed?  
\_\_\_\_\_
  - What is significant about that?
2. Susa is about 800 miles from Jerusalem. Traveling about 20 miles a day, how long would it take for Nehemiah to reach Jerusalem? \_\_\_\_\_
  - What is significant about that?

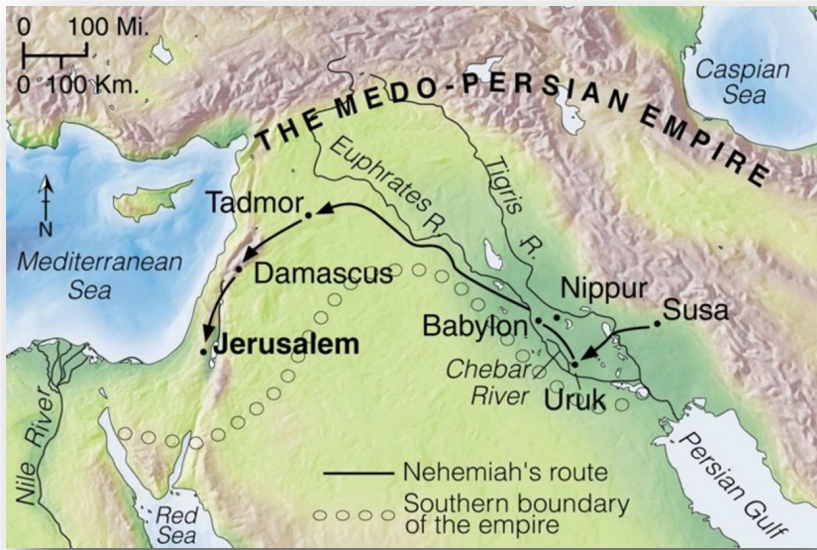


You are Nehemiah. What challenges are you facing?

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

You are Nehemiah. Where do you begin?

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.



## A. The Start: Nehemiah 1

### The Report (1:3)

- People:
- Walls:
- Gates:

### The Report Caused Five Reactions From Nehemiah (1:4):

1. He \_\_\_\_\_
2. He \_\_\_\_\_
3. He \_\_\_\_\_
4. He \_\_\_\_\_
5. He \_\_\_\_\_

#### 1. Nehemiah 2:17-20

Neh 4:6 "So we built the wall and the whole wall was joined together to half its height, for the people had a \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_"



## B. The Momentum Factor

One of the key aspects of leading, whether at home, church, community or work is getting everyone on board.

- No one was building the walls of Jerusalem until Nehemiah showed up



A parked airplane at the terminal is held by yellow blocks (chocks) in front of the wheels. If the plane started to roll, those blocks would keep it from moving. However, when a plane is landing, those same yellow blocks on a runway would have no effect in slowing a plane down. It's the law of Momentum.



### The Bible Speaks of Momentum

Phil 3:13-14 \_\_\_\_\_ on

Rom 12:11-13 Not \_\_\_\_\_

Eph 6:10 Be \_\_\_\_\_

Acts 13:44 nearly the whole \_\_\_\_\_ assembled to hear the word of God

Acts 19:20 So the word of the Lord was growing \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_

1. Momentum begins in the \_\_\_\_\_ of a \_\_\_\_\_ that shares his vision
2. Momentum spreads through \_\_\_\_\_
3. Momentum takes ownership through \_\_\_\_\_

#### List Ways We Can Keep Momentum Going:

Congregationally:

Individually:

### Four Momentum Stoppers in Nehemiah 4

1. **Loss of S** \_\_\_\_\_  
"the strength of the burden bearers is failing" (v. 10)  
- they demoralized the others (4:5b)
2. **Loss of C** \_\_\_\_\_  
"we are unable to rebuild the walls" (v. 10)
3. **Loss of V** \_\_\_\_\_  
"There is so much rubbish" (v. 10)
4. **Loss of S** \_\_\_\_\_  
"Our enemies said" (v. 11)  
"they came and told us TEN TIMES" (v. 12)

### Nehemiah 4:14 "When I saw their fear..."

- For next time, what did Nehemiah do to keep the momentum going?