

**20230122 STRATEGIC PLANNING
FOR THE PURPOSE OF GOD**

Rebuilding Part 2
(Nehemiah 2:13-18)

¹³ By night I went out through the Valley Gate toward the Jackal Well and the Dung Gate, examining the walls of Jerusalem, which had been broken down, and its gates, which had been destroyed by fire.

¹⁴ Then I moved on toward the Fountain Gate and the King's Pool, but there was not enough room for my mount to get through;

¹⁵ so I went up the valley by night, examining the wall. Finally, I turned back and reentered through the Valley Gate.

¹⁶ The officials did not know where I had gone or what I was doing, because as yet I had said nothing to the Jews or the priests or nobles or officials or any others who would be doing the work.

¹⁷ Then I said to them, "You see the trouble we are in: Jerusalem lies in ruins, and its gates have been burned with fire. Come, let us rebuild the wall of Jerusalem, and we will no longer be in disgrace."

¹⁸ I also told them about the gracious hand of my God on me and what the king had said to me. They replied, "Let us start rebuilding." So they began this good work.

I. THE BACKGROUND OF THE STORY

Around 444BC in Jerusalem

We live in a broken world. In it, our life can be broken. What's important is to know how to rebuild a broken life.

Lessons from the book of Nehemiah chapter 2

II. GOD'S PART IN REBUILDING A BROKEN LIFE

1. God prepares the right heart.

Nehemiah 2:1

¹ In the month of Nisan in the twentieth year of King Artaxerxes, when wine was brought for him, I took the wine and gave it to the king. I had not been sad in his presence before,

2. God opens the door for a mission.

Nehemiah 2:4-5

⁴ The king said to me, "What is it you want?" Then I prayed to the God of heaven,
⁵ and I answered the king, "If it pleases the king and if your servant has found favor in his sight, let him send me to the city in Judah where my ancestors are buried so that I can rebuild it."

3. God blesses the mission by showing His favor.

Nehemiah 2:7-9

⁷ I also said to him, "If it pleases the king, may I have letters to the governors of Trans-Euphrates, so that they will provide me safe-conduct until I arrive in Judah?
⁸ And may I have a letter to Asaph, keeper of the royal park, so he will give me timber to make beams for the gates of the citadel by the temple and for the city wall and for the residence I will occupy?" And because the gracious hand of my God was on me, the king granted my requests.

⁹ So I went to the governors of Trans-Euphrates and gave them the king's letters. The king had also sent army officers and cavalry with me.

4. God makes my enemy tremble with fear.

Nehemiah 2:10

¹⁰ When Sanballat the Horonite and Tobiah the Ammonite official heard about this, they were very much disturbed that someone had come to promote the welfare of the Israelites.

III. MY PART IN REBUILDING A BROKEN LIFE

(Three attitudes I need to be and three things I don't need to worry about)

1. I need to be strategic; I don't need to worry about the situation.

Nehemiah 2:12-16

¹² I set out during the night with a few others. I had not told anyone what my God had put in my heart to do for Jerusalem. There were no mounts with me except the one I was riding on.

¹³ By night I went out through the Valley Gate toward the Jackal Well and the Dung Gate, examining the walls of Jerusalem, which had been broken down, and its gates, which had been destroyed by fire.

¹⁴ Then I moved on toward the Fountain Gate and the King's Pool, but there was not enough room for my mount to get through;

¹⁵ so I went up the valley by night, examining the wall. Finally, I turned back and reentered through the Valley Gate.

¹⁶ The officials did not know where I had gone or what I was doing, because as yet I had said nothing to the Jews or the priests or nobles or officials or any others who would be doing the work.

2. I need to be motivative and encouraging; I don't need to worry about the helping hands.

Nehemiah 2:18

¹⁸ I also told them about the gracious hand of my God on me and what the king had said to me. They replied, "Let us start rebuilding." So they began this good work.

3. I need to be confident and courageous; I don't need to worry about the ridicules from the enemy.

Nehemiah 2:19-20

¹⁹ But when Sanballat the Horonite, Tobiah the Ammonite official and Geshem the Arab heard about it, they mocked and ridiculed us. "What is this you are doing?" they asked. "Are you rebelling against the king?"

²⁰ I answered them by saying, "The God of heaven will give us success. We his servants will start rebuilding, but as for you, you have no share in Jerusalem or any claim or historic right to it."