

“Restoring Strength”



“Worry does not empty tomorrow of its sorrow, it empties today of its strength.”

Corrie Ten Boom

Nehemiah's Context

Nehemiah 2:2 NIV

² ...so the king asked me, "Why does your face look so sad when you are not ill? **This can be nothing but sadness of heart.**"

Q. How is my heart today?

Nehemiah's Strength - *Prayer*

Nehemiah 1:2-4 NIV

² ... one of my brothers, came from Judah with some other men,... I questioned them about the Jewish remnant... and also about Jerusalem. ³ They said to me, 'Those who survived the exile and are back in the province **are in great trouble and disgrace. The wall of Jerusalem is broken down, and its gates have been burned with fire.**'

⁴ When I heard these things, I sat down and wept. For some days I **mourned and fasted and prayed before the God of heaven.**

Nehemiah's Strength – Prayer

Nehemiah 2:4-5 NIV

⁴The 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 favour in his sight, let him **send me to the city in Judah where my ancestors are buried so that I can rebuild it.**

People Working in Unity

Nehemiah 4:6 NIV

⁶ So we (*the people*) rebuilt the wall till all of it reached half its height, for the people worked **with all their heart.**

Enemy at Work...

Nehemiah 4:7-9 NIV

⁷ ...Sanballat, Tobiah, the Arabs, the Ammonites and the people of Ashdod heard that the repairs to Jerusalem's walls had gone ahead and that the gaps were being closed... ⁸ They **all plotted together to come and fight against Jerusalem and stir up trouble against it.** ⁹ **But we prayed** to our God and posted a guard day and night to meet this threat.

Nehemiah 4:16-17 NIV

¹⁶ From that day on, half of my men did the work, while the other half were equipped with spears, shields, bows and armour...

¹⁷ ...**Those who carried materials did their work with one hand and held a weapon in the other...**

People Working in Unity

Nehemiah 8:1-3 NIV

¹ all the people **came together as one...**

² ...Ezra the priest brought the Law before the assembly...

³ **He read it aloud** from daybreak till noon...

Nehemiah 8:10 NIV

¹⁰ Nehemiah said... “...This day is holy to our Lord. **Do not grieve, for the joy of the Lord is your strength.**”

“Is there dysfunction that must die before I step into the promise?”

DawnCheré Wilkerson

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