

Rebuilding Our Defense
Nehemiah 8
Revival

“And he read from the Book of the Law...from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men and the women and those who could understand. And the ears of all the people were attentive to the Book of the Law.”

Nehemiah 8:3

Life Application: God desires His people to be set apart and obedient to His Law.

What were the elements of Israel’s revival?

1. Reading of God’s Word (8:1-3)
2. All the people responding to God’s Word (8:6)
3. Worship (8:6)
4. Interpretation of God’s Word (8:7-8)
5. Conviction of sin (8:9 and chapter 9)
6. Enjoying the blessings of God (8:9-12)
7. Men stepping up to spiritual leadership (8:13)
8. Celebrating all God has done (8:13-18)
9. Obedience and action as a response to the Word of God being read (8:13-18)

Point: To be obedient to God’s Word, we must spend time reading it.

“So Ezra the priest brought the Law before the assembly, both men and women and all who could understand...”

Nehemiah 8:2

It is not security alone that is essential to the Christian life, but trust in God and obedience to His Word.

Point: Reading God’s Word fills us with conviction and joy.

“For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of joints and marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart.”

Hebrews 4:12

The festival they celebrated was not simply a holiday to be observed, but an appreciation of the reading and exposition of the Law.

Personal Application...

God delights and desires that we read *and* respond to God’s Word. Will you take the time to seek Him through reading the Scriptures? We will not know His commands otherwise.

Sermon by Pastor Dave Williams on Sunday, August 2nd, 2015
Next week: Nehemiah 9 Mercy and Faithfulness