

Rebuilding Our Defense
Nehemiah 11-13
On Guard Against...Ourselves!

“Thus I cleansed them from everything foreign, and I established the duties of the priests and Levites...”

Nehemiah 13:30

Life Application: The ongoing work of the Lord needs to be continually protected.

“For false christs and false prophets will arise and perform signs and wonders, to lead astray, if possible, the elect. But be on guard; I have told you all things beforehand.”

Mark 13:22-23

Point: We are invited to the ongoing work of the Lord.

The work Israel was responsible for:

1. Repopulating Jerusalem (11:1-2).
2. Establishing temple leaders again (11:3-24).
3. Establishing proper links to Israel’s history (12:1-26).

New Testament invitations to God’s work

- “Follow me...” (Matthew 4:19)
- “...you will be my witnesses...” (Acts 1:8)
- “We are his workmanship...for good works...” (Ephesians 2:10)

God has and continues to desire to use His people in His ongoing work.

Point: We are to celebrate the ongoing work of the Lord.

“And at the dedication of the wall of Jerusalem they sought the Levites in all their places, to bring them to Jerusalem to celebrate the dedication with gladness, with thanksgiving and with singing, with cymbals, harps, and lyres.”

Nehemiah 12:27

Take time to share and celebrate with others the work that the Lord is doing in your life.

Point: We are to protect the ongoing work of the Lord.

What did Nehemiah find when he came back?

1. A foreigner and enemy living in the temple (13:19).
2. Worship was neglected because provision for the temple clergy had been neglected (13:10-14).
3. Jerusalem and Judea breaking the Sabbath (13:15-22).
4. Continuation of mixed marriages (13:23-29).

It did not take long for Satan to attack after the walls had been rebuilt. Are you protecting the rebuilt defense you have built up?

Personal Application...

Joy and celebration must be matched with responding to and protecting God’s work. Let pure and Godly worship result from a rebuilt spiritual defense.

Sermon by Pastor Dave Williams on Sunday, August 23rd, 2015
Next week: Outdoor service at the Osceola Landing