

第四篇

以斯拉記及尼希米記中所描繪 召會作為神的殿和神的城之恢復

讀經: 拉七 6~10, 21, 27~28, 八 21~23, 十 1,
尼一 1~11, 二 4, 10, 17~20, 三 1~6, 四 4~
5, 9, 五 10, 14~19, 八 1~4, 8~9, 14

- 拉 7:6 這以斯拉從巴比倫上來，他是經學家，精通耶和華以色列神所賜摩西的律法。王賜他一切所求的，是因耶和華他的手幫助他。
- 拉 7:7 亞達薛西王第七年，也有些以色列人、祭司、利未人、歌唱的、守門的和殿役，上耶路撒冷去。
- 拉 7:8 王第七年五月，以斯拉到了耶路撒冷。
- 拉 7:9 他在正月初一日，從巴比倫動身上來；因他神美善的手幫助他，五月初一日就到了耶路撒冷。
- 拉 7:10 以斯拉立定心意考究遵行耶和華的律法，並在以色列中教導律例和典章。
- 拉 7:21 我亞達薛西王又降旨與河西的一切庫官，說，精通天上神律法的經學家祭司以斯拉，無論向你們要甚麼，你們都要周到迅速的備辦，
- 拉 7:27 以斯拉說，耶和華我們列祖的神是當受頌讚的，因祂把這樣的意思放在王心裏，要修飾在耶路撒冷耶和華的殿；
- 拉 7:28 祂又在王和謀士面前，並王一切大能的軍長面前施慈愛與我。因耶和華我神的手幫助我，我就得以堅強，從以色列中招聚首領，與我一同上來。
- 拉 8:21 那時，我在亞哈瓦河邊宣告禁食，為要在我們神面前謙卑，刻苦己心，為我們和我們的婦人孩子，並一切所有的，向祂尋求平坦的道路。
- 拉 8:22 我求王撥步兵馬兵，幫助我們抵擋路上的仇敵，本以為羞恥；因我們曾對王說，我們神的手必幫助一切尋求祂的，使他們得好處；但祂的能力和忿怒，必攻擊一切離棄祂的。
- 拉 8:23 我們為此禁食尋求我們的神，祂就應允了我們的祈求。
- 拉 10:1 以斯拉哭泣並俯伏在神殿前，禱告認罪的時候，以色列中有極大的一羣男女和孩童聚集到以斯拉那裏；眾民無不痛哭。
- 尼 1:1 哈迦利亞的兒子尼希米的言語如下：亞達薛西王二十年基斯流月，我在書珊京城；
- 尼 1:2 那時，有我一個弟兄哈拿尼，同着幾個人從猶大來。我問他們那些被擄歸回、剩下逃脫的猶大人和耶路撒冷的光景。

Message Four

The Recovery of the Church as God's House and God's City as Portrayed in Ezra and Nehemiah

Scripture Reading: Ezra 7:6-10, 21, 27-28; 8:21-23; 10:1; Neh. 1:1-11; 2:4, 10,
17-20; 3:1-6; 4:4-5, 9; 5:10, 14-19; 8:1-4, 8-9, 14

- Ezra 7:6 This Ezra went up from Babylon, and he was a scribe skilled in the law of Moses, which Jehovah the God of Israel had given; and the king granted him all his request according to the hand of Jehovah his God upon him.
- Ezra 7:7 Some of the children of Israel and some of the priests, and the Levites and the singers and the gatekeepers and the temple servants also went up to Jerusalem in the seventh year of Artaxerxes the king.
- Ezra 7:8 And he came to Jerusalem in the fifth month, which was in the seventh year of the king;
- Ezra 7:9 For on the first day of the first month he began to go up from Babylon, and on the first day of the fifth month he came to Jerusalem according to the good hand of his God upon him.
- Ezra 7:10 For Ezra had set his heart to seek the law of Jehovah and to do it and to teach His statutes and ordinances in Israel.
- Ezra 7:21 And I, even I, Artaxerxes the king, make a decree to all the treasurers who are in the province beyond the River, that whatever Ezra the priest, the scribe of the law of the God of heaven, requires of you, it shall be done with all diligence,
- Ezra 7:27 Blessed be Jehovah, the God of our fathers, who has put such a thing as this into the king's heart, to beautify the house of Jehovah, which is in Jerusalem,
- Ezra 7:28 And has extended lovingkindness to me before the king and his counselors, and before all the mighty officers of the king. And I was strengthened according to the hand of Jehovah my God upon me, and I gathered together out of Israel leading men to go up with me.
- Ezra 8:21 Then I proclaimed a fast there, at the river Ahava, that we might humble ourselves before our God to seek from Him a straight way for ourselves and for our little ones and for all our possessions.
- Ezra 8:22 For I was ashamed to ask for troops and horsemen from the king to help us against the enemy in the way because we had spoken to the king, saying, The hand of our God is for good upon all those who seek Him, but His power and His wrath is against all those who forsake Him.
- Ezra 8:23 So we fasted and sought our God for this, and He was entreated by us.
- Ezra 10:1 Now while Ezra prayed and made confession, weeping and throwing himself down before the house of God, a very large gathering of men and women and children was gathered together to him out of Israel; for the people wept very bitterly.
- Neh 1:1 The words of Nehemiah the son of Hacaliah. Now in the month Chislev, in the twentieth year, while I was in Susa the capital,
- Neh 1:2 Hanani, one of my brothers, came, he and some men from Judah; and I asked them about the Jews who had escaped, who were left from the captivity, and about Jerusalem.

尼 1:3 他們對我說，那些被擄歸回剩下的餘民在猶大省遭大難，受凌辱；並且耶路撒冷的城牆被拆毀，城門被火焚燒。

尼 1:4 我聽見這些話，就坐下哭泣，悲哀幾日，在天上的神面前禁食禱告，

尼 1:5 說，耶和華天上的神，大而可畏的神阿，你向愛你、守你誠命的人守約並施慈愛；

尼 1:6 願你側耳睜眼，垂聽你僕人的禱告，就是我現今晝夜在你面前為你眾僕人以色列人所禱告的，承認我們以色列人向你所犯的罪。我與我父家都有罪了；

尼 1:7 我們向你所行的甚是敗壞，沒有遵守你吩咐你僕人摩西的誠命、律例和典章。

尼 1:8 求你記念你所吩咐你僕人摩西的話，說，你們若不忠信，我就把你們分散在諸民中；

尼 1:9 但你們若歸向我，謹守遵行我的誠命，你們被趕散的人，就是在天涯，我也必從那裏將他們招聚回來，帶到我所選擇給我名居住的地方。

尼 1:10 這些都是你的僕人、你的百姓，就是你用你的大能，和你大力的手所救贖的。

尼 1:11 主阿，求你側耳聽你僕人的禱告，和喜愛敬畏你名眾僕人的禱告，使你僕人今日亨通，使他在王面前蒙憐恤。我是作王司酒的。

尼 2:4 王問我說，你要求甚麼？於是我禱告天上的神。

尼 2:10 和倫人參巴拉，並作臣僕的亞捫人多比雅，聽見有人來為以色列人求好處，就甚惱怒。

尼 2:17 以後，我對他們說，我們所遭的禍患，耶路撒冷怎樣荒涼，城門被火焚燒，你們都看見了。來罷，我們重建耶路撒冷的城牆，免得再受凌辱。

尼 2:18 我告訴他們，我神美善的手怎樣幫助我，也把王對我所說的話告訴他們。他們就說，我們起來建造罷；於是他們奮勇作這善工。

尼 2:19 但和倫人參巴拉、作臣僕的亞捫人多比雅、和亞拉伯人基善聽見，就嗤笑我們，藐視我們，說，你們作的是甚麼事？你們要背叛王麼？

尼 2:20 我回答他們說，天上的神必親自使我們亨通；所以我們作祂僕人的，要起來建造。你們卻在耶路撒冷無分、無權、無記念。

尼 3:1 那時，大祭司以利亞實和他的弟兄眾祭司起來建造羊門，將這門分別為聖，安立門扇；又築城牆到哈米亞樓，將這樓分別為聖，又築城牆到哈楠業樓。

尼 3:2 其旁是耶利哥人建造。其旁是音利的兒子撒刻建造。

尼 3:3 哈西拿的子孫建造魚門：架設橫梁，安門扇、門插和門門。

尼 3:4 其旁是哈哥斯的孫子，烏利亞的兒子米利末修造。其旁是米示薩別孫子，比利迦的兒子米書蘭修造。其旁是巴拿

Neh 1:3 And they said to me, The remnant who are left from the captivity there in the province are in an exceedingly bad state and reproach, and the wall of Jerusalem is broken down and its gates have been burned with fire.

Neh 1:4 And when I heard these words, I sat down and wept, and I mourned for some days; and I fasted and prayed before the God of heaven,

Neh 1:5 And said, I beseech You, O Jehovah the God of heaven, the great and awesome God, who keeps covenant and lovingkindness with those who love Him and keep His commandments:

Neh 1:6 Let Your ear be attentive and Your eyes open to hear the prayer of Your servant, which I pray before You now day and night, concerning the children of Israel, Your servants, while I confess the sins of the children of Israel that we have sinned against You. Indeed, I and the house of my father have sinned;

Neh 1:7 We have been most corrupt toward You and have not kept the commandments and the statutes and the ordinances that You commanded Moses Your servant.

Neh 1:8 Remember now the word that You commanded Moses Your servant, saying, If you are unfaithful, I will scatter you among the peoples;

Neh 1:9 But if you return to Me and keep My commandments and perform them, though your outcasts are under the ends of heaven, from there I will gather them and bring them to the place where I have chosen to cause My name to dwell.

Neh 1:10 Now these are Your servants and Your people, whom You have redeemed by Your great power and by Your strong hand.

Neh 1:11 I beseech You, O Lord, let Your ear be attentive to the prayer of Your servant and to the prayer of Your servants, who take delight in fearing Your name; and cause Your servant to prosper today, and grant him to find compassion before this man. Now I was cupbearer to the king.

Neh 2:4 And the king said to me, What do you request? So I prayed to the God of heaven.

Neh 2:10 And when Sanballat the Horonite and Tobiah the Ammonite servant heard of this, it displeased them greatly that a man had come seeking the good of the children of Israel.

Neh 2:17 Then I said to them, You see the bad state we are in, that Jerusalem lies in waste and its gates are burned with fire. Come and let us build up the wall of Jerusalem so that we will no longer be a reproach.

Neh 2:18 And I told them about the hand of my God, which was good upon me, and also about the king's words, which he had spoken to me. And they said, Let us rise up and build; and they strengthened their hands for the good work.

Neh 2:19 But when Sanballat the Horonite and Tobiah the Ammonite servant and Geshem the Arabian heard of it, they mocked us and despised us; and they said, What is this thing that you will do? Will you rebel against the king?

Neh 2:20 And I answered them and said to them, The God of heaven Himself will make us prosper; therefore we His servants will rise up and build. But you have no portion nor right nor memorial in Jerusalem.

Neh 3:1 Then Eliashib the high priest rose up with his brothers the priests and built the Sheep Gate. They consecrated it and erected its doors; even as far as the Tower of the Hundred they consecrated it and as far as the Tower of Hananel.

Neh 3:2 And next to him the men of Jericho built. And next to them Zaccur the son of Imri built.

Neh 3:3 And the sons of Hassenaah built the Fish Gate: They laid its beams and set up its doors, its bolts, and its bars.

Neh 3:4 And next to them Meremoth the son of Uriah, the son of Hakkoz made repairs. And next to them Meshullam the son of Berechiah, the son of Meshezabel made repairs. And next to them Zadok

的兒子撒督修造。
尼 3:5 其旁是提哥亞人修造；但是他們的貴胄不肯負軛服事他們的主。
尼 3:6 巴西亞的兒子耶何耶大與比所珉的兒子米書蘭修造古門：架設橫梁，安門扇、門插和門閂。
尼 4:4 我們的神阿，求你垂聽，因為我們被藐視；求你使他們的凌辱歸在他們頭上，使他們在被擄到之地成為掠物。
尼 4:5 不要遮掩他們的罪孽，不要使他們的罪從你面前塗抹，因為他們在建造的人面前惹動你的怒氣。
尼 4:9 然而，我們禱告我們的神，又因他們的緣故，設立看守的人，晝夜防備。
尼 5:10 我和我的弟兄與僕人也將銀錢糧食借給百姓；我們大家都放棄收取利息罷。
尼 5:14 自從王派我作猶大地的省長，就是從亞達薛西王二十年，直到三十二年，共十二年之久，我與我弟兄都沒有喫省長的俸祿。
尼 5:15 在我以前的省長加重百姓的擔子，除了徵收銀子四十舍客勒以外，又索要糧食和酒，就是他們的僕人也轄制百姓；但我因敬畏神，不這樣行。
尼 5:16 並且我堅定持續作城牆的工，並沒有置買田地；我的僕人都都聚集在那裏作工。
尼 5:17 除了從四圍外邦中到我們這裏來的人以外，有猶大平民和官長一百五十人，在我席上喫飯。
尼 5:18 每日豫備的有一隻公牛，六隻肥羊，又為我豫備一些飛禽；每十日一次，多豫備各樣的酒。雖然如此，我並不要省長的俸祿，因為百姓服役甚重。
尼 5:19 我的神阿，求你記念我為這百姓所行的一切事，以善待我。
尼 8:1 眾民如同一人，聚集在水門前的寬闊處，請經學家以斯拉將摩西的律法書帶來，這律法是耶和華吩咐以色列人遵守的。
尼 8:2 七月初一日，祭司以斯拉將律法書帶到男女會眾、並一切聽了能明白的人面前。
尼 8:3 他在水門前的寬闊處，從清早到晌午，在眾男女，並一切聽了能明白的人面前念這律法書。眾民側耳而聽。
尼 8:4 經學家以斯拉站在為這事特製的木臺上；瑪他提雅、示瑪、亞奈雅、烏利亞、希勒家、和瑪西雅站在他的右邊；毘大雅、米沙利、瑪基雅、哈順、哈拔大拿、撒迦利亞、和米書蘭站在他的左邊。
尼 8:8 他們念神的律法書，繙譯並講明意思，使百姓明白所念的。
尼 8:9 省長尼希米和作祭司的經學家以斯拉，並幫助百姓明白的利未人，對眾民說，今日是耶和華你們神的聖日，不要悲哀哭泣。這是因為眾民聽見律法書上的話都哭了。
尼 8:14 他們見律法上寫着，耶和華藉摩西吩咐以色列人要在七月節住棚，

the son of Baana made repairs.
Neh 3:5 And next to them the Tekoites made repairs, but their nobles would not put their necks to the service of their Lord.
Neh 3:6 And Joiada the son of Paseah and Meshullam the son of Besodeiah repaired the Old Gate: They laid its beams and set up its doors and its bolts and its bars.
Neh 4:4 Hear, O our God, for we are despised; and turn their reproach upon their own head, and give them as spoil in the land of captivity;
Neh 4:5 And do not cover their iniquity and do not let their sin be blotted out before You, for they made provocations before the builders.
Neh 4:9 But we prayed to our God, and because of them we set a watch against them day and night.
Neh 5:10 And even I, my brothers, and my servants lend them money and grain. Let us now abandon such taking of interest.
Neh 5:14 Moreover from the time that the king appointed me to be governor in the land of Judah, from the twentieth year even to the thirty-second year of Artaxerxes the king, twelve years, I and my brothers did not eat the food appointed for the governor.
Neh 5:15 But the former governors, who were before me, laid heavy burdens on the people and took from them food and wine, besides forty shekels of silver; even their servants tyrannized the people. But I did not do so, because of the fear of God.
Neh 5:16 And I also applied myself to the work on this wall. And we did not acquire fields, and all my servants were gathered there for the work.
Neh 5:17 And there were at my table one hundred fifty men, Jews and rulers, besides those who came to us from the nations that surrounded us.
Neh 5:18 And what was prepared for one day was one ox and six choice sheep; also fowl was prepared for me, as well as all kinds of wine in abundance every ten days. Yet for this I did not demand the food appointed for the governor, for the service was heavy upon this people.
Neh 5:19 Remember me, O my God, for good, all that I have done for this people.
Neh 8:1 And all the people gathered as one man in the open area that was before the Water Gate. And they told Ezra the scribe to bring the book of the law of Moses, which Jehovah had commanded to Israel.
Neh 8:2 And Ezra the priest brought the law before the assembly, both men and women, and all who could hear with understanding, on the first day of the seventh month.
Neh 8:3 And he read in it before the open area that was before the Water Gate from first light 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.
Neh 8:4 And Ezra the scribe stood upon a wooden platform that had been made for that purpose; and beside him stood Mattithiah and Shema and Anaiiah and Uriah and Hilkiah and Maaseiah at his right hand; and at his left hand, Pedaiah and Mishael and Malchijah and Hashum and Hashbaddanah, Zechariah, and Meshullam.
Neh 8:8 And they read in the book, in the law of God, interpreting and giving the sense, so that they understood the reading.
Neh 8:9 And Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who helped the people understand said to all the people, This day is holy unto Jehovah your God; do not mourn or weep. For all the people wept when they heard the words of the law.
Neh 8:14 And they found it written in the law that Jehovah had commanded through Moses that the children of Israel dwell in booths during the feast in the seventh month,

壹 以色列人剩下的餘民得恢復，從巴比倫回到耶路撒冷，為着重建殿和城，表徵召會剩下的餘民被主恢復，脫離今天的分裂和混亂，回到原初一的立場，為着建造召會作神的家和神的國——啓十七 1～6，十八 2，4 上：

- 啓 17:1 拿着七碗的七位天使中，有一位來同我說話，說，你來，我要將坐在眾水之上的大妓女所要受的刑罰，指給你看。
- 啓 17:2 地上的君王向來與她行淫，住在地上的人喝醉了她的淫亂的酒。
- 啓 17:3 我在靈裏，天使帶我到曠野去；我就看見一個女人騎在朱紅色的獸上，那獸滿了褻瀆的名號，有七頭十角。
- 啓 17:4 那女人穿着紫色和朱紅色的衣服，用金子、寶石、珍珠為妝飾，手中拿着金杯，盛滿了可憎之物，並她淫亂的污穢。
- 啓 17:5 在她額上有名寫着：奧祕哉！大巴比倫，地上妓女和可憎之物的母。
- 啓 17:6 我又看見那女人喝醉了聖徒的血，和耶穌見證人的血；我看見她，就大大的希奇。
- 啓 18:2 祂用強有力的聲音喊着說，大巴比倫傾倒了！傾倒了！成了鬼的居所，和各樣污穢之靈的巢穴，並各樣污穢可恨之鳥的巢穴，
- 啓 18:4 上我又聽見從天上另有聲音說，我的民，你們要從那城出來，...

一 神的百姓需要被恢復，脫離巴比倫，回到獨一的一——這個立場——申十二 5，11～14，詩一三三，啓一 11。

- 申 12:5 但耶和華你們的神從你們各支派中，所選擇出來立祂名的地方，就是祂的居所，那是你們當尋求的，你們要往那裏去，
- 申 12:11 那時你們要將我所吩咐你們的燔祭和別的祭，十分取一之物，和手中的舉祭，並向耶和華許願所獻一切上好的還願祭，都奉到耶和華你們神所選擇給祂名居住的地方。
- 申 12:12 你們和兒子、女兒、僕人、婢女，還有你們城裏的利未人，都要在耶和華你們的神面前歡樂，因為利未人在你們那裏無分無業。
- 申 12:13 你要謹慎，不可在你所看中的各地方獻上燔祭；
- 申 12:14 惟獨耶和華從你的一個支派中所選擇的地方，你要在那裏獻上燔祭，行我一切所吩咐你的。
- 詩 133 大衛的上行之歌。

I. The recovery of a remnant of the children of Israel from Babylon to Jerusalem for the rebuilding of the temple and the city signifies the Lord's recovery of a remnant of the church out of today's division and confusion back to the original ground of oneness for the building up of the church as the house of God and the kingdom of God—Rev. 17:1-6; 18:2, 4a:

- Rev 17:1 And one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls came and spoke with me, saying, Come here; I will show you the judgment of the great harlot who sits upon the many waters,
- Rev 17:2 With whom the kings of the earth have committed fornication, and those who dwell on the earth have been made drunk with the wine of her fornication.
- Rev 17:3 And he carried me away in spirit into a wilderness; and I saw a woman sitting upon a scarlet beast, full of names of blasphemy, having seven heads and ten horns.
- Rev 17:4 And the woman was clothed in purple and scarlet, and gilded with gold and precious stone and pearls, having in her hand a golden cup full of abominations and the unclean things of her fornication.
- Rev 17:5 And on her forehead there was a name written, MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF THE HARLOTS AND THE ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH.
- Rev 17:6 And I saw the woman drunk with the blood of the saints and with the blood of the witnesses of Jesus. And I marveled with great marvel when I saw her.
- Rev 18:2 And He cried with a strong voice, saying, Fallen, fallen is Babylon the Great! And she has become a dwelling place of demons and a hold of every unclean spirit and a hold of every unclean and hateful bird;
- Rev 18:4a And I heard another voice out of heaven, saying, Come out of her, My people,...

A. God's people need to be recovered out of Babylon back to the unique ground of oneness—Deut. 12:5, 11-14; Psa. 133; Rev. 1:11.

- Deut 12:5 But to the place which Jehovah your God will choose out of all your tribes to put His name, to His habitation, shall you seek, and there shall you go.
- Deut 12:11 Then to the place where Jehovah your God will choose to cause His name to dwell, there you shall bring all that I am commanding you, your burnt offerings and your sacrifices, your tithes and the heave offering of your hand and all your choice vows which you vow to Jehovah.
- Deut 12:12 And you shall rejoice before Jehovah your God, you and your sons and daughters, and your male servants and female servants, and the Levite who is within your gates, for he has no portion nor inheritance with you.
- Deut 12:13 Be careful that you do not offer up your burnt offerings in every place that you see;
- Deut 12:14 But in the place which Jehovah will choose in one of your tribes, there you shall offer up your burnt offerings, and there you shall do all that I am commanding you.
- Psa 133 A Song of Ascents. Of David

詩 133:1 看哪，弟兄和睦同居，是何等的善，何等的美！
詩 133:2 這好比那上好的油，澆在亞倫的頭上，流到鬚鬚，又流到他的衣襟；
詩 133:3 又好比黑門的甘露，降在錫安山；因為在那裏有耶和華所命定的福，就是永遠的生命。
啓 1:11 你所看見的，當寫在書上，寄給那七個召會：給以弗所、給士每拿、給別迦摩、給推雅推喇、給撒狄、給非拉鐵非、給老底嘉。

二 神的子民需要被恢復，回到享受由美地所豫表，那追測不盡之豐富的基督作為包羅萬有的靈—弗三 8，加三 14，申八 7～10，西一 12，二 6～7。

弗 3:8 這恩典賜給了我這比眾聖徒中最小者還小的，叫我將基督那追測不盡的豐富，當作福音傳給外邦人，
加 3:14 為叫亞伯拉罕的福，在基督耶穌裏可以臨到外邦人，使我們藉着信，可以接受所應許的那靈。
申 8:7 因為耶和華你神領你進入美地，那地有川，有泉，有源，從谷中和山上流出水來；
申 8:8 那地有小麥、大麥、葡萄樹、無花果樹、石榴樹；那地有出油的橄欖樹，有蜜。
申 8:9 你在那地不缺食物，你必一無所缺；那地的石頭是鐵，山內可以挖銅。
申 8:10 你喫得飽足，就要頌讚耶和華你的神，因祂將那美地賜給你了。
西 1:12 感謝父，叫你們較資格在光中同得所分給眾聖徒的分；
西 2:6 你們既然接受了基督，就是主耶穌，
西 2:7 在祂裏面已經生根，並正被建造，且照着你們所受的教導，在信心上得以堅固，洋溢着感謝，就要在祂裏面行事為人。

三 在召會的恢復裏，我們正在建造基督的身體，就是神的殿，神的家—弗四 11～16，林前三 9～17。

弗 4:11 祂所賜的，有些是使徒，有些是申言者，有些是傳福音者，有些是牧人和教師，
弗 4:12 為要成全聖徒，目的是為着職事的工作，為着建造基督的身體，
弗 4:13 直到我們眾人都達到了信仰上並對神兒子之完全認識上的一，達到了長成的人，達到了基督豐滿之身材的度量，
弗 4:14 使我們不再作小孩子，為波浪漂來漂去，並為一切教訓之風所搖蕩，這教訓是在於人的欺騙手法，在於將人引入錯誤系統的詭詐作為；

Psa 133:1 Behold, how good and how pleasant it is / For brothers to dwell in unity!
Psa 133:2 It is like the fine oil upon the head / That ran down upon the beard, / Upon Aaron's beard, / That ran down upon the hem of his garments;
Psa 133:3 Like the dew of Hermon / That came down upon the mountains of Zion. / For there Jehovah commanded the blessing: / Life forever.
Rev 1:11 Saying, What you see write in a scroll and send it to the seven churches: to Ephesus and to Smyrna and to Pergamos and to Thyatira and to Sardis and to Philadelphia and to Laodicea.

B. God's people need to be recovered back to the enjoyment of the unsearchably rich Christ as the all-inclusive Spirit, typified by the good land—Eph. 3:8; Gal. 3:14; Deut. 8:7-10; Col. 1:12; 2:6-7.

Eph 3:8 To me, less than the least of all saints, was this grace given to announce to the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ as the gospel
Gal 3:14 In order that the blessing of Abraham might come to the Gentiles in Christ Jesus, that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.
Deut 8:7 For Jehovah your God is bringing you to a good land, a land of waterbrooks, of springs and of fountains, flowing forth in valleys and in mountains;
Deut 8:8 A land of wheat and barley and vines and fig trees and pomegranates; a land of olive trees with oil and of honey;
Deut 8:9 A land in which you will eat bread without scarcity; you will not lack anything in it; a land whose stones are iron, and from whose mountains you can mine copper.
Deut 8:10 And you shall eat and be satisfied, and you shall bless Jehovah your God for the good land which He has given you.
Col 1:12 Giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you for a share of the allotted portion of the saints in the light;
Col 2:6 As therefore you have received the Christ, Jesus the Lord, walk in Him,
Col 2:7 Having been rooted and being built up in Him, and being established in the faith even as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving.

C. In the recovery of the church we are building up the Body of Christ, the temple of God, the house of God—Eph. 4:11-16; 1 Cor. 3:9-17.

Eph 4:11 And He Himself gave some as apostles and some as prophets and some as evangelists and some as shepherds and teachers,
Eph 4:12 For the perfecting of the saints unto the work of the ministry, unto the building up of the Body of Christ,
Eph 4:13 Until we all arrive at the oneness of the faith and of the full knowledge of the Son of God, at a full-grown man, at the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ,
Eph 4:14 That we may be no longer little children tossed by waves and carried about by every wind of teaching in the sleight of men, in craftiness with a view to a system of error,

弗 4:15 惟在愛裏持守着真實，我們就得以在一切事上長到祂，就是元首基督裏面；
弗 4:16 本於祂，全身藉着每一豐富供應的節，並藉着每一部分依其度量而有的功用，得以聯絡在一起，並結合在一起，便叫身體漸漸長大，以致在愛裏把自己建造起來。
林前 3:9 因為我們是神的同工，你們是神的耕地，神的建築。
林前 3:10 我照神所給我的恩典，好像一個智慧的工頭，立好了根基，有別人在上面建造，只是各人要謹慎怎樣在上面建造。
林前 3:11 因為除了那已經立好的根基，就是耶穌基督以外，沒有人能立別的根基。
林前 3:12 然而，若有人用金、銀、寶石，木、草、禾稈，在這根基上建造，
林前 3:13 各人的工程必然顯露，因為那日子要將它指明出來；它要在火中被揭露，這火要試驗各人的工程是那一種的。
林前 3:14 人在那根基上所建造的工程若存得住，他就要得賞賜。
林前 3:15 人的工程若被燒燬，他就要受虧損，自己卻要得救；只是這樣得救，要像從火裏經過的一樣。
林前 3:16 豈不知你們是神的殿，神的靈住在你們裏面麼？
林前 3:17 若有人毀壞神的那殿，神必要毀壞這人，因為神的那殿是聖的，你們就是這殿。

四 在召會的恢復裏，我們是過國度的生活，好在神國的實際裏，在生命中作王—羅十四 17，五 17，參太五 3，8，六 6，14～15，20～21，七 13～14。

羅 14:17 因為神的國不在於喫喝，乃在於公義、和平、並聖靈中的喜樂。
羅 5:17 若因一人的過犯，死就藉着這一人作了王，那些受洋溢之恩，並洋溢之義恩賜的，就更要藉着耶穌基督一人，在生命中作王了。
太 5:3 靈裏貧窮的人有福了，因為諸天的國是他們的。
太 5:8 清心的人有福了，因為他們必看見神。
太 6:6 你禱告的時候，要進你的密室，關上門，禱告你在隱密中的父，你父在隱密中察看，必要報答你。
太 6:14 因為你們若赦免人的過犯，你們的天父也必赦免你們；
太 6:15 你們若不赦免人的過犯，你們的天父也必不赦免你們的過犯。
太 6:20 只要為自己積蓄財寶在天上，天上沒有蟲蛀、鏽蝕，也沒有賊挖洞偷竊。
太 6:21 因為你的財寶在那裏，你的心也必在那裏。
太 7:13 你們要進窄門；因為引到毀壞的，那門寬，那路闊，進去的人也多；
太 7:14 引到生命的，那門窄，那路狹，找着的人也少。

Eph 4:15 But holding to truth in love, we may grow up into Him in all things, who is the Head, Christ,
Eph 4:16 Out from whom all the Body, being joined together and being knit together through every joint of the rich supply and through the operation in the measure of each one part, causes the growth of the Body unto the building up of itself in love.
1 Cor 3:9 For we are God's fellow workers; you are God's cultivated land, God's building.
1 Cor 3:10 According to the grace of God given to me, as a wise master builder I have laid a foundation, and another builds upon it. But let each man take heed how he builds upon it.
1 Cor 3:11 For another foundation no one is able to lay besides that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ.
1 Cor 3:12 But if anyone builds upon the foundation gold, silver, precious stones, wood, grass, stubble,
1 Cor 3:13 The work of each will become manifest; for the day will declare it, because it is revealed by fire, and the fire itself will prove each one's work, of what sort it is.
1 Cor 3:14 If anyone's work which he has built upon the foundation remains, he will receive a reward;
1 Cor 3:15 If anyone's work is consumed, he will suffer loss, but he himself will be saved, yet so as through fire.
1 Cor 3:16 Do you not know that you are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwells in you?
1 Cor 3:17 If anyone destroys the temple of God, God will destroy him; for the temple of God is holy, and such are you.

D. In the recovery of the church we are living the kingdom life to reign in life in the reality of God's kingdom—Rom. 14:17; 5:17; cf. Matt. 5:3, 8; 6:6, 14-15, 20-21; 7:13-14.

Rom 14:17 For the kingdom of God is not eating and drinking, but righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit.
Rom 5:17 For if, by the offense of the one, death reigned through the one, much more those who receive the abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness will reign in life through the One, Jesus Christ.
Matt 5:3 Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of the heavens.
Matt 5:8 Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.
Matt 6:6 But you, when you pray, enter into your private room, and shut your door and pray to your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will repay you.
Matt 6:14 For if you forgive men their offenses, your heavenly Father will forgive you also;
Matt 6:15 But if you do not forgive men their offenses, neither will your Father forgive your offenses.
Matt 6:20 But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not dig through nor steal.
Matt 6:21 For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.
Matt 7:13 Enter in through the narrow gate, for wide is the gate and broad is the way that leads to destruction, and many are those who enter through it.
Matt 7:14 Because narrow is the gate and constricted is the way that leads to life, and few are those who find it.

五 這滿足了神原初的心意，就是得着一個團體的人，在祂的形像上彰顯祂，並帶着祂的管治權代表祂——創一 26。

創 1:26 神說，我們要按着我們的形像，照着我們的樣式造人，使他們管理海裏的魚、空中的鳥、地上的牲畜、和全地、並地上所爬的一切爬物。

貳 主興起以斯拉，加強並充實了祂的恢復——拉七 6 ~ 10:

拉 7:6 這以斯拉從巴比倫上來，他是經學家，精通耶和華以色列神所賜摩西的律法。王賜他一切所求的，是因耶和華祂神的手幫助他。

拉 7:7 亞達薛西王第七年，也有些以色列人、祭司、利未人、歌唱的、守門的和殿役，上耶路撒冷去。

拉 7:8 王第七年五月，以斯拉到了耶路撒冷。

拉 7:9 他在正月初一日，從巴比倫動身上來；因他神美善的手幫助他，五月初一日就到了耶路撒冷。

拉 7:10 以斯拉立定心意考究遵行耶和華的律法，並在以色列中教導律例和典章。

一 以斯拉是祭司，也是經學家，就是精通神律法的人；以斯拉是這樣的人，所以有能力應付需要——21 節：

拉 7:21 我亞達薛西王又降旨與河西的一切庫官，說，精通天上神律法的經學家祭司以斯拉，無論向你們要甚麼，你們都要周到迅速的備辦，

1 祭司是與主調和並被主浸透的人；以斯拉就是這種人——八 21 ~ 23。

拉 8:21 那時，我在亞哈瓦河邊宣告禁食，為要在我們神面前謙卑，刻苦己心，為我們和我們的婦人孩子，並一切所有的，向祂尋求平坦的道路。

拉 8:22 我求王撥步兵馬兵，幫助我們抵擋路上的仇敵，本以為羞恥；因我們曾對王說，我們神的手必幫助一切尋求祂的，使他們得好處；但祂的能力和忿怒，必攻擊一切離棄祂的。

拉 8:23 我們為此禁食尋求我們的神，祂就應允了我們的祈求。

2 以斯拉是信靠神的人，他與神是一，精通神的話，並認識神的心、神的渴望和神的經綸——七 27 ~ 28，十 1。

E. This fulfills God's original intention to have a corporate man to express Him in His image and to represent Him with His dominion—Gen. 1:26.

Gen 1:26 And God said, Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of heaven and over the cattle and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth.

II. The Lord raised up Ezra to strengthen and enrich His recovery—Ezra 7:6-10:

Ezra 7:6 This Ezra went up from Babylon, and he was a scribe skilled in the law of Moses, which Jehovah the God of Israel had given; and the king granted him all his request according to the hand of Jehovah his God upon him.

Ezra 7:7 Some of the children of Israel and some of the priests, and the Levites and the singers and the gatekeepers and the temple servants also went up to Jerusalem in the seventh year of Artaxerxes the king.

Ezra 7:8 And he came to Jerusalem in the fifth month, which was in the seventh year of the king;

Ezra 7:9 For on the first day of the first month he began to go up from Babylon, and on the first day of the fifth month he came to Jerusalem according to the good hand of his God upon him.

Ezra 7:10 For Ezra had set his heart to seek the law of Jehovah and to do it and to teach His statutes and ordinances in Israel.

A. Ezra was a priest and also a scribe, one who was skilled in the law of God; as such a person, Ezra had the capacity to meet the need—v. 21:

Ezra 7:21 And I, even I, Artaxerxes the king, make a decree to all the treasurers who are in the province beyond the River, that whatever Ezra the priest, the scribe of the law of the God of heaven, requires of you, it shall be done with all diligence,

1. A priest is one who is mingled with the Lord and saturated with the Lord; Ezra was this kind of person—8:21-23.

Ezra 8:21 Then I proclaimed a fast there, at the river Ahava, that we might humble ourselves before our God to seek from Him a straight way for ourselves and for our little ones and for all our possessions.

Ezra 8:22 For I was ashamed to ask for troops and horsemen from the king to help us against the enemy in the way because we had spoken to the king, saying, The hand of our God is for good upon all those who seek Him, but His power and His wrath is against all those who forsake Him.

Ezra 8:23 So we fasted and sought our God for this, and He was entreated by us.

2. Ezra was a man who trusted in God, who was one with God, who was skilled in the Word of God, and who knew God's heart, God's desire, and God's economy—7:27-28; 10:1.

拉 7:27 以斯拉說，耶和華我們列祖的神是當受頌讚的，因祂把這樣的意思放在王心裏，要修飾在耶路撒冷耶和華的殿；
拉 7:28 祂又在王和謀士面前，並王一切大能的軍長面前施慈愛與我。因耶和華我神的手幫助我，我就得以堅強，從以色列中招聚首領，與我一同上來。
拉 10:1 以斯拉哭泣並俯伏在神殿前，禱告認罪的時候，以色列中有極大的一羣男女和孩童聚集到以斯拉那裏；眾民無不痛哭。

3 以斯拉不斷與主接觸，而與主是一；因此，他不是一位字句經學家，乃是一位祭司經學家——尼八 1～2, 8～9。

尼 8:1 眾民如同一人，聚集在水門前的寬闊處，請經學家以斯拉將摩西的律法書帶來，這律法是耶和華吩咐以色列人遵守的。
尼 8:2 七月初一日，祭司以斯拉將律法書帶到男女會眾、並一切聽了能明白的人面前。
尼 8:8 他們念神的律法書，繙譯並講明意思，使百姓明白所念的。
尼 8:9 省長尼希米和作祭司的經學家以斯拉，並幫助百姓明白的利未人，對眾民說，今日是耶和華你們神的聖日，不要悲哀哭泣。這是因為眾民聽見律法書上的話都哭了。

4 以斯拉沒有說甚麼新的東西，他是說摩西所已經說過的——拉七 6，尼八 14。

拉 7:6 這以斯拉從巴比倫上來，他是經學家，精通耶和華以色列神所賜摩西的律法。王賜他一切所求的，是因耶和華他的手幫助他。
尼 8:14 他們見律法上寫着，耶和華藉摩西吩咐以色列人要在七月節住棚，

二 在主的恢復裏我們需要許多以斯拉，他們是祭司教師，就是那些與神接觸，被神浸透，與神是一，並被神充滿，精通神話語的人；只有這種人纔有資格在主恢復裏作教師——太十三 52，林後三 5～6，提前二 7。

太 13:52 祂又對他們說，因此，凡經學家作諸天之國門徒的，就像一個作家主的人，從他庫裏拿出新舊的東西來。
林後 3:5 並不是我們憑自己殼資格將甚麼估計作像是出於我們自己的；我們之所以殼資格，乃是出於神；
林後 3:6 祂使我們殼資格作新約的執事，這些執事不是屬於字句，乃是屬於靈，因為那字句殺死人，那靈卻叫人活。

Ezra 7:27 Blessed be Jehovah, the God of our fathers, who has put such a thing as this into the king's heart, to beautify the house of Jehovah, which is in Jerusalem,
Ezra 7:28 And has extended lovingkindness to me before the king and his counselors, and before all the mighty officers of the king. And I was strengthened according to the hand of Jehovah my God upon me, and I gathered together out of Israel leading men to go up with me.
Ezra 10:1 Now while Ezra prayed and made confession, weeping and throwing himself down before the house of God, a very large gathering of men and women and children was gathered together to him out of Israel; for the people wept very bitterly.

3. Ezra was one with the Lord by contacting Him continually; thus, he was not a letter-scribe but a priestly scribe——Neh. 8:1-2, 8-9.

Neh 8:1 And all the people gathered as one man in the open area that was before the Water Gate. And they told Ezra the scribe to bring the book of the law of Moses, which Jehovah had commanded to Israel.
Neh 8:2 And Ezra the priest brought the law before the assembly, both men and women, and all who could hear with understanding, on the first day of the seventh month.
Neh 8:8 And they read in the book, in the law of God, interpreting and giving the sense, so that they understood the reading.
Neh 8:9 And Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who helped the people understand said to all the people, This day is holy unto Jehovah your God; do not mourn or weep. For all the people wept when they heard the words of the law.

4. Ezra spoke nothing new; what he spoke had been spoken already by Moses——Ezra 7:6; Neh. 8:14.

Ezra 7:6 This Ezra went up from Babylon, and he was a scribe skilled in the law of Moses, which Jehovah the God of Israel had given; and the king granted him all his request according to the hand of Jehovah his God upon him.
Neh 8:14 And they found it written in the law that Jehovah had commanded through Moses that the children of Israel dwell in booths during the feast in the seventh month,

B. In the Lord's recovery we need Ezras, priestly teachers who contact God, who are saturated with God, who are one with God and filled with God, and who are skillful in the Word of God; this is the kind of person who is qualified to be a teacher in the Lord's recovery——Matt. 13:52; 2 Cor. 3:5-6; 1 Tim. 2:7.

Matt 13:52 And He said to them, For this reason every scribe disciplined to the kingdom of the heavens is like a householder who brings forth out of his treasure things new and old.
2 Cor 3:5 Not that we are sufficient of ourselves to account anything as from ourselves; but our sufficiency is from God,
2 Cor 3:6 Who has also made us sufficient as ministers of a new covenant, ministers not of the letter but of the Spirit; for the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life.

提前 2:7 我為此被派，在信仰和真理上，作傳揚者，作使徒，（我說的是真話，並不是謊言，）作外邦人的教師。

1 Tim 2:7 For which I was appointed a herald and an apostle (I speak the truth; I do not lie), a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and truth.

三 以斯拉用屬天的真理教育以色列人，把他們重新構成，使以色列能成為神的見證——尼八 1～4, 8:

C. Ezra reconstituted the people of Israel by educating them with the heavenly truths so that Israel could become God's testimony—Neh. 8:1-4, 8:

尼 8:1 眾民如同一人，聚集在水門前的寬闊處，請經學家以斯拉將摩西的律法書帶來，這律法是耶和華吩咐以色列人遵守的。

Neh 8:1 And all the people gathered as one man in the open area that was before the Water Gate. And they told Ezra the scribe to bring the book of the law of Moses, which Jehovah had commanded to Israel.

尼 8:2 七月初一日，祭司以斯拉將律法書帶到男女會眾、並一切聽了能明白的人面前。

Neh 8:2 And Ezra the priest brought the law before the assembly, both men and women, and all who could hear with understanding, on the first day of the seventh month.

尼 8:3 他在水門前的寬闊處，從清早到晌午，在眾男女，並一切聽了能明白的人面前念這律法書。眾民側耳而聽。

Neh 8:3 And he read in it before the open area that was before the Water Gate from first light 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.

尼 8:4 經學家以斯拉站在為這事特製的木臺上；瑪他提雅、示瑪、亞奈雅、烏利亞、希勒家、和瑪西雅站在他的右邊；毘大雅、米沙利、瑪基雅、哈順、哈拔大拿、撒迦利亞、和米書蘭站在他的左邊。

Neh 8:4 And Ezra the scribe stood upon a wooden platform that had been made for that purpose; and beside him stood Mattithiah and Shema and Anaiyah and Uriah and Hilkiah and Maaseiah at his right hand; and at his left hand, Pedaiah and Mishael and Malchijah and Hashum and Hashbaddanah, Zechariah, and Meshullam.

尼 8:8 他們念神的律法書，繙譯並講明意思，使百姓明白所念的。

Neh 8:8 And they read in the book, in the law of God, interpreting and giving the sense, so that they understood the reading.

1 神對以色列的心意，是要在地上得着一班神聖構成的子民，作祂的見證；神的子民要作祂的見證，就必須被神的話重新構成——賽四九 6，六十 1～3。

1. God's intention with Israel was to have on earth a divinely constituted people to be His testimony; in order for God's people to be His testimony, they had to be reconstituted with the word of God—Isa. 49:6; 60:1-3.

賽 49:6 祂說，你作我的僕人，使雅各眾支派復興，使以色列中得保全的歸回，尚為小事；我還要立你作外邦人的光，叫你施行我的救恩，直到地極。

Isa 49:6 He says, It is too small a thing that You would be My Servant / To raise up the tribes of Jacob / And bring back the preserved of Israel; / I will also set You as a light of the nations / That You may be My salvation unto the ends of the earth.

賽 60:1 興起發光！因為你的光已經來到，耶和華的榮耀已經升起照耀你。

Isa 60:1 Arise! Shine! For your light has come, / And the glory of Jehovah has risen upon you.

賽 60:2 看哪，黑暗要遮蓋大地，幽暗要遮蓋眾民；耶和華卻要升起照耀你，祂的榮耀要顯在你身上。

Isa 60:2 For, behold, the darkness will cover the earth, / And deep darkness the peoples; / But Jehovah will rise upon you, / And His glory will be seen upon you.

賽 60:3 列國要來就你的光，君王要來就你升起的光輝。

Isa 60:3 And nations will come to your light, / And kings to the brightness of your rising.

2 百姓從被擄歸回之後仍是任性的，因為他們生在並長在巴比倫，有了巴比倫的構成：

2. After the return from captivity, the people were still unruly, for they had been born and raised in Babylon and had become Babylonian in their constitution:

a 巴比倫的元素已經作到他們裏面，構成到他們全人裏面——亞三 3～5。

a. The Babylonian element had been wrought into them and constituted into their being—Zech. 3:3-5.

亞 3:3 約書亞穿着污穢的衣服，站在那使者面前。

Zech 3:3 Now Joshua was clothed with filthy garments and was standing before the Angel.

亞 3:4 祂吩咐那些站在祂面前的說，你們要脫去他身上污穢的衣服。又對約書亞說，你看，我使你的罪孽離開你，給你穿上華美的衣袍。

Zech 3:4 And He answered and spoke to those standing before Him, saying, Remove the filthy garments from him. Then He said to him, See, I hereby make your iniquity pass from you and clothe you with stately robes.

亞 3:5 祂說，要將潔淨的頂冠戴在他頭上。他們就把潔淨的頂冠戴在他頭上，給他穿上華美的衣服，耶和華的使者在旁邊站立。

b 他們返回列祖之地，成為以色列國的公民後，需要被重新構成。

3 神的子民需要教導和重新構成，好被帶進照着神的文化，就是彰顯神的文化中；這種文化需要許多教育——尼八 8：

尼 8:8 他們念神的律法書，繙譯並講明意思，使百姓明白所念的。

a 以斯拉在這一點上非常有用，因為他有屬天、神聖之構成和文化的總和，並且藉着他，百姓得以被神的話重新構成——1 ~ 2 節。

尼 8:1 眾人如同一人，聚集在水門前的寬闊處，請經學家以斯拉將摩西的律法書帶來，這律法是耶和華吩咐以色列人遵守的。

尼 8:2 七月初一日，祭司以斯拉將律法書帶到男女會眾、並一切聽了能明白的人面前。

b 以斯拉能幫助百姓認識神，不是僅僅一般的認識，乃是照着神所說的話而有的認識——8 節。

尼 8:8 他們念神的律法書，繙譯並講明意思，使百姓明白所念的。

4 要重新構成神的百姓，需要用神口裏所出、並彰顯神的話，教育他們——詩一一九 2, 9, 105, 130, 140：

詩 119:2 遵守祂的法度，全心尋求祂的，這樣的人是有福的。

詩 119:9 少年人用甚麼使他的行徑純潔呢？是要遵行你的話。

詩 119:105 你的話是我腳前的燈，是我路上的光。

詩 119:130 你的言語一解開，就發出亮光，使愚蒙人通達。

詩 119:140 你的話極其精煉，為你的僕人所愛。

a 重新構成神的百姓，就是教育他們，把他們擺進神的話裏，使他們被神的話浸透——西三 16。

西 3:16 當用各樣的智慧，讓基督的話豐富豐富的住在你們裏面，用詩章、頌辭、靈歌，彼此教導，互相勸戒，心被感恩歌頌神；

b 當神的話在我們裏面作工，神的靈，就是神自己，自然而然的就藉着話將神的性情同神的元素分賜到我們裏面；這樣，我們就被重新構成——提後三 16 ~ 17。

Zech 3:5 And He said, Let them put a clean turban upon his head. And they put the clean turban upon his head and clothed him with garments while the Angel of Jehovah stood by.

b. After they returned to the land of their fathers to be citizens of the nation of Israel, they needed a reconstitution.

3. There was the need of teaching and reconstitution to bring the people of God into a culture that was according to God, a culture that expressed God; this kind of culture requires a great deal of education——Neh. 8:8:

Neh 8:8 And they read in the book, in the law of God, interpreting and giving the sense, so that they understood the reading.

a. Ezra was very useful at this point, for he bore the totality of the heavenly and divine constitution and culture, and he was one through whom the people could be reconstituted with the word of God——vv. 1-2.

Neh 8:1 And all the people gathered as one man in the open area that was before the Water Gate. And they told Ezra the scribe to bring the book of the law of Moses, which Jehovah had commanded to Israel.

Neh 8:2 And Ezra the priest brought the law before the assembly, both men and women, and all who could hear with understanding, on the first day of the seventh month.

b. Ezra could help the people to know God not merely in a general way but according to what God had spoken——v. 8.

Neh 8:8 And they read in the book, in the law of God, interpreting and giving the sense, so that they understood the reading.

4. In order to reconstitute the people of God, there was the need to educate them with the word that comes out of the mouth of God and that expresses God——Psa. 119:2, 9, 105, 130, 140:

Psa 119:2 Blessed are those who keep His testimonies, / Who seek Him with all their heart.

Psa 119:9 With what should a young man keep his way pure? / By guarding it according to Your word.

Psa 119:105 Your word is a lamp to my feet / And a light to my path.

Psa 119:130 The opening of Your words gives light, / Imparting understanding to the simple.

Psa 119:140 Your word is very pure, / And Your servant loves it.

a. To reconstitute the people of God is to educate them by putting them into the word of God so that they may be saturated with the word——Col. 3:16.

Col 3:16 Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another with psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to God.

b. When the word of God works within us, the Spirit of God, who is God Himself, through the word spontaneously dispenses God's nature with God's element into our being; in this way we are reconstituted——2 Tim. 3:16-17.

提後 3:16 聖經都是神的呼出，對於教訓、督責、改正、在義上的教導，都是有益的，

提後 3:17 叫屬神的人得以完備，為着各樣的善工，裝備齊全。

5 藉着以斯拉的職事，以色列人（在豫表上）被重新構成，結果成為特別的國，就是聖別、分別歸神、彰顯神的國——賽四九 6，六十 1～3，亞四 2：

賽 49:6 祂說，你作我的僕人，使雅各眾支派復興，使以色列中得保全的歸回，尚為小事；我還要立你作外邦人的光，叫你施行我的救恩，直到地極。

賽 60:1 興起發光！因為你的光已經來到，耶和華的榮耀已經升起照耀你。

賽 60:2 看哪，黑暗要遮蓋大地，幽暗要遮蓋眾民；耶和華卻要升起照耀你，祂的榮耀要顯在你身上。

賽 60:3 列國要來就你的光，君王要來就你升起的光輝。

亞 4:2 他問我說，你看見甚麼？我說，我看見一個燈臺，全是金的，頂上有油碗；燈臺上有七燈，頂上的七燈各有七個管子；

a 他們被神的思想、神的考量、並神的一切所是灌輸，使他們成為神的複製。

b 藉着這種神聖的構成，人人都在生命和性情上成為神；結果，他們成為神聖的國，彰顯神聖的特性——彼前 2:9。

彼前 2:9 惟有你們是蒙揀選的族類，是君尊的祭司體系，是聖別的國度，是買來作產業的子民，要叫你們宣揚那召你們出黑暗、入祂奇妙之光者的美德；

c 被擄歸回的人，是個別的並團體的被重新構成，成為神的見證。

四 今天在主的恢復裏，我們需要許多以斯拉作潔淨的工作，用神聖的真理教育百姓，藉此構成他們，使他們成為神在地上的見證，祂團體的彰顯——提後 2:2，15，提前 3:15。

提後 2:2 你在許多見證人面前從我所聽見的，要託付那忠信、能教導別人的人。

提後 2:15 你當竭力將自己呈獻神前，得蒙稱許，作無愧的工人，正直的分解真理的話。

提前 3:15 倘若我耽延，你也可以知道在神的家中當怎樣行；這家就是活神的召會，真理的柱石和根基。

2 Tim 3:16 All Scripture is God-breathed and profitable for teaching, for conviction, for correction, for instruction in righteousness,

2 Tim 3:17 That the man of God may be complete, fully equipped for every good work.

5. As a result of being reconstituted through the ministry of Ezra, Israel (in type) became a particular nation, a nation sanctified and separated unto God, expressing God—Isa. 49:6; 60:1-3; Zech. 4:2:

Isa 49:6 He says, It is too small a thing that You would be My Servant / To raise up the tribes of Jacob / And bring back the preserved of Israel; / I will also set You as a light of the nations / That You may be My salvation unto the ends of the earth.

Isa 60:1 Arise! Shine! For your light has come, / And the glory of Jehovah has risen upon you.

Isa 60:2 For, behold, the darkness will cover the earth, / And deep darkness the peoples; / But Jehovah will rise upon you, / And His glory will be seen upon you.

Isa 60:3 And nations will come to your light, / And kings to the brightness of your rising.

Zech 4:2 And he said to me, What do you see? And I said, I see that there is a lampstand all of gold, with its bowl on top of it and its seven lamps upon it, with seven pipes for each of the lamps on top of it;

a. They were transfused with the thought of God, with the considerations of God, and with all that God is; this made them God's reproduction.

b. By this kind of divine constitution, everyone became God in life and in nature; as a result, they became a divine nation expressing the divine character—1 Pet. 2:9.

1 Pet 2:9 But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people acquired for a possession, so that you may tell out the virtues of Him who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light;

c. The returned captives were reconstituted personally and corporately to become God's testimony.

D. In the Lord's recovery today, we need Ezras to do a purifying work and to constitute God's people by educating them with the divine truths so that they may be God's testimony, His corporate expression, on earth—2 Tim. 2:2, 15; 1 Tim. 3:15.

2 Tim 2:2 And the things which you have heard from me through many witnesses, these commit to faithful men, who will be competent to teach others also.

2 Tim 2:15 Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, an unashamed workman, cutting straight the word of the truth.

1 Tim 3:15 But if I delay, I write that you may know how one ought to conduct himself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and base of the truth.

叁 尼希米記的重點是：耶路撒冷城同其城牆是城內神殿的守衛和保護：

一 重建神的殿，豫表神恢復墮落的召會；重建耶路撒冷的城牆，豫表神恢復祂的國；神建造祂的家（殿）和建造祂的國是並行的——太十六 18 ~ 19。

太 16:18 我還告訴你，你是彼得，我要把我的召會建造在這磐石上，陰間的門不能勝過她。

太 16:19 我要把諸天之國的鑰匙給你，凡你在地上捆綁的，必是在諸天之上已經捆綁的；凡你在地上釋放的，必是在諸天之上已經釋放的。

二 神的城乃是擴大、加強、並建造的召會，作為神在祂國裏作王管治的中心；至終，在神的經綸裏，神的家（殿）成為聖城新耶路撒冷，作神永遠的住處，並祂永遠之國的管治中心——啓二一 2 ~ 3，22，二二 3。

啓 21:2 我又看見聖城新耶路撒冷由神那裏從天而降，豫備好了，就如新婦妝飾整齊，等候丈夫。

啓 21:3 我聽見有大聲音從寶座出來，說，看哪，神的帳幕與人同在，祂要與人同住，他們要作祂的百姓，神要親自與他們同在，作他們的神。

啓 21:22 我未見城內有殿，因主神全能者和羔羊為城的殿。

啓 22:3 一切咒詛必不再有。在城裏有神和羔羊的寶座；祂的奴僕都要事奉祂，

三 當我們認識並享受基督作我們的生命，我們就有召會作神的家；我們若往前認識祂的元首身分，家就要擴大成為城，就是神的國——弗一 22 ~ 23，四 15，啓二二 1。

弗 1:22 將萬有服在祂的腳下，並使祂向着召會作萬有的頭；

弗 1:23 召會是祂的身體，是那在萬有中充滿萬有者的豐滿。

弗 4:15 惟在愛裏持守着真實，我們就得以在一切事上長到祂，就是元首基督裏面；

III. The crucial point in the book of Nehemiah is that the city of Jerusalem with its wall was a safeguard and protection for the house of God within the city:

A. The rebuilding of the house of God typifies God's recovery of the degraded church, and the rebuilding of the wall of the city of Jerusalem typifies God's recovery of His kingdom; God's building of His house and of His kingdom go together—Matt. 16:18-19.

Matt 16:18 And I also say to you that you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it.

Matt 16:19 I will give to you the keys of the kingdom of the heavens, and whatever you bind on the earth shall have been bound in the heavens, and whatever you loose on the earth shall have been loosed in the heavens.

B. The city of God is the enlarged, strengthened, and built-up church as the ruling center for God's reign in His kingdom; eventually, in God's economy the house of God becomes the holy city, the New Jerusalem, as God's eternal habitation and the ruling center of His eternal kingdom—Rev. 21:2-3, 22; 22:3.

Rev 21:2 And I saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.

Rev 21:3 And I heard a loud voice out of the throne, saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and He will tabernacle with them, and they will be His peoples, and God Himself will be with them and be their God.

Rev 21:22 And I saw no temple in it, for the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb are its temple.

Rev 22:3 And there will no longer be a curse. And the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and His slaves will serve Him;

C. When we realize and enjoy Christ as our life, we have the church as the house of God; if we go further and realize His headship, the house will be enlarged to be the city, the kingdom of God—Eph. 1:22-23; 4:15; Rev. 22:1.

Eph 1:22 And He subjected all things under His feet and gave Him to be Head over all things to the church,

Eph 1:23 Which is His Body, the fullness of the One who fills all in all.

Eph 4:15 But holding to truth in love, we may grow up into Him in all things, who is the Head, Christ,

啓 22:1 天使又指給我看在城內街道當中一道生命水的河，明亮如水晶，從神和羔羊的寶座流出來。

Rev 22:1 And he showed me a river of water of life, bright as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb in the middle of its street.

四 尼希米的進取給我們看見，今天在主的恢復裏需要有正確的進取：

D. Nehemiah's aggressiveness shows us the need for the proper aggressiveness in the Lord's recovery today:

1 摩押人和亞捫人的首領對尼希米為以色列人求好處，甚為惱怒；這些人原是羅得不純潔的擴增所生的後裔，他們恨惡並藐視以色列人——尼二 10，19，參結二五 3，8。

1. The leaders of the Moabites and Ammonites were greatly displeased about Nehemiah's seeking the good of the children of Israel; these descendants of the impure increase of Lot hated and despised the children of Israel—Neh. 2:10, 19; cf. Ezek. 25:3, 8.

尼 2:10 和倫人參巴拉，並作臣僕的亞捫人多比雅，聽見有人來為以色列人求好處，就甚惱怒。

Neh 2:10 And when Sanballat the Horonite and Tobiah the Ammonite servant heard of this, it displeased them greatly that a man had come seeking the good of the children of Israel.

尼 2:19 但和倫人參巴拉、作臣僕的亞捫人多比雅、和亞拉伯人基善聽見，就嗤笑我們，藐視我們，說，你們作的是甚麼事？你們要背叛王麼？

Neh 2:19 But when Sanballat the Horonite and Tobiah the Ammonite servant and Gessem the Arabian heard of it, they mocked us and despised us; and they said, What is this thing that you will do? Will you rebel against the king?

結 25:3 你要對亞捫人說，你們當聽主耶和華的話：主耶和華如此說，我的聖所被褻瀆，以色列地變荒涼，猶大家被遷徙離去；你對這些事竟說，阿哈！

Ezek 25:3 And you shall say to the children of Ammon, Hear the word of the Lord Jehovah: Thus says the Lord Jehovah, Because you said, Aha! against My sanctuary when it was desecrated, and against the land of Israel when it was desolated, and against the house of Judah when it went off into exile;

結 25:8 主耶和華如此說，因摩押人說，看哪，猶大家與列國無異，

Ezek 25:8 Thus says the Lord Jehovah, Because Moab has said, Look, the house of Judah is just like all the other nations!

2 對於這些反對者的嗤笑、藐視和凌辱，尼希米非常純潔而進取，並不膽怯——尼二 17～20，三 1～6，參徒四 29～31，帖前二 2，提後一 7～8。

2. In relation to the mocking, despising, and reproach of these opposers, Nehemiah was very pure and aggressive, not cowardly—Neh. 2:17-20; 3:1-6; cf. Acts 4:29-31; 1 Thes. 2:2; 2 Tim. 1:7-8.

尼 2:17 以後，我對他們說，我們所遭的禍患，耶路撒冷怎樣荒涼，城門被火焚燒，你們都看見了。來罷，我們重建耶路撒冷的城牆，免得再受凌辱。

Neh 2:17 Then I said to them, You see the bad state we are in, that Jerusalem lies in waste and its gates are burned with fire. Come and let us build up the wall of Jerusalem so that we will no longer be a reproach.

尼 2:18 我告訴他們，我神美善的手怎樣幫助我，也把王對我所說的話告訴他們。他們就說，我們起來建造罷；於是他們奮勇作這善工。

Neh 2:18 And I told them about the hand of my God, which was good upon me, and also about the king's words, which he had spoken to me. And they said, Let us rise up and build; and they strengthened their hands for the good work.

尼 2:19 但和倫人參巴拉、作臣僕的亞捫人多比雅、和亞拉伯人基善聽見，就嗤笑我們，藐視我們，說，你們作的是甚麼事？你們要背叛王麼？

Neh 2:19 But when Sanballat the Horonite and Tobiah the Ammonite servant and Gessem the Arabian heard of it, they mocked us and despised us; and they said, What is this thing that you will do? Will you rebel against the king?

尼 2:20 我回答他們說，天上的神必親自使我們亨通；所以我們作祂僕人的，要起來建造。你們卻在耶路撒冷無分、無權、無記念。

Neh 2:20 And I answered them and said to them, The God of heaven Himself will make us prosper; therefore we His servants will rise up and build. But you have no portion nor right nor memorial in Jerusalem.

尼 3:1 那時，大祭司以利亞實和他的弟兄眾祭司起來建造羊門，將這門分別為聖，安立門扇；又築城牆到哈米亞樓，將這樓分別為聖，又築城牆到哈楠業樓。

Neh 3:1 Then Eliashib the high priest rose up with his brothers the priests and built the Sheep Gate. They consecrated it and erected its doors; even as far as the Tower of the Hundred they consecrated it and as far as the Tower of Hananel.

尼 3:2 其旁是耶利哥人建造。其旁是音利的兒子撒刻建造。

Neh 3:2 And next to him the men of Jericho built. And next to them Zaccur the son of Imri built.

尼 3:3 哈西拿的子孫建造魚門：架設橫梁，安門扇、門插和門門。

Neh 3:3 And the sons of Hassenaah built the Fish Gate: They laid its beams and set up its doors, its bolts, and its bars.

尼 3:4 其旁是哈哥斯的孫子，烏利亞的兒子米利末修造。其旁是米示薩別的孫子，比利迦的兒子米書蘭修造。其旁是巴拿

Neh 3:4 And next to them Meremoth the son of Uriah, the son of Hakkoz made repairs. And next to them Meshullam the son of Berechiah, the son of Meshezabel made repairs. And next to them Zadok

的兒子撒督修造。

尼 3:5 其旁是提哥亞人修造；但是他們的貴胄不肯負軛服事他們的主。

尼 3:6 巴西亞的兒子耶何耶大與比所珉的兒子米書蘭修造古門：架設橫梁，安門扇、門插和門門。

徒 4:29 主阿，他們恐嚇我們，現在求你鑒察，並叫你的奴僕大放膽量，講說你的話，

徒 4:30 同時伸出你的手施行醫治，使神蹟奇事，藉着你聖僕耶穌的名行出來。

徒 4:31 祈求完了，聚會的地方震動，他們就都被聖靈充溢，放膽講說神的話。

帖前 2:2 我們從前在腓立比受苦害，又被凌辱，就如你們所知道的，然而還是在我們的神裏面放膽，在極大的爭戰中，對你們講說了神的福音。

提後 1:7 因為神賜給我們的，不是膽怯的靈，乃是能力、愛、並清明自守的靈。

提後 1:8 所以你不要以給我們的主作見證為恥，也不要以我這主的囚犯為恥；總要按神的能力，與福音同受苦難。

3 從神得着幫助的，乃是進取的人；使徒保羅像尼希米一樣，與神聯合，體認神在這聯合中的協助——徒二六 21 ~ 22。

徒 26:21 因這些事，猶太人在殿裏拿住我，想要殺我。

徒 26:22 然而我蒙神的幫助，直到今日還得站住，向尊卑老幼作見證，所講的，並不外乎眾申言者和摩西所說，必要發生的事，

4 尼希米的進取是他屬人行為的美德，表明我們天然的性能、才幹和美德必須經過基督的十字架，而被帶進復活裏，就是帶進作為三一神之終極完成的那靈裏，好在成就神經綸的事上對神有用。

5 尼希米不活在他天然的人裏，乃活在復活裏；他是神百姓中間帶頭之人的榜樣；他是進取的，（參尼二 1 ~ 8，）但他的進取伴隨着其他特徵：

尼 2:1 亞達薛西王二十年尼散月，有酒擺在王面前，我拿起酒來奉給王。我素來在他面前沒有愁容。

尼 2:2 王對我說，你既沒有病，為甚麼面帶愁容呢？這不是別的，必是你心中愁煩。於是我甚懼怕。

尼 2:3 我對王說，願王萬歲！我列祖墳墓所在的那城荒涼，城門被火焚燒，我豈能面無愁容呢？

尼 2:4 王問我說，你要求甚麼？於是我禱告天上的神。

the son of Baana made repairs.

Neh 3:5 And next to them the Tekoites made repairs, but their nobles would not put their necks to the service of their Lord.

Neh 3:6 And Joiada the son of Paseah and Meshullam the son of Besodeiah repaired the Old Gate: They laid its beams and set up its doors and its bolts and its bars.

Acts 4:29 And now, Lord, look upon their threatenings and grant Your slaves to speak Your word with all boldness,

Acts 4:30 While stretching out Your hand to heal, and that signs and wonders may take place through the name of Your holy Servant Jesus.

Acts 4:31 And when they had so besought, the place in which they were gathered was shaken, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak the word of God with boldness.

1 Thes 2:2 But having suffered previously and having been outrageously treated, even as you know, in Philippi, we were bold in our God to speak to you the gospel of God in much struggle.

2 Tim 1:7 For God has not given us a spirit of cowardice, but of power and of love and of sobermindedness.

2 Tim 1:8 Therefore do not be ashamed of the testimony of our Lord nor of me His prisoner; but suffer evil with the gospel according to the power of God;

3. It is the aggressive ones who receive help from God; like Nehemiah, the apostle Paul was allied with God and realized God's assistance in this alliance—Acts 26:21-22.

Acts 26:21 Because of these things certain Jews seized me while I was in the temple and tried to slay me.

Acts 26:22 Having therefore obtained the help which is from God, I have stood unto this day, testifying both to small and great, saying nothing apart from the things which both the prophets and Moses have said would take place,

4. Nehemiah's aggressiveness, as a virtue in his human conduct, shows that our natural capacity, ability, and virtues must pass through the cross of Christ and be brought into resurrection, into the Spirit as the consummation of the Triune God, to be useful to God in the accomplishing of His economy.

5. Nehemiah did not live in his natural man but in resurrection; he was a pattern of what a leader among God's people should be; he was aggressive (cf. Neh. 2:1-8), but his aggressiveness was accompanied by other characteristics:

Neh 2:1 Then in the month of Nisan, in the twentieth year of Artaxerxes the king, while wine was being set before him, I took up the wine and gave it to the king. Now I had never been sad in his presence.

Neh 2:2 And the king said to me, Why is your face sad, since you are not ill? This is nothing other than sadness of heart. Then I was greatly frightened.

Neh 2:3 And I said to the king, May the king live forever! Why should my face not be sad, when the city, the place of my fathers' graves, lies in waste and its gates are consumed with fire?

Neh 2:4 And the king said to me, What do you request? So I prayed to the God of heaven.

尼 2:5 我對王說，王若以為美，僕人若在王面前蒙恩惠，求王差遣我往猶大，到我列祖墳墓所在的城去，我好重新建造那城。
尼 2:6 那時王后坐在王的旁邊。王問我說，你去需時多久？幾時回來？王喜歡差遣我去，我也把日期告訴了王。
尼 2:7 我又對王說，王若以為美，請賜我詔書，通知大河以西的諸省長准我經過，直到我抵達猶大；
尼 2:8 又賜詔書，通知看守王園林的亞薩，使他給我木料，作屬殿管樓之門的橫梁，並供城牆和我要住的房屋使用。因我神美善的手幫助我，王就把我所求的賜給我。

a 尼希米在與神的關係上，是愛神也愛神在地上權益的人；這權益包括聖地（表徵基督）、聖殿（表徵召會）、和聖城（表徵神的國）——參提後三 1～5。

提後 3:1 但你要知道，末後的日子必有艱難的時期來到；
提後 3:2 因為那時人要成為愛自己者、愛錢財者、自誇者、狂傲的、毀謗者、違背父母的、忘恩負義的、不聖的、
提後 3:3 無親情的、不解怨的、好說讒言者、不能自約的、性情兇暴的、不愛良善者、
提後 3:4 賣主賣友者、鹵莽行事的、為高傲所蒙蔽的，寧願作愛宴樂者，不願作愛神者；
提後 3:5 有敬虔的外形，卻否認了敬虔的能力；這等人你要躲開。

b 尼希米是愛神的人，他在交通中禱告神、接觸神；為着城牆的重建，尼希米站在神的話上，並照着神的話禱告——尼一 1～11，二 4，四 4～5，9。

尼 1:1 哈迦利亞的兒子尼希米的言語如下：亞達薛西王二十年基斯流月，我在書珊京城；
尼 1:2 那時，有我一個弟兄哈拿尼，同着幾個人從猶大來。我問他們那些被擄歸回、剩下逃脫的猶大人和耶路撒冷的光景。
尼 1:3 他們對我說，那些被擄歸回剩下的餘民在猶大省遭大難，受凌辱；並且耶路撒冷的城牆被拆毀，城門被火焚燒。
尼 1:4 我聽見這些話，就坐下哭泣，悲哀幾日，在天上的神面前禁食禱告，
尼 1:5 說，耶和華天上的神，大而可畏的神阿，你向愛你、守你誠命的人守約並施慈愛；
尼 1:6 願你側耳睜眼，垂聽你僕人的禱告，就是我現今晝夜在你面前為你眾僕人以色列人所禱告的，承認我們以色列人向你所犯的罪。我與我父家都有罪了；
尼 1:7 我們向你所行的甚是敗壞，沒有遵守你吩咐你僕人摩西的誠命、律例和典章。
尼 1:8 求你記念你所吩咐你僕人摩西的話，說，你們若不忠信，我

Neh 2:5 And I said to the king, If it please the king and if your servant has found favor before you, that you would send me to Judah to the city of my fathers' graves that I may rebuild it.
Neh 2:6 And the king said to me (and the queen was sitting beside him), How long will your going be, and when will you return? So it pleased the king to send me, and I gave him a date.
Neh 2:7 Then I said to the king, If it please the king, let letters be given to me for the governors beyond the River, so that they will let me pass through until I come to Judah;
Neh 2:8 And a letter to Asaph, the keeper of the Park, which belongs to the king, so that he would give me timber to make beams for the gates of the palace that belongs to the house and for the wall of the city and for the house that I will be entering. And the king gave these to me according to the good hand of my God, which was upon me.

a. In his relationship with God he was one who loved God and also loved God's interests on the earth, including the Holy Land (signifying Christ), the holy temple (signifying the church), and the holy city (signifying the kingdom of God)—cf. 2 Tim. 3:1-5.

2 Tim 3:1 But know this, that in the last days difficult times will come.
2 Tim 3:2 For men will be lovers of self, lovers of money, boasters, arrogant, revilers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy,
2 Tim 3:3 Without natural affection, implacable, slanderers, without self-control, savage, not lovers of good,
2 Tim 3:4 Traitors, reckless, blinded with pride, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God,
2 Tim 3:5 Having an outward form of godliness, though denying its power; from these also turn away.

b. As a person who loved God, Nehemiah prayed to God to contact Him in fellowship; for the rebuilding of the wall, Nehemiah stood on God's word and prayed according to it—Neh. 1:1-11; 2:4; 4:4-5, 9.

Neh 1:1 The words of Nehemiah the son of Hachaliah. Now in the month Chislev, in the twentieth year, while I was in Susa the capital,
Neh 1:2 Hanani, one of my brothers, came, he and some men from Judah; and I asked them about the Jews who had escaped, who were left from the captivity, and about Jerusalem.
Neh 1:3 And they said to me, The remnant who are left from the captivity there in the province are in an exceedingly bad state and reproach, and the wall of Jerusalem is broken down and its gates have been burned with fire.
Neh 1:4 And when I heard these words, I sat down and wept, and I mourned for some days; and I fasted and prayed before the God of heaven,
Neh 1:5 And said, I beseech You, O Jehovah the God of heaven, the great and awesome God, who keeps covenant and lovingkindness with those who love Him and keep His commandments:
Neh 1:6 Let Your ear be attentive and Your eyes open to hear the prayer of Your servant, which I pray before You now day and night, concerning the children of Israel, Your servants, while I confess the sins of the children of Israel that we have sinned against You. Indeed, I and the house of my father have sinned;
Neh 1:7 We have been most corrupt toward You and have not kept the commandments and the statutes and the ordinances that You commanded Moses Your servant.
Neh 1:8 Remember now the word that You commanded Moses Your servant, saying, If you are

就把你們分散在諸民中；

尼 1:9 但你們若歸向我，謹守遵行我的誠命，你們被趕散的人，就是在天涯，我也必從那裏將他們招聚回來，帶到我所選擇給我名居住的地方。

尼 1:10 這些都是你的僕人、你的百姓，就是你用你的大能，和你大力的手所救贖的。

尼 1:11 主阿，求你側耳聽你僕人的禱告，和喜愛敬畏你名眾僕人的禱告，使你僕人今日亨通，使他在王面前蒙憐恤。我是作王司酒的。

尼 2:4 王問我說，你要求甚麼？於是我禱告天上的神。

尼 4:4 我們的神阿，求你垂聽，因為我們被藐視；求你使他們的凌辱歸在他們頭上，使他們在被擄到之地成為掠物。

尼 4:5 不要遮掩他們的罪孽，不要使他們的罪從你面前塗抹，因為他們在建造的人面前惹動你的怒氣。

尼 4:9 然而，我們禱告我們的神，又因他們的緣故，設立看守的人，晝夜防備。

c 尼希米信靠神，甚至與神成爲一；結果，他成爲神的代表—五 19，參林後五 20。

尼 5:19 我的神阿，求你記念我爲這百姓所行的一切事，以善待我。

林後 5:20 所以我們爲基督作了大使，就好像神藉我們勸你們一樣；我們替基督求你們：要與神和好。

d 尼希米在與百姓的關係上，全然不自私，不爲自己尋求甚麼，也不顧自己的利益；他始終樂意爲百姓和國家，犧牲他的所有—尼四 18，五 10，14～19，十三 27～30。

尼 4:18 建造的人都腰間佩刀建造，吹角的人在我旁邊。

尼 5:10 我和我的弟兄與僕人也將銀錢糧食借給百姓；我們大家都放棄收取利息罷。

尼 5:14 自從王派我作猶大地的省長，就是從亞達薛西王二十年，直到三十二年，共十二年之久，我與我弟兄都沒有喫省長的俸祿。

尼 5:15 在我以前的省長加重百姓的擔子，除了徵收銀子四十舍客勒以外，又索要糧食和酒，就是他們的僕人也轄制百姓；但我因敬畏神，不這樣行。

尼 5:16 並且我堅定持續作城牆的工，並沒有置買田地；我的僕人也都聚集在那裏作工。

尼 5:17 除了從四圍外邦到我們這裏來的人以外，有猶大平民和官長一百五十人，在我席上喫飯。

尼 5:18 每日豫備的有一隻公牛，六隻肥羊，又爲我豫備一些飛禽；每十日一次，多豫備各樣的酒。雖然如此，我並不要省長的俸祿，因爲百姓服役甚重。

尼 5:19 我的神阿，求你記念我爲這百姓所行的一切事，以善待我。

unfaithful, I will scatter you among the peoples;

Neh 1:9 But if you return to Me and keep My commandments and perform them, though your outcasts are under the ends of heaven, from there I will gather them and bring them to the place where I have chosen to cause My name to dwell.

Neh 1:10 Now these are Your servants and Your people, whom You have redeemed by Your great power and by Your strong hand.

Neh 1:11 I beseech You, O Lord, let Your ear be attentive to the prayer of Your servant and to the prayer of Your servants, who take delight in fearing Your name; and cause Your servant to prosper today, and grant him to find compassion before this man. Now I was cupbearer to the king.

Neh 2:4 And the king said to me, What do you request? So I prayed to the God of heaven.

Neh 4:4 Hear, O our God, for we are despised; and turn their reproach upon their own head, and give them as spoil in the land of captivity;

Neh 4:5 And do not cover their iniquity and do not let their sin be blotted out before You, for they made provocations before the builders.

Neh 4:9 But we prayed to our God, and because of them we set a watch against them day and night.

c. Nehemiah trusted in God and even became one with God; as a result, he became the representative of God—5:19; cf. 2 Cor. 5:20.

Neh 5:19 Remember me, O my God, for good, all that I have done for this people.

2 Cor 5:20 On behalf of Christ then we are ambassadors, as God entreats you through us; we beseech you on behalf of Christ, Be reconciled to God.

d. In his relationship with the people, Nehemiah was altogether unselfish, without any self-seeking or self-interest; he was always willing to sacrifice what he had for the people and for the nation—Neh. 4:18; 5:10, 14-19; 13:27-30.

Neh 4:18 And as for the builders, each had his sword strapped to his side, and so they built; and he who sounded the trumpet was beside me.

Neh 5:10 And even I, my brothers, and my servants lend them money and grain. Let us now abandon such taking of interest.

Neh 5:14 Moreover from the time that the king appointed me to be governor in the land of Judah, from the twentieth year even to the thirty-second year of Artaxerxes the king, twelve years, I and my brothers did not eat the food appointed for the governor.

Neh 5:15 But the former governors, who were before me, laid heavy burdens on the people and took from them food and wine, besides forty shekels of silver; even their servants tyrannized the people. But I did not do so, because of the fear of God.

Neh 5:16 And I also applied myself to the work on this wall. And we did not acquire fields, and all my servants were gathered there for the work.

Neh 5:17 And there were at my table one hundred fifty men, Jews and rulers, besides those who came to us from the nations that surrounded us.

Neh 5:18 And what was prepared for one day was one ox and six choice sheep; also fowl was prepared for me, as well as all kinds of wine in abundance every ten days. Yet for this I did not demand the food appointed for the governor, for the service was heavy upon this people.

Neh 5:19 Remember me, O my God, for good, all that I have done for this people.

尼 13:27 難道我們要聽從你們，行這一切大惡，娶外邦女子為妻，行事不忠信得罪我們的神麼？
尼 13:28 大祭司以利亞實的孫子，耶何耶大的一個兒子，是和倫人參巴拉的女婿，我就從我這裏把他趕出去。
尼 13:29 我的神阿，求你記念他們的罪；因為他們玷污了祭司的職任，並玷污了有關祭司職任及利未人的約。
尼 13:30 這樣，我潔淨他們，使他們離絕一切外邦的事物。我派定祭司和利未人的職守，使他們各盡其職。

Neh 13:27 Shall we then listen to you and do all this great evil by acting unfaithfully against our God in marrying foreign women?
Neh 13:28 And one of the sons of Joiada the son of Eliashib the high priest was the son-in-law of Sanballat the Horonite, so I chased him away from me.
Neh 13:29 Remember them, O my God; for they have defiled the priesthood and the covenant of the priesthood and of the Levites.
Neh 13:30 Thus I cleansed them from everything foreign. And I appointed duties for the priests and the Levites, each in his work,

五 聖城高大的城牆是為着把我們分別歸神、保護神的權益、並彰顯神：

E. The great and high wall of the holy city is for our separation unto God, the protection of God's interests, and the expression of God:

1 城牆的功用是將城從神之外的一切事物中分別、聖別出來歸神，因而使這城成為聖城—啓二一 2 上，10 下，彼前一 15～16，林後六 14～七 1：

1. The function of the wall of the city is to separate, to sanctify, the city unto God from all things other than God, thus making the city the holy city—Rev. 21:2a, 10b; 1 Pet. 1:15-16; 2 Cor. 6:14—7:1:

啓 21:2 上 我又看見聖城新耶路撒冷由神那裏從天而降，…
啓 21:10 下…將那由神那裏從天而降的聖城耶路撒冷指給我。
彼前 1:15 卻要照着那呼召你們的聖者，在一切行事為人上，也成為聖的；
彼前 1:16 因為經上記着：『你們要聖別，因為我是聖別的。』
林後 6:14 你們跟不信的，不要不配的同負一轆，因為義和不法有甚麼合夥？光對黑暗有甚麼交通？
林後 6:15 基督對彼列有甚麼和諧？信的同不信的有甚麼同分？

林後 6:16 神的殿同偶像有甚麼一致？因為我們是活神的殿，就如神曾說，『我要在他們中間居住，在他們中間行走；我要作他們的神，他們要作我的子民。』
林後 6:17 所以，『主說，你們務要從他們中間出來，得以分別，不要沾不潔之物，我就收納你們。』
林後 6:18 『我要作你們的父，你們要作我的兒子和女兒。這是全能的主說的。』
林後 7:1 所以親愛的，我們既有這些應許，就當潔淨自己，除去肉身和靈一切的玷污，敬畏神，以成全聖別。

Rev 21:2a And I saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, ...
Rev 21:10b ...and showed me the holy city, Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God,
1 Pet 1:15 But according to the Holy One who called you, you yourselves also be holy in all your manner of life;
1 Pet 1:16 Because it is written, "You shall be holy because I am holy."
2 Cor 6:14 Do not become dissimilarly yoked with unbelievers. For what partnership do righteousness and lawlessness have? Or what fellowship does light have with darkness?
2 Cor 6:15 And what concord does Christ have with Belial? Or what part does a believer have with an unbeliever?
2 Cor 6:16 And what agreement does the temple of God have with idols? For we are the temple of the living God, even as God said, "I will dwell among them and walk among them; and I will be their God, and they will be My people."
2 Cor 6:17 Therefore "come out from their midst and be separated, says the Lord, and do not touch what is unclean; and I will welcome you";
2 Cor 6:18 And I will be a Father to you, and you will be sons and daughters to Me, says the Lord Almighty.
2 Cor 7:1 Therefore since we have these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all defilement of flesh and of spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.

a 聖城新耶路撒冷的城牆是用碧玉造的，城牆的根基是用各樣寶石裝飾的—啓二一 18～20：

a. The wall of the holy city, the New Jerusalem, is built with jasper, and the foundations of the wall of the city are adorned with every precious stone—Rev. 21:18-20:

啓 21:18 牆是用碧玉造的，城是純金的，如同明淨的玻璃。
啓 21:19 城牆的根基是用各樣寶石裝飾的。第一根基是碧玉，第二是藍寶石，第三是瑪瑙，第四是綠寶石，
啓 21:20 第五是紅瑪瑙，第六是紅寶石，第七是黃璧璽，第八是水蒼玉，第九是黃玉，第十是翡翠，第十一是紫瑪瑙，第十二是紫晶。

Rev 21:18 And the building work of its wall was jasper; and the city was pure gold, like clear glass.
Rev 21:19 The foundations of the wall of the city were adorned with every precious stone: the first foundation was jasper; the second, sapphire; the third, chalcedony; the fourth, emerald;
Rev 21:20 The fifth, sardonyx; the sixth, sardius; the seventh, chrysolite; the eighth, beryl; the ninth, topaz; the tenth, chrysopease; the eleventh, jacinth; the twelfth, amethyst.

(一) 我們藉着在基督這寶貴的石頭裏，在神聖生命裏長大，（彼前二4，）就被變化成爲寶石。（林前三12上。）

彼前 2:4 你們來到祂這爲人所棄絕，卻爲神所揀選所寶貴的活石跟前，
林前 3:12 上 然而，若有人用金、銀、寶石，…在這根基上建造，

(二) 寶石指明變化；我們越被變化，就越被分別——羅十二2。

羅 12:2 不要模倣這世代，反要藉着心思的更新而變化，叫你們驗證何爲神那美好、可喜悅、並純全的旨意。

b 當那靈變化的工作在神聖的生命中進行時，我們這些變化過的寶石，就被建造在一起，成爲完整的牆及其根基——林前三6～12上。

林前 3:6 我栽種了，亞波羅澆灌了，惟有神叫他生長。

林前 3:7 可見栽種的算不得甚麼，澆灌的也算不得甚麼，只在那叫他生長的神。

林前 3:8 栽種的和澆灌的都是一樣，但將來各人要照自己的勞苦，得自己的賞賜。

林前 3:9 因爲我們是神的同工，你們是神的耕地，神的建築。

林前 3:10 我照神所給我的恩典，好像一個智慧的工頭，立好了根基，有別人在上面建造，只是各人要謹慎怎樣在上面建造。

林前 3:11 因爲除了那已經立好的根基，就是耶穌基督以外，沒有人能立別的根基。

林前 3:12 上 然而，若有人用金、銀、寶石，…在這根基上建造，

2 城牆的功用是保護神的神性豐富在地上的權益，以及基督終極的成就；爲着這樣的保護，我們必須從神的話釋放出純淨的真理——參約十七17。

約 17:17 求你用真理聖別他們，你的話就是真理。

3 城牆的功用是彰顯神；神顯出來的樣子像碧玉，而碧玉牆表徵在永世裏作神團體彰顯的整座城，有神顯出來的樣子——啓四3，二一18。

啓 4:3 那位坐着的，顯出來的樣子好像碧玉和紅寶石，又有虹圍着寶座，顯出來的樣子好像綠寶石。

啓 21:18 牆是用碧玉造的，城是純金的，如同明淨的玻璃。

1) By our growth in the divine life in Christ as the precious stone (1 Pet. 2:4), we are transformed into precious stones (1 Cor. 3:12a).

1 Pet 2:4 Coming to Him, a living stone, rejected by men but with God chosen and precious,
1 Cor 3:12a But if anyone builds upon the foundation gold, silver, precious stones, ...

2) Precious stones indicate transformation; the more we are transformed, the more we are separated—Rom. 12:2.

Rom 12:2 And do not be fashioned according to this age, but be transformed by the renewing of the mind that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and well pleasing and perfect.

b. While the transformation work of the Spirit is going on in the divine life, we, the transformed precious stones, are being built up together to be one complete wall with its foundations—1 Cor. 3:6-12a.

1 Cor 3:6 I planted, Apollos watered, but God caused the growth.

1 Cor 3:7 So then neither is he who plants anything nor he who waters, but God who causes the growth.

1 Cor 3:8 Now he who plants and he who waters are one, but each will receive his own reward according to his own labor.

1 Cor 3:9 For we are God's fellow workers; you are God's cultivated land, God's building.

1 Cor 3:10 According to the grace of God given to me, as a wise master builder I have laid a foundation, and another builds upon it. But let each man take heed how he builds upon it.

1 Cor 3:11 For another foundation no one is able to lay besides that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ.

1 Cor 3:12a But if anyone builds upon the foundation gold, silver, precious stones, ...

2. The function of the wall of the city is to protect the interests of the riches of God's divinity on the earth and the attainments of Christ's consummation; we must put out the pure truth from the Word for this protection—cf. John 17:17.

John 17:17 Sanctify them in the truth; Your word is truth.

3. The function of the wall of the city is to express God; God's appearance is like jasper, and the jasper wall signifies that the whole city, as the corporate expression of God in eternity, bears the appearance of God—Rev. 4:3; 21:18.

Rev 4:3 And He who was sitting was like a jasper stone and a sardius in appearance, and there was a rainbow around the throne like an emerald in appearance.

Rev 21:18 And the building work of its wall was jasper; and the city was pure gold, like clear glass.