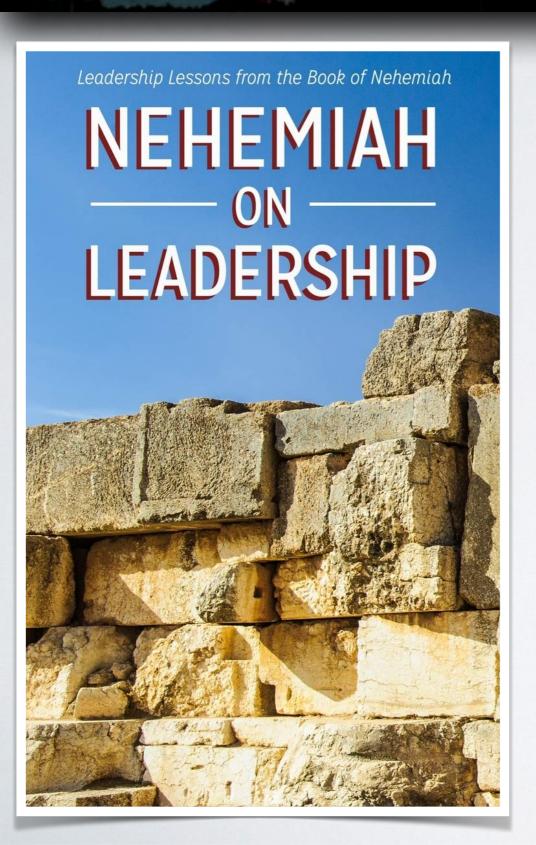
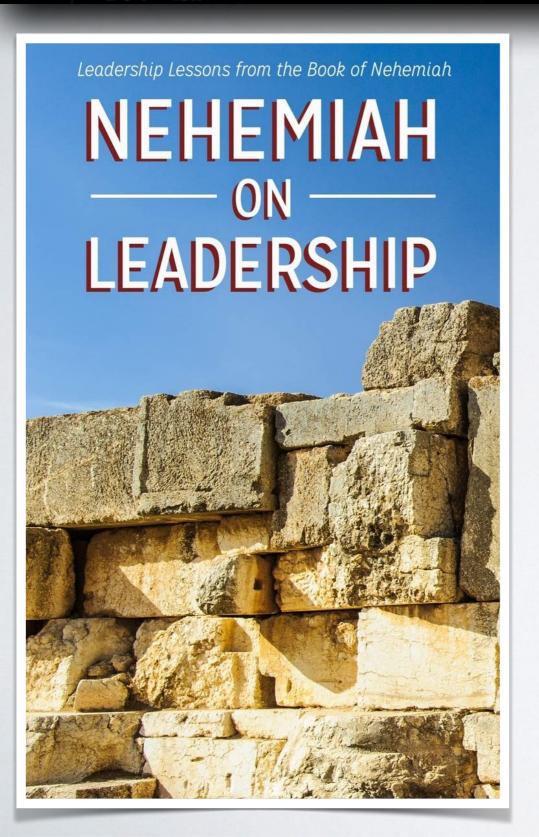


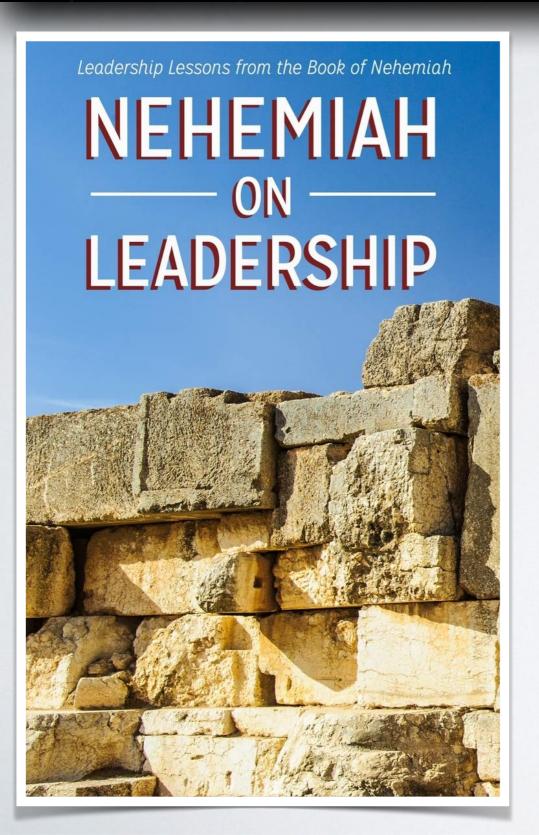
¹¹ So I contended with the rulers, and said, "Why is the house of God forsaken?" And I gathered them together and set them in their place.



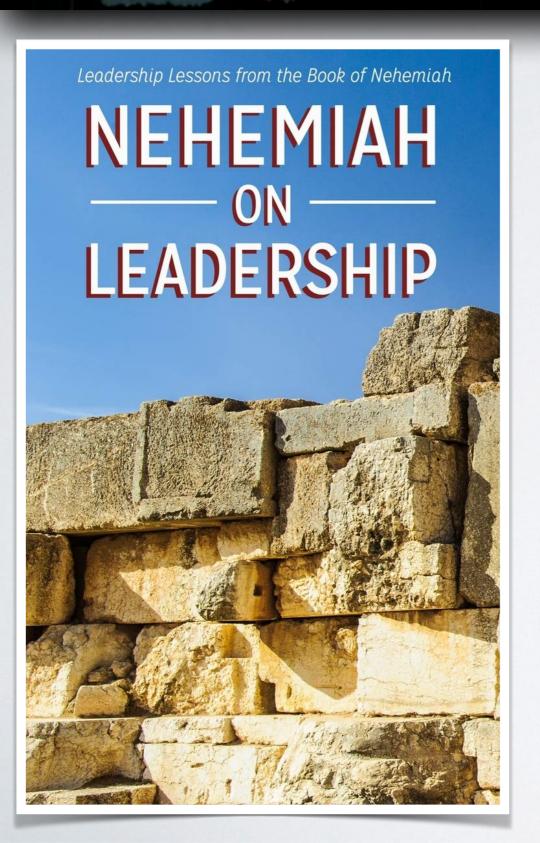
- The first 7 chapters of the book of Nehemiah deal with his return to the ancient site, and the rebuilding of the walls of the city.
 - Chapters 8 12 deal with the reading of the law, and the efforts to restore a faithful observance of it.



- The leaders signed a document promising before the Lord & the people not to be like the prophets, priests, and kings who had forsaken the Lord which led to their captivity (Neh. 9:38; 10:14-29, 35, 37, 39).
- They said specifically, "We will not neglect the house of our God" (10:39b).



- In Neh 13:4ff, we learn Nehemiah had to go back to Artaxerxes in Babylon for a time, but was allowed to return to Jerusalem where he found some serious problems (13:7ff).
- The house of God was in disarray and defiled due to neglect:
 - They were giving aide to, and facilitating, God's enemies (13:4-9).
 - The Levites had not been given their rightful portions (13:10-22).
 - The people had defiled themselves with Pagans (13:23-31).



Nehemiah 13:11 (NKJV)

11 So I contended with the rulers, and said, "Why is the house of God forsaken?" And I gathered them together and set them in their place.

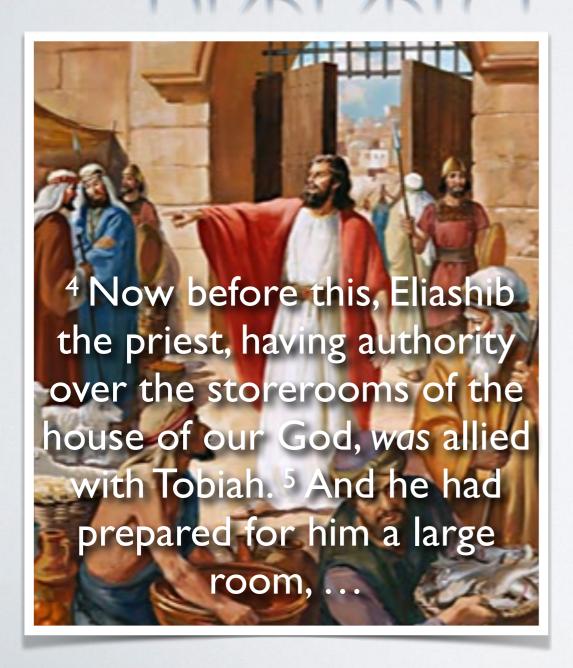
Nehemiah 13:11 (NKJV)

¹¹ So I contended with the rulers, and said, "Why is the house of God forsaken?" And I gathered them together and set them in their place.



The question put forth by Nehemiah is one which needs to be asked today: "Why is the house of God forsaken?"

DISRESPECT FOR JOD'S HOUSE



Residency given to the enemy (13:4)

- Eliashib, the high priest in Judah (cf. 3:1, 20; 13:28), had prepared a room in the temple for Tobiah the Ammonite (2:10; 4:3; 6:1; also cf 13:1-3).
- Tobiah was an enemy of Nehemiah along with Sanballat (2:10–19;4:3,7; 6:1,12,17,19)

DISRESPECT FOR JOD'S HOUSE

. where previously they had stored the grain offerings, the frankincense, the articles, the tithes of grain, the new wine and oil, which were commanded to be given to the Levites and singers and gatekeepers, and the offerings for the priests.

Holy Things Replaced With Enemies Things (13:5)

The room he occupied had been one of the temple storerooms (13:4–5). There Tobiah could oppose God's work while posing to assist it!

DISRESPECT FOR JOD'S HOUSE

and I came to Jerusalem and discovered the evil... ⁸ And it grieved me bitterly; therefore I threw all the household goods of Tobiah out of the room. ⁹ Then I commanded them to cleanse the rooms; and I brought back into them the articles of the house of God, with the grain offering and the frankincense.

Holy Things Replaced With Enemies Things (13:5)

- The room he occupied had been one of the temple storerooms (13:4–5). There Tobiah could oppose God's work while posing to assist it!
- In order to make room for Tobiah the things commanded by God had to be removed. (vs 8,9)

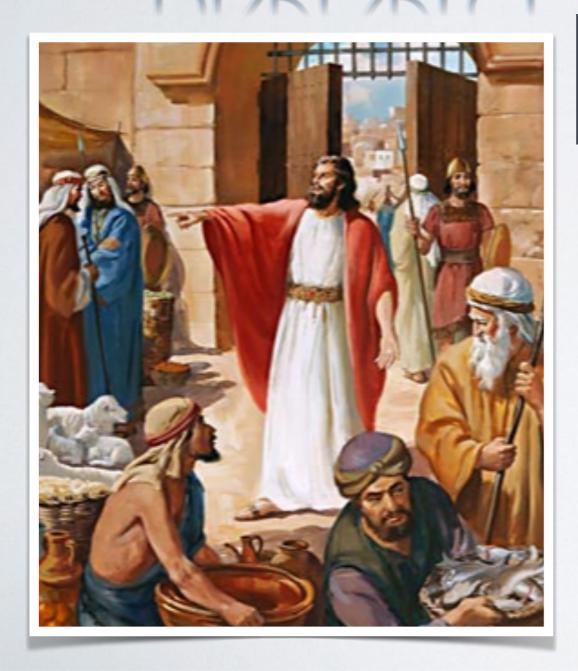
DISRESPECT FOR JOD'S HOUSE

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The temple needed to be "cleansed" (13:6-9)

- Required proper attitude (7,8; Ezr. 9:3, 4; 10:1; Ps. 69:9; 119:139)
- Required ALL things "common" cast out (vs. 8; 2 Ch. 29:5, 15–19; Mar. 11:15–17; Jno. 2:13–17; 1 Cor 5; 11:21,22,34; Lev 10:1-4).
- Required the temple articles and offerings that belonged there be restored. (9; 10:37; 12:47)

DISRESPECT FOR JOD'S HOUSE



MAKING APPLICATIONS

- Worldly & common things have been given residency in MANY churches claiming to belong to Christ (1 Cor 11:34)
- While taking up residency under the guise of "expedients" - they are in fact undermining & destroying God's people & work. (Mt 13:22; I Tim 5:16; 2 Cor. 10:4)



Musical Instruments

PRAISE TEAMS

Medical Missionaries

Construction Missionaries

No wonder It's Running Hot

Unlimited Benevolence

Youth Ministries

Gymnasiums

Day Care

Kindergarten

"Fellowship" Halls

Recreational Centers

Schools

Orphan Homes

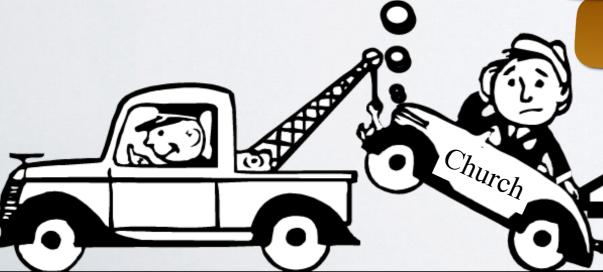


WORSHIP LDRS Ball Teams

Bus Ministries

Divorcee ministries

Elderly Ministries



Hospitals

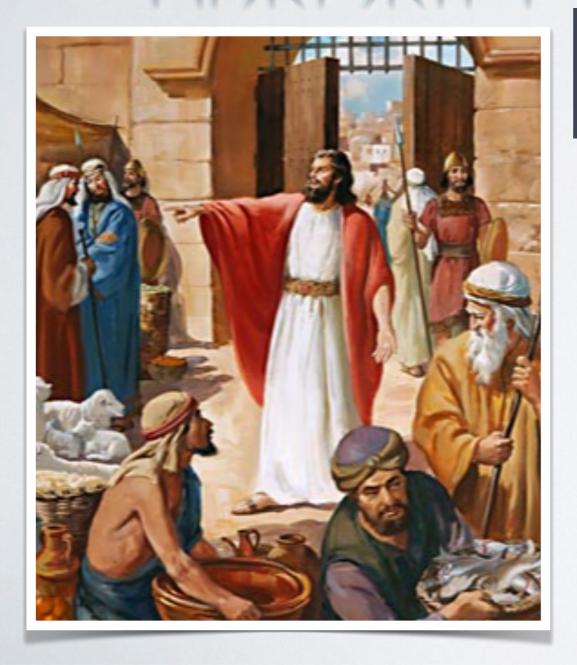
DISRESPECT FOR JOD'S HOUSE

The church's organizational design is sufficient to accomplish its instituted worship and work!

When we add to the worship and work the Lord gave the church to do, we are forced to alter its organization!



DISRESPECT FOR JOD'S HOUSE



MAKING APPLICATIONS

We need Nehemiah's & our Lord's zeal towards God's house! (John 2:13-17)

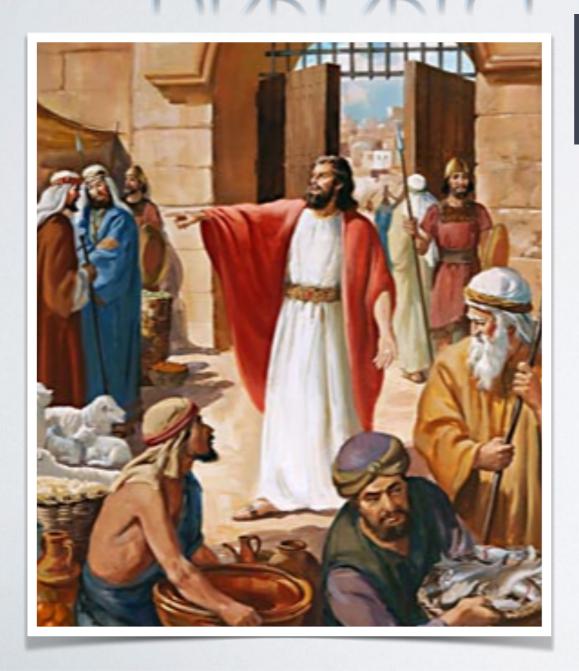
John 2:15-16 (NKJV)

15 When He had made a whip of cords, He drove them all out of the temple, with the sheep and the oxen, and poured out the changers' money and overturned the tables.

16 And He said to those who sold doves,

"Take these things away! Do not make My Father's house a house of merchandise!"

DISRESPECT FOR JOD'S HOUSE



MAKING APPLICATIONS

- We need Nehemiah's & our Lord's zeal towards God's house! (John 2:13-17)
- The church needs to be cleansed from all things common, (human institutions, carnal activities, secular substitutes, social & political involvement, doctrines of men), (2 Cor. 6:14-7:1)
- The church's spiritual worship & work restored! (I Tim 3:15; Jn 4:24)

WHY "THE HOUSE OF GOD" OPSAKEII?

BECAUSE OF:

DISRESPECT FOR GOD'S HOUSE MATERIALISTIC PRIORITIES IEARIS CORRUPTED BY THE WORLD

WE MUST DEVELOP A DEEP & ABIDING

RESPECT FOR GOD'S HOUSE

EXPOSETHE ENEMIES of GOD'S HOUSE!

CAST OUT COMMONTHINGS!

RESTORE N.T. WORSHIP & WORK

Nehemiah 13:4-31

1 Timothy 3:15 (NKJV)

but if I am delayed, *I write* so that you may know how you ought to conduct yourself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth.

LET US NEVER BE QUILTY "THE HOUSE OF Nehemiah 13:4-31

¹¹ So I contended with the rulers, and said, "Why is the house of God forsaken?" And I gathered them together and set them in their place.

WIII "THE HOUSE OF (191)" ORSAINTI)

Charts by Don McClain

Preached March 6, 2022

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Haggai 1:2-9 (NKJV)

² "Thus speaks the Lord of hosts, saying: 'This people says, "The time has not come, the time that the Lord's house should be built." " Then the word of the Lord came by Haggai the prophet, saying, 4 "Is it time for you yourselves to dwell in your paneled houses, and this temple to lie in ruins?" 5 Now therefore, thus says the Lord of hosts: "Consider your ways!

Haggai 1:2-9 (NKJV)

6 "You have sown much, and bring in little; You eat, but do not have enough; You drink, but you are not filled with drink; You clothe yourselves, but no one is warm; And he who earns wages, Earns wages to put into a bag with holes." 7 Thus says the Lord of hosts: "Consider your ways! 8 Go up to the mountains and bring wood and build the temple, that I may take pleasure in it and be glorified," says the Lord. 9 "You looked for much, but indeed it came to little; and when you brought it home, I blew it away. Why?" says the Lord of hosts. "Because of My house that is in ruins, while every one of you runs to

his own house.