SERMON NOTES

Title: The Often-Overlooked

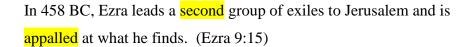
Benefits of Prayer

Text: Nehemiah 1:4-7

Topic: Prayer

Teacher: Pastor Barry

Time: 1/29/23. File Under: Christian Living



13 years later, a group from Jerusalem arrives in Persia with news the walls are still broken down. Nehemiah is appalled. (Nehemiah 1:4-7)

Nehemiah travels to Jerusalem and divides the people into small groups to begin building the wall.

They immediately face opposition but they persevere and "...the wall was completed in fifty-two days."

Nehemiah's story is about the power of prayer and the often overlooked benefits of prayer

PRAYER GIVES US **VISION** TO SEE THE WILL OF GOD.

Their prayers are fervent and full of repentance.

The height of our spiritual renewal will be determined by the depth of our personal repentance.

PRAYER GIVES US WISDOM TO UNDERSTAND THE WILL OF GOD.

Nehemiah wanted to know God's will.

Wisdom enables us to understand God's will.

PRAYER GIVES US **COURAGE**... to believe God's Word.

We will encounter opposition. But caution: Choose your battles wisely. Sometimes you speak up for the cause. Sometimes you patiently wait for the right moment.

Nehemiah stayed on task. He increased the number of guards and pressed on saying, "...Don't be afraid of them. Remember the Lord, who is great and awesome..." Nehemiah 4:13

"Dear friends, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that has come on you...If you are insulted because of the name of Christ, you are blessed, for the Spirit of glory and of God rests on you." I Peter 4:12-14

There are folks out there trying to keep you from "building the wall". No worries, we have a great and awesome God.