

Revival Ready Series: Book of Nehemiah | “Bold Moves” Chapter 2 | Kyle Reno**Nehemiah 2:1 (ESV)**

In the month of Nisan, in the twentieth year of King Artaxerxes, when wine was before him, I took up the wine and gave it to the king. Now I had not been sad in his presence.

BE WILLING TO CARRY THE BURDEN UNTIL SOMETHING CHANGES**Nehemiah 2:2 (ESV)**

² And the king said to me, “Why is your face sad, seeing you are not sick? This is nothing but sadness of the heart.” Then I was very much afraid.

- And his response.... “Then I was very much afraid...”

EVEN WHEN YOU’RE AFRAID STILL ACT IN FAITH

Courage is not the absence of fear, but rather the assessment that something else is more important than fear.” — Franklin D. Roosevelt

Nehemiah 2:3 (ESV)

³ I said to the king, “Let the king live forever! Why should not my face be sad, when the city, the place of my fathers' graves, lies in ruins, and its gates have been destroyed by fire?”

Nehemiah 2:4 (ESV)

⁴ Then the king said to me, “What are you requesting?” So I prayed to the God of heaven.”

WHEN PRAYER HAS BECOME AN ESTABLISHED CONVERSATION WITH GOD, YOU CAN PICK IT UP AT ANYTIME**Nehemiah 2:5-8 (ESV)**

⁵ And I said to the king, “If it pleases the king, and if your servant has found favor in your sight, that you send me to Judah, to the city of my fathers' graves, that I may rebuild it.” ⁶ And the king said to me (the queen sitting beside him), “How long will you be gone, and when will you return?” So it pleased the king to

send me when I had given him a time. ⁷ And I said to the king, "If it pleases the king, let letters be given me to the governors of the province Beyond the River, that they may let me pass through until I come to Judah, ⁸ and a letter to Asaph, the keeper of the king's forest, that he may give me timber to make beams for the gates of the fortress of the temple, and for the wall of the city, and for the house that I shall occupy."

LET'S BE A PEOPLE THAT PRAY AND PLAN ANTICIPATING GOD'S ACTIVITY

Nehemiah 2:8b (ESV)

And the king granted me what I asked, for the good hand of my God was upon me.

GOD'S FAVOR CAN'T BE EARNED BUT WE CAN BE POSITIONED

Nehemiah 2:9-10 (ESV)

⁹ Then I came to the governors of the province Beyond the River and gave them the king's letters. Now the king had sent with me officers of the army and horsemen. ¹⁰ But when Sanballat the Horonite and Tobiah the Ammonite servant heard this, it displeased them greatly that someone had come to seek the welfare of the people of Israel.

EXPECT OPPOSITION

Nehemiah 2:11-16 (ESV)

¹¹ So I went to Jerusalem and was there three days. ¹² Then I arose in the night, I and a few men with me. And I told no one what my God had put into my heart to do for Jerusalem. There was no animal with me but the one on which I rode.

¹³ I went out by night by the Valley Gate to the Dragon Spring and to the Dung Gate, and I inspected the walls of Jerusalem that were broken down and its gates that had been destroyed by fire. ¹⁴ Then I went on to the Fountain Gate and to the King's Pool, but there was no room for the animal that was under me to pass. ¹⁵ Then I went up in the night by the valley and inspected the wall, and I turned back and entered by the Valley Gate, and so returned. ¹⁶ And the officials did not know where I had gone or what I was doing, and I had not yet told the Jews, the priests, the nobles, the officials, and the rest who were to do the work.

WE NEED MOMENTS OF PERSPECTIVE TO HELP DISCERN OUR PART**Nehemiah 2:17 (ESV)**

¹⁷ Then I said to them, “You see the trouble we are in, how Jerusalem lies in ruins with its gates burned. Come, let us build the wall of Jerusalem, that we may no longer suffer derision.”

GOD OFTEN USES A LEADER TO CALL FOR LABORERS**Nehemiah 2:18 (ESV)**

¹⁸ And I told them of the hand of my God that had been upon me for good, and also of the words that the king had spoken to me. And they said, “Let us rise up and build.” So they strengthened their hands for the good work.

WHEN GOD’S GOOD HAND IS UPON OUR GOOD WORK ANYTHING IS POSSIBLE**Nehemiah 2:19-20 (ESV)**

¹⁹ But when Sanballat the Horonite and Tobiah the Ammonite servant and Geshem the Arab heard of it, they jeered at us and despised us and said, “What is this thing that you are doing? Are you rebelling against the king?”

²⁰ Then I replied to them, “The God of heaven will make us prosper, and we his servants will arise and build, but you have no portion or right or claim in Jerusalem.”

WHEN THE ENEMY GETS MOUTHY YOU KEEP MOVING

You may ask...Reno, why is learning from Nehemiah so important....

- Because hundreds of years later, when Jerusalem is rebuilt, Someone else is going to look over Jerusalem and be broken for the city.
- Someone else is going to come to Jerusalem riding a donkey.
- Someone else is going to move from brokenness in prayer to brokenness in action.
- This was important because Jesus was coming.