Date: June 5, 2005 Text: Nehemiah 2 - 12

Topic: Worship Series: none Msg. #: 05-18

Unexpected Victories



Praising Our Sovereign God for Unforeseen Blessings

1	See	(2:8: 6	:16 \
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Application Questions

These questions are provided for your further study and application of today's message. Thoughtfully writing out the answers to these questions will help to drive home the point of today's message. It is also helpful to discuss your answers with others. This can take place with friends, your family, accountability partners, or ministry groups within the church.

1. Sometimes we miss seeing God's involvement, simply because we are not looking. Nehemiah and his team were careful to make the "God connection" amid the success of their task. After taking a few moments to ponder God's involvement in your life over the past few months, make a list of "God connections" that demonstrate the reality of Nehemiah 2:8 & 2:18.

Write out a prayer of thanksgiving for God's gracious involvement in your life individually and our lives corporately.

2. What will you do to purposefully and regularly give God the credit he deserves for the good things he is doing in our lives?

Read **Psalm 98**. What do you learn about worship and thanksgiving from this Psalm? How will it aid you in giving thanks to God this week?

3. Experiencing the unexpected victory of rebuilding the walls of Jerusalem in fifty-two days was certainly intended to be a means to a greater end. The long and more important "people work" in Israel had just begun. Write out a personal commitment (expanding on the one below) that acknowledges the challenge of the road that lies ahead, and reflects your resolve to meet that challenge head on.

Sovereign God, I commit myself to be the Christian you want me to be. You have been good to us in launching this new church, and I want to be thoughtful in responding to your kindness. I am today, by your grace, committing myself afresh to knowing you better, loving you more, and serving you faithfully. Accomplish your will in my life in and through this body of believers.



We are reading through the Bible in a year! Here is this week's schedule.

June 5th

2Kgs.6-7 & Rom.8 June 6th

2Kgs.8-9 & Rom.9

June 7th

2Kgs. 10-11 & Rom. 10 June 8th

2Kgs.12-13 & Rom.11 June 9th

2Kgs.14-15 & Rom.12 June 10th

2Kgs.16-17 & Rom.13

June 11th 2Kgs. 18-19 & Rom. 14

2Kgs.18-19 & Rom.14 June 12th

2Kgs.20-21 & Rom.15

Here are some resources which may help you understand and apply the truths presented in this week's sermon.

Adams, Jay. From Forgiven to Forgiving. Calvary Press, 1997.

Bridges, Jerry. I Exalt You, O God: Encountering His Greatness in Your Private Worship. Waterbrook Press, 2001.

Chapell, Bryan. Holiness by Grace: Delighting in the Joy That Is Our Strength. Crossway Books, 2001.

DeMoss, Nancy. The Attitude of Gratitude: Developing a Thankful Heart. Life Action Ministries, 2000.

Lutz, Susan. Thankfulness: Even When It Hurts. P & R, 2002.

MacDonald, James. Lord, Change My Attitude (Before It's Too Late). Moody Press, 2001.

Pao, David W. Thanksgiving: An Investigation of a Pauline Theme. InterVarsity Press, 2003.

Rainey, Barbara. Thanksgiving: A Time to Remember. Crossway Books, 2003.

Spurgeon, Charles. *Power in Praising God.* Whitaker House, 1998.

Swindoll, Charles. Hope Again. Word Publishing, 1996.

Tozer, A. W. "Thankfulness as a Moral Therapeutic," in *The Root of Righteousness*. Christian Publications, 1955.