



Mighty in the Word

For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; But unto us which are saved it is the power of God" (I Cor. 1.18).

Edifying the Body of Christ (Eph. 4.10-16)

The Wise Still Seek Him

*of the
Lord
Jesus Christ*

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I Cannot Come Down!

As I read the Book of Nehemiah, I have questions:

- 1) How old was Nehemiah?
- 2) Wherein lay his strength to go on?
- 3) How had his vision of the work, the ministry that was upon him remained strong after all his experiences, coming out of Babylon?
- 4) How had his fortitude strengthen even when the enemy came against him?
- 5) And, yet, there were those who stood with him in the rebuilding of the wall who knew he had heard from the Lord; wherein lay their strength to share in his vision for the rebuilding of the wall?
- 6) How is it that they were all together in their desire to see Jerusalem rebuilt; they were not bickering over how the work was to be accomplished or who had what job or who was in charge. They were working as one for the Lord God Almighty because they had the same vision that came from the Lord God Almighty in Christ Jesus. Their hearts were focused upon the Lord. What a miracle!!
- 7) How is it that the Children of Israel trusted Nehemiah as having heard from the Lord, did not question him when the enemy wanted Nehemiah to meet with them – uh to better understand each other – as the enemy has said in times past in this nation, and people have turned from the Lord saying, "We need to meet together to better understand everyone's gods and way of life," which most agreed to do and weakened this nation and the "churches" and those standing on the pulpitum. (See Webster's 1828 Dictionary – pulpitum.)

I am reminded of Numbers 16 where the Children of Israel, themselves, came against the one whom the Lord God had chosen to lead them: Moses. They began resenting anyone telling them what to do for they each thought of themselves, in their rebellious state, believing they were equal to the task given to Moses. They rose up against Moses and Aaron, and said unto them,

[Ye take] too much upon you, seeing all the congregation [are] holy, every one of them, and the LORD [is] among them: wherefore then lift ye up yourselves above the congregation of the LORD? (Num 16.3 ff)

I have heard this same statement in my time of ministry when the people have blatantly said, "We do not need anyone giving forth the Word of God in Christ Jesus as there is not anything we cannot do ourselves in leading the people; 'we each one can do' anything and everything."

desire that others come to know Jesus Christ, the only Begotten Son of God. We will go forth with the love of God in Christ Jesus overflowing from deep within, like an artesian well – that cannot be stopped. And, so will our hunger for more and more of Jesus take us to the Holy Word of God, hungering for the Truth of the Word – not what I want it to mean. It will cause me to desire to read the Word of God and seek Truth as never before. I will not come down.

Oh, "Turn your eyes upon Jesus." Walk with Him. Seek more and more of Him. Live for Him. "Look full into His wonderful face, and the things of earth will grow strangely dim . . ."

Are you walking with the Lord daily? Are you asking for the old paths, the godly way, the way of the Lord, and walking on the straight and narrow path that leads to life, life eternally with the Lord Jesus Christ. Are you walking on that straight and narrow path of which the Holy Bible makes clear "few there be that find it" (Mt 7.14; Lk 13.24)? Or are you "coming down" to walk the broad way that leads to destruction?

Pray for the strength and courage to walk with the Lord – when the world, when Satan, when the "church-goers" and their leaders call you to "come down" to where they are, to live the life they live. Pray for discernment to know the voice of the Lord calling you to, "Come up higher," the voice of the Lord calling you to walk the way of holiness – come what may.

The joy of the Lord is your strength. (Neh 8.10).

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Come apart and rest (Mark 6.31).

Then a lay meeting came about on a state wide level where the laity were showing how they could teach the Bible which went something like this. Question: what does this verse mean to you? One of the answers, "My bible says . . ." Another, "My bible says . . ." When the leader was asked, what is the meaning of this meeting – when this is not what the scripture says – when going back to either the Hebrew or the Greek – and just plain understanding the English language?

The response was: What each person believes their bible says is what it says; that is what is important: what it means to each person as they see it. It is important that each person be encouraged to think for himself/herself and to be accepted for what each believes. It is about what it means today – so studying is not needed.

Let me give you an example of what the leader was saying. The word *acknowledge* in both the Hebrew and Greek means "to know." The word *confess* is to "admit or declare one's self guilty . . ." It is to stand in need of a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, knowing we cannot walk a life of holiness unless we walk in His might, His love, His ways. It is He Who gives us strength to walk the straight and narrow road – and few there be who enter (Mt 7.14).

Lk 12:8 Also I say unto you, Whosoever shall **confess** me before men, him shall the Son of man also **confess** before the angels of God:

Lk 12:9 But he that denieth me before men shall be denied before the angels of God (KJV)

Lk 12:8 I can guarantee that the Son of Man will **acknowledge** in front of God's angels every person who **acknowledges** him in front of others.

Lk 12:9 But God's angels will be told that I don't know those people who tell others that they don't know me (GW / ISV / CEV / MSG / and others).

Lk 13:3 I tell you, Nay: but, except ye **repent**, ye shall all likewise perish (KJV).

Lk 13:3 No! I can guarantee that they weren't. But if you don't turn to God and **change** the way you think and act, then you, too, will all die. (GW / BBE / CEV / MSG and other versions)

Luke 13.3 in the above version is in no way a work of the Holy Spirit in one's life; an individual person does not have the power to make a change in their life, their way of life in the heart. It is the Lord that does a work in us when we repent. We are dealing with the soul, the spirit, the heart – **not** mind over matter.

I tell you, Nay: **but, except ye repent**, ye shall all likewise perish (Lk 13.3).

The Word of God is giving forth the work of the Holy Spirit when we **confess** we are sinners standing in need of the mercy, grace, forgiveness, love of the Lord Jesus Christ, He Who died on the Cross of Calvary for our sins and rose victoriously over sin, hell, and the grave – that we might surrender our lives to Him and walk with Him in holiness and righteousness, living for Him all through life's journey. It is **not** a work that we can do on our own.

Oh, there are those who are living goodly lives and all seems so right to them. Know there is a difference in a goodly life and a **godly** life lived for the Lord Jesus Christ. Oh, how deceptive Satan is as he has taught many to believe in themselves and to see their goodliness believing the Lord Jesus Christ is blessing them as they walk in their own willful way (Jn 8.44). The sad part of this is that those standing on the pulpitum today and for past generations are culpable for this teaching (Ez 3.12-21; 33).

There are those who insist they must speak the language of the people though the people's language may be very limited and lacking in understanding of the words they use. How many times do I hear some say they have to walk with those they "invite to church" in order to get to know them before mentioning the word "church" to them, never getting around to even mentioning Jesus Christ. They are ashamed of the Lord and cannot confess Him as their Lord and Savior because He is not – and they are ashamed of Him (Mk 8.38; Lk 9.36). They believe they have to talk like the world as well as live like them, and walk their walk. What an excuse for not leading people to Jesus Christ! Their lives are about a "church" – not Jesus Christ. Many are ashamed of Jesus Christ and have chosen a jesus in their lives, but not Jesus Christ Who is the only begotten Son of the the Lord God Almighty. You cannot introduce someone to a person you have never met and do not know – yourself.

"I cannot come down" means I cannot come down in my spirit; I cannot walk with the enemy; I cannot use the language of the people nor walk with them in their own willful ways. I cannot participate in the enemy's life. I cannot respond to the enemy's call, "Come . . .let us take counsel together" (Neh 6.8).

Nehemiah understood as he chose not to meet with the enemy who was trying to bring him down, trying to distract him from the work of the Lord God Almighty. And, **note** those who listened to the enemy, and said to Nehemiah, "... Let us meet together in the house of the Lord . . ." (Neh 6.10). Out of their fear of the enemy, Shemaiah tried to get the people of the Lord God Almighty to meet in the house of God to hide.

Nehemiah had great discernment from the Lord God Almighty and also great love for the Lord God in Christ Jesus as he chose not to walk with the enemy nor talk with the enemy, as he chose not to listen to those who wanted to go to the temple out of fear. He knew this was not of the Lord – just because the meeting was planned to be in a *church*.. Nehemiah did not want to walk with the enemy, but chose the life of holiness unto the Lord His God, the only living God.

A life of holiness is a life surrendered to the Lord God, hearts that are stayed upon the Lord, our thoughts, our actions, our words. Holiness unto the Lord is a life lived for the Lord Jesus Christ, a life of joy and peace that comes from the Lord when we walk with Him each step of the way. It is saying "I cannot come down."

Many believe they have to study other religions, get to know what they believe, then invite them to their "church." The "churches" are about goodliness not Jesus Christ.

When I fell in love with my late husband, I did not go around to get to know other men so that I could understand them. I was in love with my husband and my talk was about my husband, not others. I wanted people to get to know my husband, his love for Jesus Christ, his life focused on the Lord Jesus Christ. I did not go around asking to get to know anyone's husband or any man – even after my husband went home to be with the Lord Jesus Christ.

Many want to read and study religions of the world, and they know not the Holy Word of God, the Holy Bible – have no clue what it says or means. Then when trying to read about the religions of the world, they begin saying what they read was from the Bible and the teaching is from the Bible – as they know not the Word of the Lord. Love for Christ Jesus will cause us to keep our eyes, our heart, stayed upon Him, and we will