


1965

"For the People had a Mind to Work" sermon notes

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"FOR THE PEOPLE HAD A MIND TO WORK".
(Neh.4:1-6)

This no new task. But to restore that which had once been destroyed.

That we might fully appreciate. Rebuilding
Why were they ever torn down? Why build?

(Lev.26) (Deut.28)

Three Prophecies-----

Magnificent promises-frightful warnings

a. A blessing for obedience.

b. A curse for dis-obedience.

c. ---read (Lev.26:40-46) 1490 B.C.

Israel ---Desire for a King.

The Kings brought about division of People
One Israel -the other Judah.

The captivity of Judah was accomplished in four installments

No. 1.

(2 Chron 36:5) King Jehoiakim --600 B.C.

Nebuchadnezzar was King of Babylon.

vs.5" Did that which was evil in the sight of the Lord his God."

(Dan. 1) Daniel also carried Babylon Temple treasures -gold, silver, etc...

No.2.

(2 Kings 24:9) Jehoiachin

He did that-----according to all that his father had done.. 10,000 princes.
chiefs

No. 3

(2 Kings 24:19) Zedekiah --he did evil...
Battle lasted 1 1/2 years... burned
Kings house --Lords house--Wall of
City broken down -- worship services
destroyed --(utensils)

Zedekiah taken captive--Sons slw before
his eyes--- eyes put out--(Ezek. 12:12,13
"die in Babylon-never see the it."

No. 4

(Jer. 52:30) Babylon came again
740 prisoners -----4600 persons..
only very poor left--mind vineyards.

20 years of war --suffering --Jer. destroyed
1000 years under special Providence God.
Outcasts--under frown God--in Bondage....

Even in captivity the influence of the
faithful is felt--Daniel--Esther the Queen
Ezra --Jeremiah--Nehemiah.....

Cyrus , King of Persia conquered Babylon
Same year authorized return Jews...Jer.
70 years of bondage pass--another 70 yr

142 years a prophecy(Jer. 50:4-5 --20)
Babylon long sence abomination earth
(Rev.17:5)

By the Grace of God Israel Restore

a. Seeking people--

b. Pentant people..

d. Pardoned people.....

Text: (Neh. 4:6)

Note this was not a new work.. rebuild.

Doing that which had been done before...

a. Of old in peace-wealth-joy- the Temple
an Kings house -walls of the city.

b. Now-laboured sore beset-savage taunting
foes about every side...

"What do these feeble Jews do?"

in number--in eyes enemies--resources.

"Will they fortify themselves"

"Will they sacrifice"

"Will they make an end in a day"

"Will they revive the stones out of the
heaps of the rubbish which are burned?"

"If a fox go up--wall come down."

This hard to withstand:

Men are apt to yield to mockery!

We cannot endure ridicule easily!

Devil realizes this--uses weapon often

derision -jeers-sneers--sarcasm is found
a tool for all who would work evil.....

This People Had Leadership:

Nehemiah was a powerful leader.

Neh. I:4) wept-mourned-fasted-prayed...

Neh. 2)

1. God heard his prayer. (Mt. 5:4)

2. Neh. arrived in Jerusalem

view his position-saw need -laid plan...

3. He revealed them to the people.
vs. 18-- read..
vs. 20-- -----Chap.(4:4)kept work

No business-no work that can rise above
leaders:.....
Prayer unto God---knowing the need..
laying well the plans---trust in God.
(I Cor. 15:58)

I believe --Nehemiah must have believed

"So build we the wall, and all the wall was
joined together unto the half thereof :
for the people had a mind to work."(4:6)

A Mind to work:
***** set their minds to it.
(heads) (hearts)
Babylon was gone---but Moabites -Ammonites
Ashdodites -Abrabians--Samarians----
(Neh.6:15) 52 days --
20 years to destroy--142 after.

Knew the task... here was the Work (God)
They prayed :(Neh.4:9)
"Neverthe less we made our prayer un-
-to God, and set a watch against them
day and night, because of them"...

defeat impossible-Divine protection
watch of people--nothing ever found better.
Have no doubts:
(Lk.12:29)
"Seek ye not what ye shall eat, or what
ye shall drink-neither -doubtful mind

All having same mind :(I Cor.I:10) 15:58)

The People Had a Mind to Work:

Most every task has its difficulties-----
sometimes very discouraging.....

Opposition bad enough (with-out)(with-in)
Discouragment of doubtful friends.

(Judah said) (Neh.4:10)

Co-operation is essential:---unity...

Cheerfulness:

Some think function is critic.

People have mind speak-not work..

(Neh.2:18)

"Let us rise up and build .."

Success:

If leadership is essential--it is..

Fellowship is also essential.....

(2 Cor.9:3) there is work to be done.

(Gal. 4.19)

"My little children, of whom I
travail in birth again until Christ be
formed in you." (birth pains)

"Until a mind and life in complete harmony
with the mind and life of Christ shall
have been formed in you." (Thayer)

Another way of saying: If Gods' people
dont' do Gods' work--it will not be done.

Our Leaders : mourn--weep--pray--plan...
have the vision of Moses.....

Except we follow as Paul says:

"do all things with out murmuring and
disputing" (Phil.2:14)

"Rejoice in the Lord always: and again
I say, Rejoice." (Phil.4:4)

"Rejoice evermore". (I Thess 5:16)

That is easy to say:---never any trouble?

Paul said this: ever had any wealth-
lost it ; always on march ; shipwreck ;
put in prison ; whipping post ; lost all
things---for Christ... said rejoice...

Example : -----(Ac.2:41-47)(8:4)

We thank God -growth Church-faith men.

If there be a reason --lack of warmth;
love ; and prosperity in Lords' work-----
-----it is the people-----

We Have A Tremendous Motivating Power:

(Neh.2:20)(4:4)

(I Cor.15:58)(I Tim.1:12) (Pas.27:13-14)

"I had fainted, unless I had believed
to see the goodness of the Lord in the
land of the living. Wait on the Lord:
be of good courage, He shall strenthen
thine heart: wait, I say, on the Lord."

THE People Had A Mind To Work:

They wouldn't stop working :

(Neh.6)

Come let us meet together....(vs.3)

"I am doing a great work,

So that I cannot come down: *16:31*

Why should the work cease,

Whilst I leave it, to come down
to you.....?

(John 9:4) night cometh....

pleasure will be over..

families & friends will not be here all

world will pass away.....

----no opportunity to work, (God)

2 Cor 1:10

(I Cor. 15:58)

Rev 20:14

The Walls Joined Together:

Completed in 52 days (Neh.6:15)

Completed in face of opposition...

(James 4:14)

Hard Work & Sacrifice will Strengthen

(Neh.2:18)

"I told them of the hand of my God which
was good upon me."

(4:6)

So builded we the wall----because
the people had a mind to work."

(I7-----23)

They were Mocked ----Fought against:

Prayer ---- Faith --& organization
and work-----(-Jas.2:26)

When the job was done the taunts cease
(Luke. 14:28-30)