

GOD'S PROCESS OF RESTORING HOPE

Nehemiah 1, page 383

- I. GOD USES PROBLEMS TO GIVE US A VISION FOR THE FUTURE (Nehemiah 1:1-3).
 - A. Nehemiah in Persia received news of the disgraceful condition of the walls of Jerusalem (1:1-3).
 - B. Nehemiah was cupbearer to Artaxerxes, king of Persia (1:11b).
 - God places His people in positions for His good purposes.
- II. EFFECTIVE PRAYER BEGINS WITH HUMILITY (Nehemiah 1:4-10).
 - A. Nehemiah prayed with an attitude of worship and submission (1:4-7).
 - Effective prayer is God-focused and others-focused (1:4).
 - Effective prayer acknowledges God's greatness (1:5).
 - Effective prayer acknowledges dependence on God (1:6a).
 - Effective prayer takes responsibility for sin (1:6b-7).
 - B. I can freely ask of God when I ask with His priorities (1:8-11).
 - Our prayers must align with God's promises (8-10; Deuteronomy 30:1-4; Philippians 1:6).

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- Our prayers must serve God's glory (11).