

The Church Deserves...

Neh. 4.9-16

Intro:

The church of our Lord is always in need of confident, complete and competent individuals who are committed to the cause of God. The church deserves every one to be people of strength, understanding and moral courage. What are we doing individually and collectively to ensure 9th & Main's longevity, faithfulness and spiritual success? The narrative in Nehemiah 4.9-16 will actually help us in these things as we strive to be the congregation who desires to seek and save the lost and deserves to have all at their best to the glory of God. Are building the walls and gates of moral strength, character and courage for today and the generation to come? Does the church deserve this?

Discussion:

- I. Some Positive Points from **Nehemiah 3.1-4.23**
 - A. Repairs Made by the People and Opposition to Further Work (Chapt. 3.1-4.3).
 - B. Prayers to God and Executing the Plan (4.4-9).
 - C. The Enemies, The Positioning and The Battlecry (10-14).
 - D. Our God will Fight For Us (15-20).
 - E. Nehemiah Needed All Involved (21-23).

- II. What the Church at **9th & Main** can Learn!
 - A. We will have enemies at times and that's fine (4.1-3).
 - B. We need to cast all of our cares upon God immediately (4.4-5).
 - C. We can actually work together if we put our minds to it (4.6).
 - D. We must watch out for one another and protect one another (4.9).
 - E. We need to fight for our families and stand against the forces of evil (4.13-14).
 - F. We must see the value of working and fighting at the same time (15-16).

- III. 5 Things The Church Deserves...***Every Member Believing the Truth About...***
 - A. ***Being Confident!***
 1. The Lord Jesus is with us (Matt. 28.18-20).
 2. How God is for us when we are doing His will (Rom. 8.31).
 3. That God is greater than any issue we will face trusting Him (1 Jn. 4.4).
 4. That our lives are truly living sacrifices unto God (Rom. 12.1-2).

 - B. ***God Giving Us Confidence!***
 1. Confidence ***begins*** with God working in Us (Phil. 1.6).
 2. As Moses gave Joshua confidence, ***leaders*** must as well (Deut. 31.22-23).

3. God gave Joshua confidence, we must allow God to encourage us (Josh. 1.1-8). 1 Sam. 30.6; Acts 20.32
4. Israel gave Joshua confidence, the church must encourage one another (Josh. 1.16-18).

C. ***God Seeing the Confidence in Us! (Notice Hebrews 6.9-12)***

1. By the spiritual labors in the Lord we are doing for Him and others.
2. Our full assurance of hope we have towards Him to the end.
3. That we are not sluggish or lazy, if this is indeed the case.
4. Us following the examples of faith before us (1 Cor. 11.1; Eph. 5.1).

D. ***Remaining Confident Through Sufferings!***

1. God's people suffered from their enemies, yet they prevailed (**Neh. 4.15**).
2. Difficult times may cause weariness, but keep going/pursuing (**Jud. 8.4**).
3. Regardless of the difficulty (***fill in the blank***) we're not destroyed (**2 Cor. 8.1-4**).
4. Even a limited understanding of the scriptures will help us see the way out if we believe (**1 Cor. 10.13**).

E. ***Not Casting Away Your Confidence! (Heb. 10.35-39)***

1. God needs everyone to remain focused and faithful to Him.
2. He has no pleasure in the one who turns their back on Him.
3. We need to have the mentality of not leaving God for any reason.
4. We must have the attitude of Peter, "*to whom shall we go...*".

Conclusion:

The church at 9th & Main needs all of us to be steadfast, immovable and always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing our labors are not in vain in the Lord. Let's do our share in fighting the good fight of faith and laying hold of eternal life. Finally, let's keep our focus and resolve intact at all costs. The church deserves the best you it can have, strive to give it please.