

Shore Up the Walls

PRAYING THROUGH NEHEMIAH

by Dineen Miller

In August 2013 I kept hearing “shore up the walls.” The Holy Spirit led me to read the book of Nehemiah. As I read, specific pieces of Scripture jumped out at me. I began to make a list, praying also to understand what God was showing me. This process has taken nearly two weeks as I prayed for understanding, clarity and timing.

In the book of Nehemiah, the walls were for protection, to bring unity and restore the purpose and place of the Israelites as God’s people. The walls were to establish boundaries and for protection. Good walls! God wants us to be ready and strong, my friends. God is going to use us in crucial ways to bring many to Christ. As the SUMites we have a unique skill set and God is going to use it, but we have to be ready first. We have to repair, rebuild and “shore up” those broken and weak places in our faith, our beliefs and our marriages.

God wants us to be intentional as we stand strong and firm, and rebuild and repair. Then we are strong in Him and protected as He calls us to where He wants us to serve. It’s hard to serve Him confidently when we are vulnerable to the enemies attacks, and one way I have found that enemy works is to bring such chaos into our lives that we even our prayer lives begin to feel chaotic and ineffective. THAT is what we are re-establishing!

My friends, I pray this blesses and encourages you to keep praying and BELIEVE that God is acting upon your prayers. Know that He is, because one of His promises is that whatever we ask in His will, we will receive.

This is the confidence which we have before Him, that, if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us. And if we know that He hears us in whatever we ask, we know that we have the requests which we have asked from Him. — 1 John 5:14-15

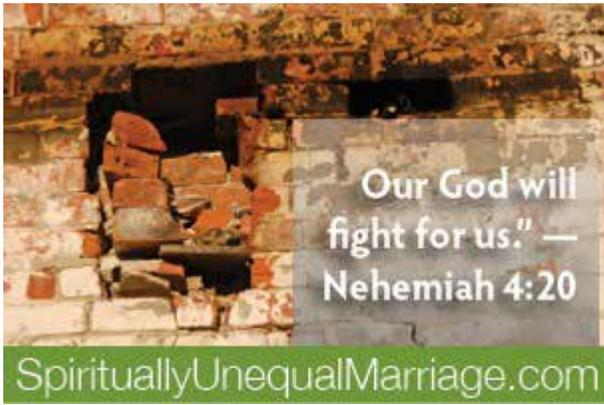
As I prayed over the Scriptures, this is what the Holy Spirit told me: God sees the crumbling walls of our marriages. The enemy squats at the broken gates taking glee at his destruction. But the hand of The Lord God Almighty is upon us. His anger is great against the enemy for he has attacked that which is dear to the King’s heart.

God is calling us to shore up the walls of our marriages and our lives. New territory awaits us, but first we must rebuild and restore the walls and gates as they did in Nehemiah. This is part of God’s preparation that I’ve spoken of in the past. We are being strengthened for what’s coming next. And my friends, it is going to be glorious and beyond our expectations. For some it will be the salvation of loved ones, for others new anointings and clear callings to serve God in new ways. Take note of any new desires or passions you find yourself thinking and dreaming about. He is placing these in our hearts as indicators of where He wants to take us.

The following are pieces of Nehemiah that I felt the Holy Spirit telling me to highlight. In between are prayers. Pray even beyond the words here and let the Holy Spirit guide you and release His words into you. As you walk through these Scriptures and prayers take note of any area that rings true. I firmly believe the Spirit will guide you to see those specific areas that need prayers for restoration. You may even feel led to fast for those places too. Any place where things like resentment, unforgiveness, unbelief, or sin have been allowed to grow are open places in our walls of faith that the enemy is able to enter.

Your prayers may simply be to pray for protection over your marriage more regularly or to take a step of faith that God is showing you. Ask God for these insights. I have every confidence that He will show you specific places to pray about. Get a journal and write down whatever impressions and promises you receive, because you will want to go back and reread them in the future.





Then the king said to me, “**What would you request?**” So I prayed to the God of heaven. — Nehemiah 2:4

(Now is the time to ask God for the deepest desires of your heart.)

Lord, we petition You for our marriages and our unbelievers. Bring restoration to our marriages and belief to those who don't believe. Shore up the walls of our marriages with Your great compassion and our prayers. Abba, we ask that You not give the enemy access to our marriages and our families as we rebuild. Hear the desires of our heart and bring them into full clarity and alignment with Your perfect and good plans for us. Release in us new gifts, new provisions, more revelations and more wisdom!

and a letter to Asaph the keeper of the king's forest, that he may give me timber to make beams for the gates of the fortress which is by the temple, for the wall of the city and for the house to which I will go.” **And the king granted them to me because the good hand of my God was on me.** — Nehemiah 2:8

Abba, thank You for Your favor. We ask humbly for more that we would walk in this great favor and new anointing in our marriages and our lives. We pray that the evidence of Your favor would be so great that our families will be able to see it and that everywhere we go, even strangers will look at us and see Your presence upon us.

Next to him Shallum the son of Hallohesh, the official of half the district of Jerusalem, made repairs, **he and his daughters.** — Nehemiah 3:12

Lord Jesus, bring purpose and faith even to our children and show them how they are part of the rebuilding. We pray for our adult children as well, that the walls of their marriages be restored and strengthened. Bring unity to our families and let them be cities on hills to proclaim Your presence and restoration to this nation. Let a legacy of faith begin to grow as part of your Great Harvest so that the next generation and the next will already walk in great faith and go beyond what You've called us to do.

then I stationed men in the lowest parts of the space behind the wall, **the exposed places**, and I stationed the people in **families with their swords, spears and bows.** — Nehemiah 4:13

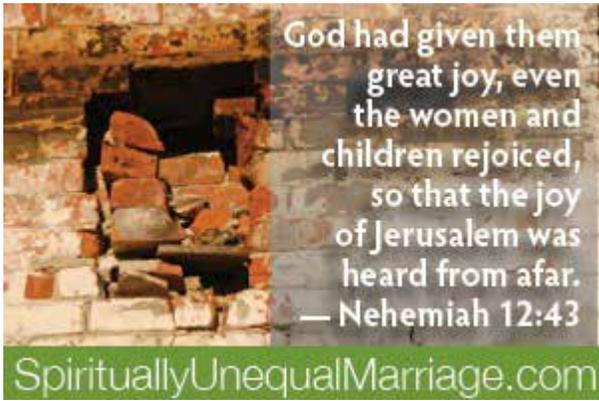
When our enemies heard that it was known to us, and that **God had frustrated their plan**, then all of us returned to the wall, each one to his work. From that day on, half of my servants carried on the work while half of them held the spears, the **shields**, the bows and the **breastplates**; and the captains were behind the whole house of Judah. — Nehemiah 4:15-16

Lord, thank you for frustrating the plans of the enemy. Show us the exposed places in our marriages, in our lives and in our hearts. Holy Spirit, help us don our armor—belt of truth, breastplate of righteousness, sword of the spirit, helmet of salvation, and establish our feet in the Truth. Lord, we will stand firm in You. Restore and establish the territory of our marriages and family. And we boldly ask for the new territories you have waiting for us.

At whatever place you hear the sound of the trumpet, rally to us there. **Our God will fight for us.** — Nehemiah 4:20

For all of them were trying to frighten us, thinking, “They will become discouraged with the work and it will not be done.” But now, **O God, strengthen my hands.** — Nehemiah 6:9

Abba, thank You that the enemy's attempts to make us fearful and discouraged will fail. Strengthen our hands, our hearts and our spirits for the work to be done. Thank You for fighting for us! We claim every victory now and praise You for each and every one.



Then he said to them, “Go, eat of the fat, drink of the sweet, and send portions to him who has nothing prepared; for this day is holy to our Lord. Do not be grieved, **for the joy of the Lord is your strength.**” — Nehemiah 8:10

Great joy, great strength! Pour out Your Spirit over us for this is the time of the Lord's victory. King Jesus, You are our joy! Such powerful and amazing joy! All praise and glory go to You!

The entire assembly of those who had returned from the captivity made booths and lived in them. The sons of Israel had indeed not done so from the days of Joshua the son of Nun to that day. **And there was great rejoicing.** — Nehemiah 8:17

Abba, we declare and claim our time of rejoicing, because You are good and faithful. All that You have promised and said You will do, we believe, Lord, we believe! You are good, faithful and true to all Your promises.

While they stood in their place, they read from the book of the law of the Lord their God for a fourth of the day; and for another fourth **they confessed and worshiped the Lord their God.** — Nehemiah 9:3

Then the Levites, Jeshua, Kadmiel, Bani, Hashabneiah, Sherebiah, Hodiah, Shebaniah and Pethahiah, said, “**Arise, bless the Lord your God forever and ever! O may Your glorious name be blessed and exalted above all blessing and praise!**” — Nehemiah 9:5

Your name be praised, Lord! Forever and ever. For You are holy and glorious and worthy of all our praise and blessings. We bless You, Lord! This is our great honor and blessing—to love and worship You!

**“You provided bread from heaven for them for their hunger,
You brought forth water from a rock for them for their thirst,
And You told them to enter in order to possess
The land which You swore to give them.”** — Nehemiah 9:15

Lord, You are faithful and You keep Your promises. Thank You for Your provision for us, thank You for taking care of us. You see our needs, every one of them. You are righteous and so faithful. We are overwhelmed by Your passion for us! Overwhelming passion, a holy and righteous anger for us, Your children. We are not forgotten! You see us, everyone of us! We step forward in trust and faith into the places You have promised us. Abba, continue to grow a hunger in us for You. Help us to understand where You are asking us to go and help us to be faithful and obedient.

“Therefore You delivered them into the hand of their oppressors who oppressed them,
But when they cried to You in the time of their distress,
**You heard from heaven, and according to Your great compassion
You gave them deliverers who delivered them from the hand of their oppressors.** — Nehemiah 9:27

(Let me make a special note here that the Hebrew word for compassion here originates from the same word for “womb.” Then Nehemiah speaks of deliverers, which has the meaning of salvation and victory. God’s delivery is likened to new birth! And that is what I am sensing is coming, a time of new birth and rebirth for so many.)

Oh Lord, we are humbled and overjoyed at Your good intentions and love for us! We love You so much! Your great compassion releases the power of Your hand and brings miracles, signs and wonders. Thank you, Lord Jesus! You paved the way for all of this with Your great compassion. Your death and resurrection brought the greatest miracle of all—SALVATION—and it continues beyond the cross, beyond us and to eternity! It is constant and finished!



Then the **two choirs took their stand in the house of God**. So did I and half of the officials with me;
— Nehemiah 12:40

and on that day they offered great sacrifices **and rejoiced because God had given them great joy, even the women and children rejoiced, so that the joy of Jerusalem was heard from afar**. — Nehemiah 12:43

Oh Lord, such promises are ahead for us! Thank you, Lord! Thank you! Lord, forgive our unbelief and help us BELIEVE! Then let our joy be heard from afar as we rejoice in how You have brought us and our families to victory! Holy Spirit, help us to sing songs of praises to our King. Fill our children with Your joy and help us show them how to worship You, Abba! Let our voices and praises be a sweet aroma to King Jesus and what He has done for us!

What a glorious day and time to come, my friends! Ask, pray, and believe! God's favor and heart are for us. Now I want to pray you:

Abba, I pray for a fresh anointing over every SUMite. I pray that You will release new gifts, new provision, new strength and prosperity over every single one of them. Lord, reveal and destroy every lie that keeps them from believing how much You love them and that You have given them every good gift.

Destroy the lies that tell them they aren't worthy to serve You and replace it with the truth that they are Your precious sons and daughters who You have called specifically to You for such a time as this.

Destroy the lie that tells them their situation is hopeless and won't ever change and replace it with great hope and expectation in Jesus that is sprung from the very heart and purpose and miracle of His life, death and resurrection, because the power that did this now resides in us through Your Holy Spirit. And it is COMPLETE!

Holy Spirit, give each of my dear sisters and brothers in Christ clear discernment and recognition of Your voice. In the name of Jesus Christ, I break off anything over them that would block or hinder them from hearing Your voice. In the name of Jesus, I break the chains of addiction, of distraction, of deception and of fear. Chains are falling off and crumbling to the ground—we declare this in Your mighty and powerful name, King Jesus!

King Jesus, in Your name I pray against any and all plans the enemy has set up against each of them and this SUMite nation. Guard over us with Your warring angels. Surround us as we build and rebuild our lives, our marriages, and our families with our prayers, our faith and our love. I speak new levels of faith and strength and belief into every single one of us! We are Yours and You are ours!

Oh Abba, thank You, thank You, thank You. You are so good, so faithful, so full of love and compassion. We praise You now for all You are doing in our lives. We wait expectantly for You. In Jesus' mighty and holy name, amen!

My precious sisters and brothers in Jesus, I love you with the passion of Christ and consider it one of the greatest privileges and honors of my life to be on this journey with you. If there is something that you are specifically struggling with—to believe in, to let go of, to step out in faith—email me at dineen@mismatchedandthriving.com so I can pray with you.

And remember this: Each step of obedience brings an increase of faith. Our God's favor is upon us and He is fighting for us! Believe it!

Believing and praying with and for you!
Dineen



Dineen Miller

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