

# NEHEMIAH

## “THE JOY OF THE LORD”

Nehemiah 8:1-18

Lesson #9

January 3, 2024

### REVIEW:

- A. Reading . . . . . Nehemiah 8:1-6
- 1) All who understand would be those who knew the language and old enough to comprehend the reading
  - 2) The people were not just present, but gave their attention to the words which were read.
  - 3) 6 hours of reading, not preaching or teaching.
  - 4) A platform for the purpose is set up to help people to hear and keep the reading in view.
- B. Receiving . . . . . Nehemiah 8:7-12
- 1) Understanding must be the main goal of anyone who reads, teaches, or preaches God’s word, or prophesies in His name.
  - 2) Why is making sure God’s people have help to understand God’s word so important?
  - 3) “they read distinctly” - It is important that those who read, teach, etc. do so clearly which takes some discipline and attention.
  - 4) “They gave the sense...” how to apply or live it.
  - 5) The Word of God had a desired affect (2 Timothy 3:16) and the sadness was the evidence.
  - 6) “Do not mourn” - The corrective work of the scriptures is good, but it should not overshadow God’s work of mercy and grace.

- 7) Our sin consciousness should never be greater than our awareness of the Saviors greatness. (Rom. 5:20)
- 8) Sometimes it will take a deliberate effort to go, eat, enjoy, and give to others.
- 9) The work of **JOY UPON YOU** will greatly increase if you actively shut down the work of **GRIEF IN YOU**
- 10) Not only did they understand the words, they put them into practice.

- C. Responding . . . . . Ezra 8:13-18
- 1) It is important for the leaders to understand the word and apply themselves to keep it.
  - 2) It is pointless to teach people about “you shall not steal” if you steal.
  - 3) A great attitude to have is “If God said to, then we need to.”
  - 4) **TRADITION** did not teach them to honor this feast as God instructed.
  - 5) It should have taught them this, but just like today, traditions can get off track. Getting back on the right track has proven too difficult for many.

APPLICATION: What we learn from the Word needs to  
**CHANGE THE WAY WE LIVE**

If how we **LIVE CHANGES** the way we **HEAR AND RECEIVE** the word, we may be something that appears good, but we are certainly not a Christian.

Hear in this chapter we understand that grief will work against the joy of the Lord.