

***Celebrate Your  
Sources of  
Strength***

***Nehemiah 8:1-10***

## **Nehemiah 8:1-10**

**1 And all the people gathered themselves together as one man into the street that was before the water gate; and they spake unto Ezra the scribe to bring the book of the law of Moses, which the LORD had commanded to Israel.**

**2 And Ezra the priest brought the law before the congregation both of men and women, and all that could hear with understanding, upon the first day of the seventh month.**

## **Nehemiah 8:1-10 - continued**

**3 And he read therein before the street that was before the water gate from the morning until midday, before the men and the women, and those that could understand; and the ears of all the people were attentive unto the book of the law.**

**4 And Ezra the scribe stood upon a pulpit of wood, which they had made for the purpose; and beside him stood Mattithiah, and Shema, and Anaiah, and Urijah, and Hilkiah, and Maaseiah, on his right hand; and on his left hand, Pedaiah, and Mishael, and Malchiah, and Hashum, and Hashbadana, Zechariah, and Meshullam.**

**5 And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people; (for he was above all the people;) and when he opened it, all the people stood up:**

## **Nehemiah 8:1-10 - continued**

**6 And Ezra blessed the LORD, the great God. And all the people answered, Amen, Amen, with lifting up their hands: and they bowed their heads, and worshipped the LORD with their faces to the ground.**

**7 Also Jeshua, and Bani, and Sherebiah, Jamin, Akkub, Shabbethai, Hodijah, Maaseiah, Kelita, Azariah, Jozabad, Hanan, Pelaiah, and the Levites, caused the people to understand the law: and the people stood in their place.**

**8 So they read in the book in the law of God distinctly, and gave the sense, and caused them to understand the reading.**

## **Nehemiah 8:1-10 - continued**

**9 And Nehemiah, which is the Tirshatha, and Ezra the priest the scribe, and the Levites that taught the people, said unto all the people, This day is holy unto the LORD your God; mourn not, nor weep. For all the people wept, when they heard the words of the law.**

**10 Then he said unto them, Go your way, eat the fat, and drink the sweet, and send portions unto them for whom nothing is prepared: for this day is holy unto our LORD: neither be ye sorry; for the joy of the LORD is your strength.**

# Introduction

- A. Nehemiah has led his people to a great victory**
  - 1. The broken wall of Jerusalem had been his burden**
  - 2. Now the wall had been repaired**
    - a. The people had risen above their fears**
    - b. They had been delivered from their adversaries**
    - c. Their labor had been rewarded**
  
- B. Ezra led the dedication service**
  - 1. Shouts of praise were lifted to the Lord (8:6)**
  - 2. The people were encouraged to celebrate**
    - a. Told to be joyful, not solemn nor sad**
    - b. They were to celebrate the source of their strength**

## **Introduction**

# **We Ought To Celebrate Our Sources Of Strength**

### **Psalm 18:1-2**

**1 I will love thee, O LORD, my strength.**

**2 The LORD is my rock, and my fortress, and my deliverer; my God, my strength, in whom I will trust; my buckler, and the horn of my salvation, and my high tower.**

# **I. The Joy Of The Lord Provides Strength (v 10)**

**A. Nehemiah and his people had faced many obstacles**

**1. They could have become discouraged**

**Nehemiah 4:10**

**And Judah said, The strength of the bearers of burdens is decayed, and there is much rubbish; so that we are not able to build the wall.**

**2. They could have compromised with their enemies**

**Nehemiah 6:9**

**For they all made us afraid, saying, Their hands shall be weakened from the work, that it be not done. Now therefore, O God, strengthen my hands.**

**B. The joy of the Lord enabled them to keep building**

# **I. The Joy Of The Lord Provides Strength (v 10)**

**C. We ought to be joyful for God's love, grace, and salvation**

**Psalm 5:11**

**But let all those that put their trust in thee rejoice: let them ever shout for joy, because thou defendest them: let them also that love thy name be joyful in thee.**

**D. The joy of the Lord will replenish our strength every day**

**Daniel 10:19**

**And said, O man greatly beloved, fear not: peace be unto thee, be strong, yea, be strong. And when he had spoken unto me, I was strengthened, and said, Let my lord speak; for thou hast strengthened me.**

## **II. The Presence Of The Lord Provides Strength**

### **Psalm 37:39**

**But the salvation of the righteous is of the LORD: he is their strength in the time of trouble.**

**A. We all go through times of trouble**

**Job 5:7**

**Yet man is born unto trouble, as the sparks fly upward.**

**Job 14:1**

**Man that is born of a woman is of few days and full of trouble.**

**John 16:33**

**These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world.**

## **II. The Presence Of The Lord Provides Strength**

### **B. Believers do not face trouble alone**

**Isaiah 41:10**

**Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness.**

**“When trouble overthrows the wicked, it only drive the righteous to their strong Helper, who rejoices to uphold them.” – C. H. Spurgeon**

# **III. The Promises Of The Lord Provides Strength**

**Isaiah 30:15**

**For thus saith the Lord GOD, the Holy One of Israel; In returning and rest shall ye be saved; in quietness and in confidence shall be your strength: and ye would not.**

**A. God's promises are strong anchors in life's storms**

**B. Think of the promises found in the Bible**

**C. God's promises bring strength in times of waiting**

**Psalm 27:14**

**Wait on the Lord: be of good courage, and he shall strengthen thine heart: wait, I say, on the Lord.**

**Do You Have A Promise From God  
That Gives You Strength In  
Troubling Times?**

***Celebrate Your  
Sources of  
Strength***