



RE:BUILDING

Be Bold!

Sunday 11th January 2026

Nehemiah 1:8-11

We should treasure the grace that has brought us safely together today. Some of you listening are hearing only the recording. For some it is through illness and injury, for some through bosses who will not say yes to a day off, for some of you its because you would not say no. However you are hearing this, my prayer is that the Lord speaks to your heart now. My confidence is that He will do just that.

1 There is nothing at all in this world that can stop God from accomplishing His eternal purposes! Do you believe that?

2 Nehemiah did so let's read on through the second half of His prayer in **Nehemiah 1:8,**

Remember the word that you commanded your servant Moses, saying, 'If you are unfaithful, I will scatter you among the peoples,

3 The solution for a broken city lying in ruins is a confidence in God's promises. **The solution to all the broken and breaking lives is standing boldly on God's promises.** And those promises are connected to our choices.

Let's see how. Firstly, Nehemiah knows truth about making good choices and poor choices in **verse 8b,**

'If you are unfaithful, I will scatter you among the peoples...'

5 This was true for Nehemiah, and Mary sang of this shortly before Jesus was born in **Luke 1:51,**

He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts;

Proud believers will experience the consequences of their pride and arrogance just as unbelievers do in this world. And what is the cure? The gospel. The same gospel that saved you, is the same gospel that keeps you.

6 God has said this in **2 Chronicles 7:14**,

if my people who are called by my name humble themselves, and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and heal their land.

7 God's promises are never the problem. **The problems of this life are always rooted in the hearts of men and women who have turned from His ways.**

8 Secondly, Nehemiah reminds us of true repentance in **verse 9a**,

but if you return to me and keep my commandments and do them

You need to elevate God's word back to its rightful place. Make it your daily priority. Keep the dust off the pages and sin away from your door by reading and doing it every day. **Do not compromise, do not procrastinate, do not bargain, do not quit.**

10 Thirdly, believe God's promises – all of them! Nehemiah prays this in **Nehemiah 1:9b**,

though your outcasts are in the uttermost parts of heaven, from there I will gather them and bring them to the place that I have chosen, to make my name dwell there.

God is in the business of gathering, from every tribe, language and culture and God is in the business of redeeming people and making them a place where He chooses to dwell.

11 When we live in increasingly evil and lawless days, this is where the greatest challenge lies for those who want to be faithful. To believe **Isaiah 59:1**,

Behold, the Lord's hand is not shortened, that it cannot save, or his ear dull, that it cannot hear;

Can anything happen in this world that limits God's ability to see and save? No!

12 Then where is the confidence of God's people in God's promises? Let's hear what God says on the matter from **Hebrews 4:16**,

Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

This verse directs you to the throne on account of the experience and compassion of the One on the throne. The problem is we look for courage in all

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the wrong places – our looks, video shorts, achievements, what our therapist said, a drink, a smoke, or a sniff. **Looking for a boldness based in this world is like a fox hoping to find its next meal in someone else’s rubbish bin.**

14

Your boldness in this world is a reflection of your boldness at the throne.

This is not to be a boldness that holds its silence at the throne of the Lamb. For on that throne sits your Saviour, your Redeemer, your Friend.

15

Let us close today’s message by looking at a time when bold believers prayed for continued boldness. In **Acts 4:24-31**,

And when they heard it, they lifted their voices together to God and said, “Sovereign Lord, who made the heaven and the earth and the sea and everything in them,²⁵ who through the mouth of our father David, your servant, said by the Holy Spirit,

“Why did the Gentiles rage,
and the peoples plot in vain?

²⁶ The kings of the earth set themselves,
and the rulers were gathered together,
against the Lord and against his Anointed’ —

[...] ²⁹ And now, Lord, look upon their threats and grant to your servants to continue to speak your word with all boldness,³⁰ while you stretch out your hand to heal, and signs and wonders are performed through the name of your holy servant Jesus.” ³¹ And when they had prayed, the place in which they were gathered together was shaken, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and continued to speak the word of God with boldness.

16

What use is boldness if all we choose is to live in the shadows of this life hiding our light under a bushel hoping no one might spy out our faith?

- Your health situation has taken you to sit beside scattered people who have never met the Great Physician.
- The fact you’re a single mum means other mums know that you get them, so you can say with boldness, “come and meet a Man who never let me down.
- The languages some of you speak are not just a small treasure from a distant homeland. They are the very reason God wants to use you to go and speak to your people about the Jesus they never met.

- Your skill set has positioned you inside godless industries and companies, not so you can daily pray for your rescue from them but that you can pray daily for their redemption from sin.
- To those in school, college, or university, you might never again in your lifetime rub shoulders with so many people your age looking for meaning and purpose. And there you are in the midst of them to introduce them to the greatest Friend a teenager or twenty-something could ever have.