

# ARISE AND BUILD

Neh. 2:20

Neh. 2:20 Then answered I them, and said unto them, The God of heaven, he will prosper us; therefore **we his servants will arise and build:** but ye have no portion, nor right, nor memorial, in Jerusalem.

Our theme this year is *“Arise and Build.”* We have been considering the Book of Nehemiah which is a perfect example in implementing our theme. Too often believers get stuck in a rut and must break out of the mundane routine of their *“comfort zone”* and *“Arise and Build”* a new direction for their lives. Such is the case for Nehemiah.

- ❖ An incident created a burden within his heart that made him uncomfortable in his comfort zone.
- ❖ After much prayer, Nehemiah abandoned his *“career path”* and stepped out by faith to fulfill the new mission that God had laid upon his heart.
- ❖ When Nehemiah returned to Jerusalem to begin his mission of building the wall around the city, he encountered struggles without and within that hindered the work.
- ❖ While handling the challenges of the mission, Nehemiah exhibited wonderful principles of leadership.

I. THE INQUIRY OF THE SITUATION, 1:1-3

II. THE INTERCESSION OF THE SERVANT, 1:4-11

III. THE INVOLVEMENTS OF THE SOVEREIGNS, 2:1-20

IV. THE INDIVIDUAL SPECIFICATIONS, 3:1-31

V. THE INTRICATE STRUGGLES, 4:1-6:19

A. The Enemy Without, 4:1-23

B. The Enemy Within, 5:1-6:19

VI. THE INCLUSION FOR SPIRITUALITY, 7:1-10:39

A. The Beloved Congregation, 7:1-73

1. The Requirement for Responsibility is Faithfulness, 7:1-4

❖ Wise leadership includes the proper discernment of those to whom responsibility may be delegated.

❖ The primary requirement for spiritual leadership is being “...a faithful man...”

1 Cor. 4:2 Moreover it is **required in stewards, that a man be found faithful.**

To some degree, chapter 7 is a “Memorial” testimony of those laboring in Jerusalem.

2. The Review of the Record of the Families, 7:5-72

a. The Legacy of the Project, 7:5-7

b. The List of the Progenitors, 7:8-38

c. The Lineage of the Priests, 7:39-42

d. The Laborers Priorities, 7:43-72

3. The Remainder Ready for Fruitfulness, 7:73

- The diversity of those involved in the work in Jerusalem are reminders of the need for diversity in the Lord’s work today in His churches.
- There is no place in this world more peaceful and enjoyable than being where we are supposed to be, doing what we are supposed to doing, according to God’s perfect will for our lives.

Last week, we began seeing his “inclusion for spirituality,” starting with the “Beloved Congregation. This morning, we will observe the “Bible Conference” in chapter 8.

## B. The Bible Conference, 8:1-18

### ❖ The Assembling of the Congregation, 8:1-4

Neh. 8:1 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.

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.**

- In the midst of the challenges, Nehemiah recognized the need for spiritual revival.
- Believers can get so busy in the minutia of the ministry that we neglect fellowship with the Lord.
- Nehemiah gathered the congregation together to hear the Word of God.

❖ The Attention of the Congregation, 8:5-8

Neh. 8:4 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 Mishaël, 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:**

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.**

➤ The Word of God received preeminence – “...Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people...all the people stood up:”

➤ The emphasis with the preaching was to be understood – “...caused the people to understand the law...gave the sense, and caused *them* to understand the reading.”

❖ The Advice to the Congregation, 8:9-12

Neh. 8:9 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.**

11 So the Levites stilled all the people, saying, Hold your peace, for **the day is holy**; neither be ye grieved.

12 And all the people went their way to eat, and to drink, and to send portions, and to make great mirth, **because they had understood the words that were declared unto them.**

➤ Turn your conviction into rejoicing – “...For all the people wept, when they heard the words...for **the joy of the LORD is your strength.**”

## ❖ The Action of the Congregation, 8:13-18

Neh. 8:13 And on the second day were gathered together the chief of the fathers of all the people, the priests, and the Levites, unto Ezra the scribe, even **to understand the words of the law.**

14 And they found written in the law which the LORD had commanded by Moses, that the children of Israel should dwell in booths in the feast of the seventh month:

15 And that they should publish and proclaim in all their cities, and in Jerusalem, saying, **Go forth** unto the mount, and fetch olive branches, and pine branches, and myrtle branches, and palm branches, and branches of thick trees, to make booths, as *it is* written.

16 So the people went forth, and brought *them*, and made themselves booths, every one upon the roof of his house, and in their courts, and **in the courts of the house of God**, and in the street of the water gate, and in the street of the gate of Ephraim.

17 And **all the congregation** of them that were come again out of the captivity made booths, and sat under the booths: for since the days of Jeshua the son of Nun unto that day had not the children of Israel done so. And **there was very great gladness.**

18 Also **day by day**, from the first day unto the last day, **he read in the book of the law of God.** And they kept the feast seven days; and on the eighth day *was* a solemn assembly, according unto the manner.

Lev. 23:34 Speak unto the children of Israel, saying, The fifteenth day of this seventh month *shall be* **the feast of tabernacles for seven days unto the LORD.**

35 On the first day *shall be* an holy convocation: ye shall do no servile work *therein.*

36 Seven days ye shall offer an offering made by fire unto the LORD: on the eighth day shall be an holy convocation unto you; and ye shall offer an offering made by fire unto the LORD: *it is* a solemn assembly; *and ye shall do no servile work therein. ...*

40 And ye shall take you on the first day the boughs of goodly trees, branches of palm trees, and the boughs of thick trees, and willows of the brook; **and ye shall rejoice before the LORD your God seven days.**

41 And ye shall keep it a feast unto the LORD seven days in the year. *It shall be* a statute for ever in your generations: ye shall celebrate it in the seventh month.

42 **Ye shall dwell in booths seven days;** all that are Israelites born shall dwell in booths:

43 **That your generations may know that I made the children of Israel to dwell in booths, when I brought them out of the land of Egypt: I am the LORD your God.**

- The congregation was obedient, remembering their deliverance from Egypt, and rejoicing in the Lord – “...there was very great gladness.”

## Conclusion

The wall in Jerusalem did not build itself. Many sacrifices were made in order to complete the task. The freedom to dwell safely within the confines of the wall, was NOT FREE!

This “*Memorial Day*,” let us be mindful to remember that the wonderful freedom we enjoy was NOT FREE. Many have sacrificed their lives that we may freely worship here this morning.

**Armed Forces Day is the day we celebrate (and thank) those who are *currently serving* in the military.**

This holiday is celebrated third Saturday of May. It is a day to pay tribute to men and women who serve the United States’ armed forces. Armed Forces Day is also part of Armed Forces Week, which begins on the second Saturday of May.

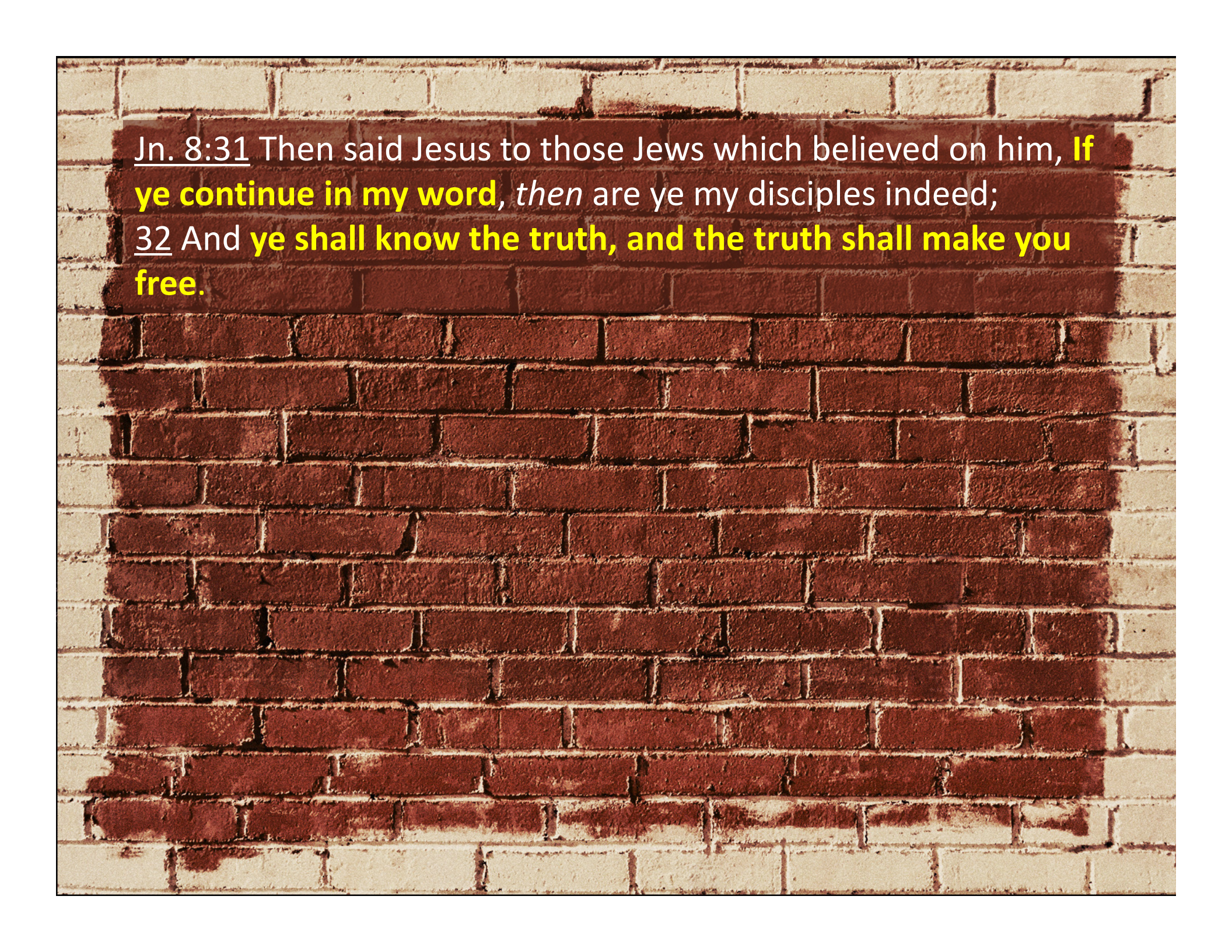
**Memorial Day is the day we celebrate (and memorialize) those who *have died* serving in the military.**

Memorial Day is observed on the last Monday of May (today). It commemorates all men and women, who have **died** in military service for the United States.

**Veteran's Day is the day we celebrate (and say thanks to) those who *previously served* in the military.**

In the USA, Veterans Day annually falls on November 11. This day is the anniversary of the signing of the armistice, which ended the World War I hostilities between the Allied nations and Germany in 1918. Veterans (former members of the armed forces) are thanked for their services to the United States on Veterans Day.

<https://www.whatsupfagans.com/the-differences-between-memorial-day-veterans-day-and-armed-forces-day/>



Jn. 8:31 Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, **If ye continue in my word**, *then* are ye my disciples indeed;  
32 And **ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.**