

DAMAGE ASSESSMENT

Nehemiah 2:11-20

**We should have been
a GREAT testimony to the World**



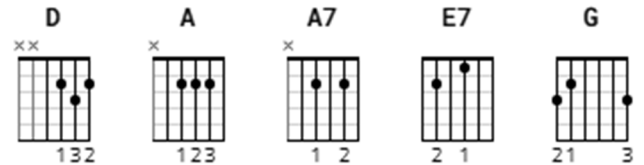
**...but we forgot God in our hearts
and it COST us GREATLY**



Faith Is The Victory by Ira D. Sankey, *guitar starts on 4th string*

D **A**
Encamped along the hills of light
 A7 **D**
Ye Christian soldiers rise,
 D **A**
And press the battle ere the night
 A7 **D**
Shall veil the glowing skies.
 A **D**
Against the foe in vales below
 A **E7** **A**
Let all our strength be hurled;
 D **G**
Faith is the victory, we know,
 D **A7** **D**
That over-comes the world.

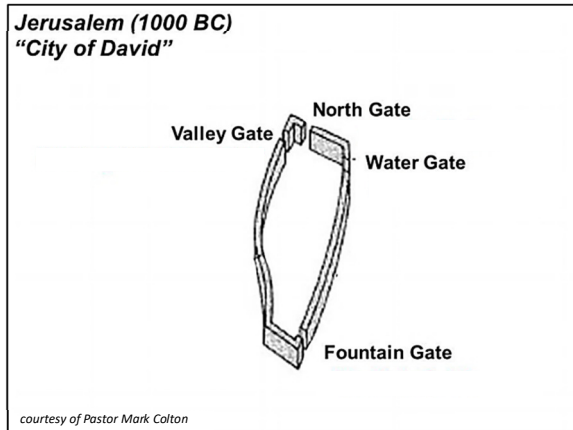
D **A**
Faith is the victory!
 D
Faith is the vic-tory!
G **D**
O, glorious vic-to-ry,
 A7 **D**
That over-comes the world.



On every hand the foe we find
Drawn up in dread array;
Let tents of ease be left behind,
And onward to the fray;
Salvation's helmet on each head,
With truth all grit about,
The earth shall tremble 'neath our tread,
And echo with our shout.

To him that over-comes the foe,
White raiment shall be giv'n;
Before the angels he shall know
His name confessed in heav'n.
Then onward from the hills of light,
Our hearts with love aflame,
We'll vanquish all the host of night,
In Jesus' con-quer-ing name.

King David's Original Walls

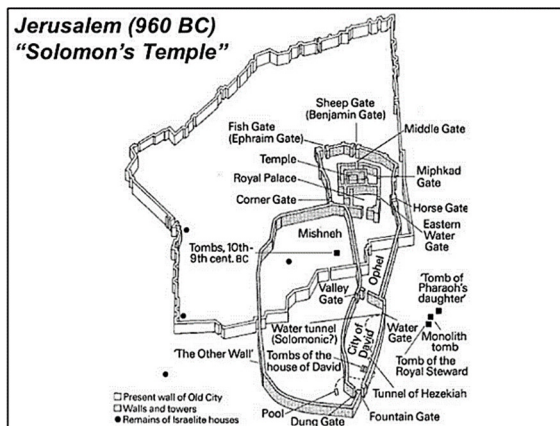


The start and security of Jerusalem was simple, small and complete:
Did you notice that the spiritual example is very clear here?

The North Gate - Points to the Father
The Fountain Gate - The Holy Spirit
The Water Gate - The Word, The Son
... it all starts with us in the Valley that leads to Gehenna

2 Samuel 23:15 And David longed, and said, Oh that one would give me drink of the water of the well of Bethlehem, which is by the gate!

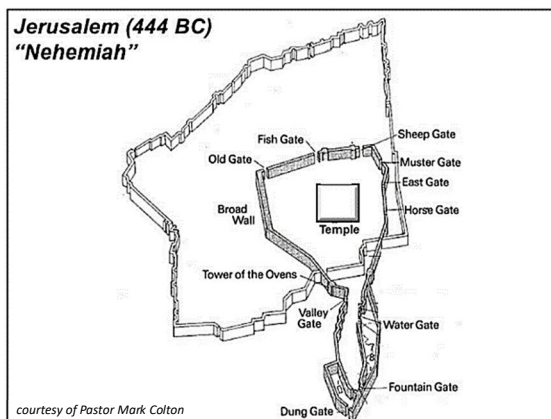
King Solomon's Wall Set



Ignore the large outline of the modern city.

Now you see both the outline of the largest wall set and the wall growth during the rule of King Solomon. Quite an expansion!

Nehemiah's Wall Set



Sin cost everything; but it is now time to go back to the start of their protection in GOD.

The circumference of the walls were approximately two and one-half miles, encompassing approximately 220 acres.

simple - small - complete

Nehemiah Chapter 2

Damage Assessment

11 So I came to Jerusalem, and was there three days.

12 And I arose in the night, I and some few men with me; neither told I *any* man what my God had put in my heart to do at Jerusalem: neither *was there any* beast with me, save the beast that I rode upon.

13 And I went out by night by the gate of the valley, even before the dragon well, and to the dung port, and viewed the walls of Jerusalem, which were broken down, and the gates thereof were consumed with fire.

14 Then I went on to the gate of the fountain, and to the king's pool: but *there was* no place for the beast *that was* under me to pass.

15 Then went I up in the night by the brook, and viewed the wall, and turned back, and entered by the gate of the valley, and *so* returned.

16 And the rulers knew not whither I went, or what I did; neither had I as yet told *it* to the

Jews, nor to the priests, nor to the nobles, nor to the rulers, nor to the rest that did the work.

17 Then said I unto them, Ye see the distress that we *are* in, how Jerusalem *lieth* waste, and the gates thereof are burned with fire: come, and let us build up the wall of Jerusalem, that we be no more a reproach.

18 Then I told them of the hand of my God which was good upon me; as also the king's words that he had spoken unto me. And they said, Let us rise up and build. So they strengthened their hands for *this* good *work*.

19 But when Sanballat the Horonite, and Tobiah the servant, the Ammonite, and Geshem the Arabian, heard *it*, they laughed us to scorn, and despised us, and said, What *is* this thing that ye do? will ye rebel against the king?

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

Nehemiah Chapter 2 DAMAGE ASSESSMENT

Nehemiah had a task that was much larger than one man could complete. This requires God's direction, an approved plan and team effort. This job would be done with much prayer and accountability.

Rebuilding The Wall:

1. It WAS a small group effort – v. 11-12

He had few teammates

They were strong accountability

2. Reviewed Israel's past victories – vs. 13-15

Valley Gate – from Gehenna to Bethlehem,

Dragon Well – formerly Pool of Siloam,

Dung Gate – Its part of life,

Fountain Gate – Best water supply,

King's Pool – Royal Refreshing

3. It was NOT EVERYONE'S BIZ – v. 16

Not yet – The Rulers, Not yet – The Neighbors,

Not yet – The Preacher, Not yet – The Managers,

Not yet – My support group

4. Nehemiah inspired his team – v. 17-18

He had a complete plan:

Then he EXPLAINED

- a. the idea to rebuild
- b. examples of success from God
- c. proof of human leadership support
- d. call to involved action
- e. mutual response

5. He was direct with troublemakers – v. 19-20

Nehemiah had obnoxious problem people

Sanballat the Horonite (Moab of Lot)

Tobiah the Ammonite (Ammon of Lot)

Geshem the Arab (Ketar of Ishmael)

He knew why they were a problem

He spoke direct and was done with them.

John 15:13 Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends. & 1 John 4:7, 8

Ecclesiastes 4:9 "Two are better than one; because they have a good reward for their labour. 10 For if they fall, the one will lift up his fellow: but woe to him that is alone when he falleth; for he hath not another to help him up. 12...and a threefold cord is not quickly broken."

I need a safe friend to help me become successful in life. I need to be that friend to another. I need to be careful in choosing friends.

REBUILDING MY PAST SUCCESS

1. RELATIONSHIP

with CHRIST

2. FAMILY

3. HOME

4. JOB

5. PHYSICAL ABILITY

6. OTHER?

Success without GOD is a dead-end road and success without friends is a lonely road. You cannot win alone.

**I NEED CHRIST - FIRST
I NEED TEAM FRIENDS**

TRUE friendships at work and church and home are a must.

HOW LONG DOES IT TAKE...

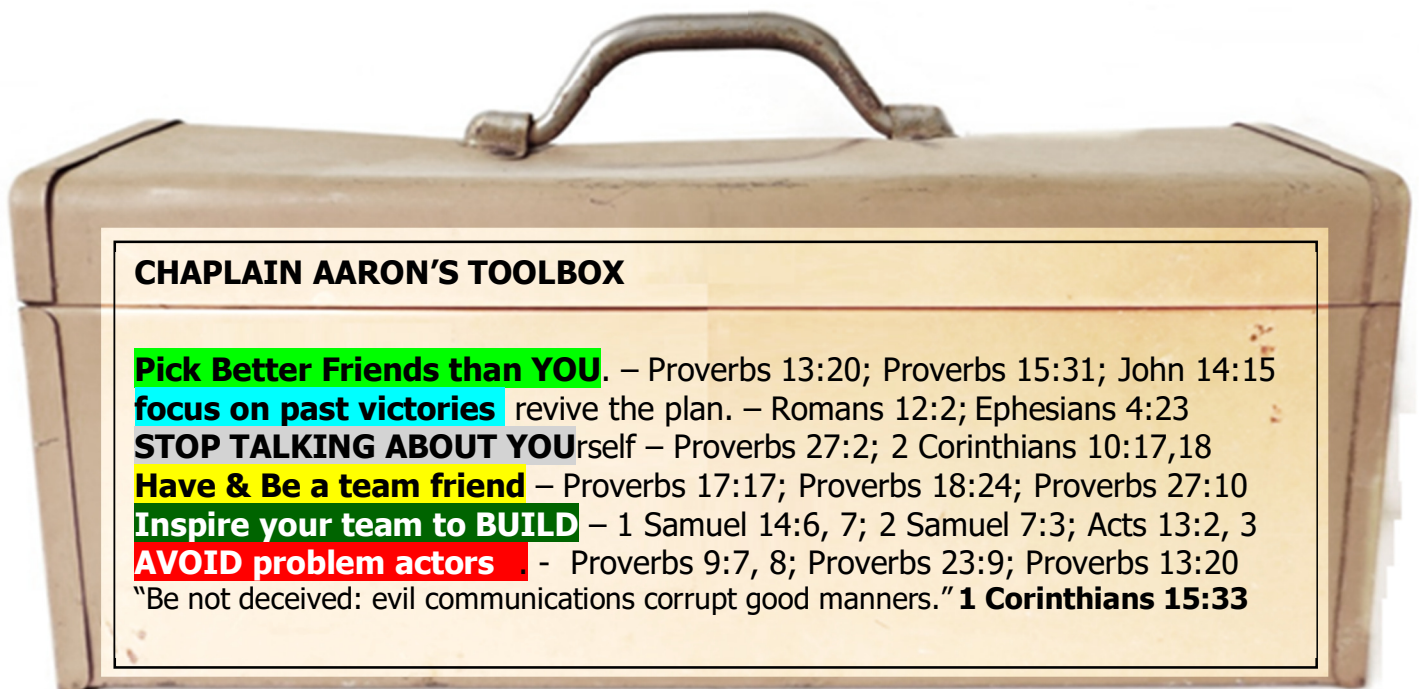
To Go From:

FRIENDLESS to
TRUSTED FRIEND

living in the past to
planning next month

storyteller to
thoughtful leader

TRASHED & KILLED
to **ARISE & BUILD!**



Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 2>1 & 3RBest

Together
Everyone
Achieves
More

Roman 12:2; Ephesians 4:23 – BE RENEWED

