#### 12/10/2023

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#### **DEUTERONOMY 30:19**

call heaven and earth to record this day against you that....

have set before YOU.... LIFE and DEATH BLESSING and CURSING

THEREFORE:

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<u>CHOOSE</u> LIFE,

that BOTH THOU and THY SEED

may **LIVE**!!

**DEUTERONOMY 30:19** 

# **CHOOSE LIFE !!!**

# **NOT A SERMON....**JUST A THOUGHT !!!

# A nation that kills its own children has no future.

Pope John Paul II

# **BUILD & FIGHT**

## **NEHEMIAH 4:17-18 (KJV)**

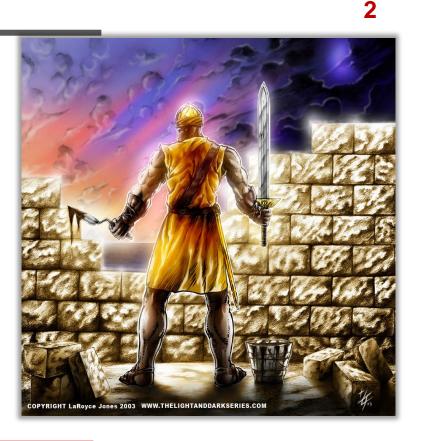
<sup>17</sup>They which builded on the wall, and they that bare burdens, with those that laded, every one with one of his hands wrought in the work, and with the other hand held a weapon. <sup>18</sup>For the builders, every one had his sword girded by his side, and so builded. And he that sounded the trumpet was by me.

#### BUILD TO LAST FIGHT TO WIN

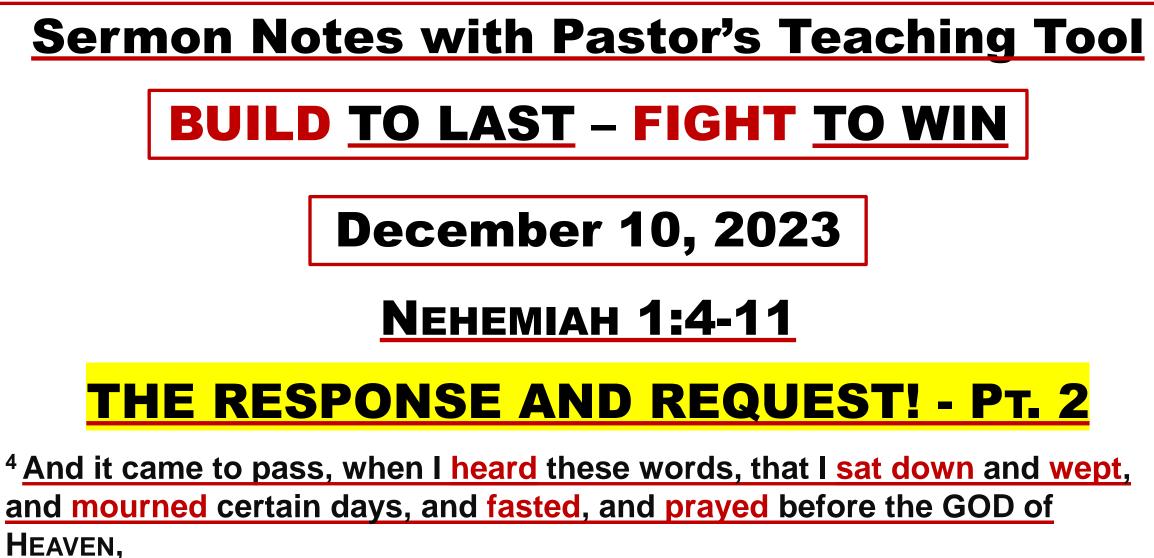
#### NEHEMIAH 4:15-18 (THE MESSAGE)

<sup>15-18</sup> Our enemies learned that we knew all about their plan and that <u>God had</u> <u>frustrated it</u>. And we went back to the wall and <u>went to work</u>. From then on half of my young men worked while the other half stood guard with lances, shields, bows, and mail armor. Military officers served as backup for everyone in Judah who was at work rebuilding the wall. <u>The common laborers held a tool in one hand and a</u> <u>spear in the other. Each of the builders had a sword strapped to his side as he</u> <u>worked</u>. I kept the trumpeter at my side to sound the alert.

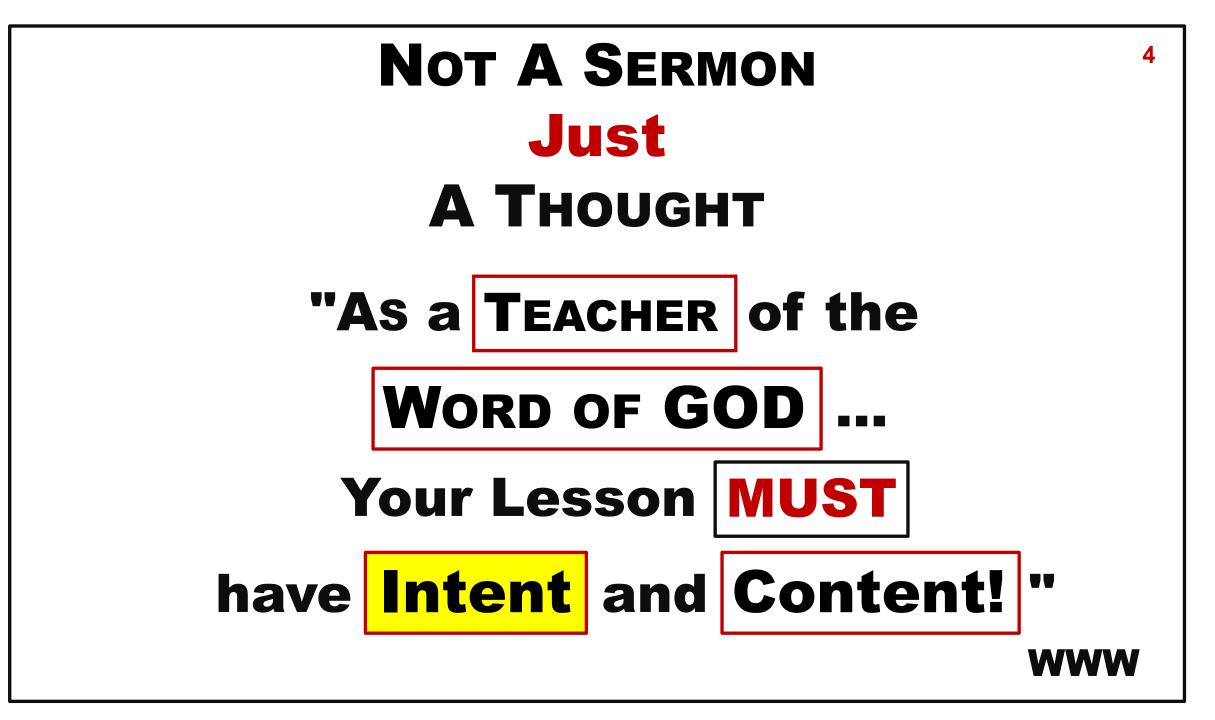








<sup>5</sup> And said, I beseech thee, O LORD GOD of HEAVEN....



#### <u>Teaching Purpose</u>

Answers the question, "How should I understand this verse?" Is the passage dealing with a:

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Sin to confess and forsake?	Promise to claim?	Example to follow?	<u>Command</u> to obey?	Situation or State of mind to avoid before it develops into a sin?

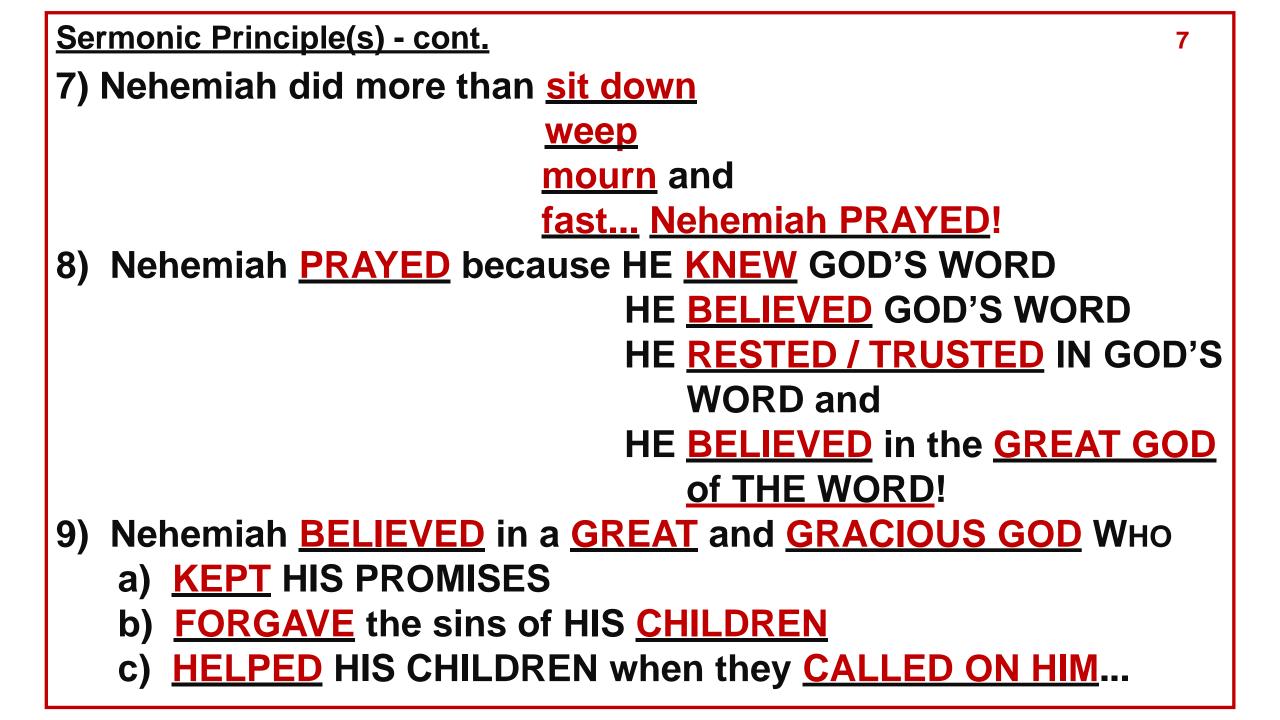
#### Sermonic Principle(s)

Answers the Question, "What's in it, or What's the take away for me?"

- 1) The Book of Nehemiah is the <u>classic book</u> in the Bible on the matter of <u>Personal Service</u>.
- 2) No <u>SERVICE</u> of any kind can be taken on with so much potential as <u>Service</u> to <u>THE MASTER</u>

<u>Sermonic Principle(s) - cont.</u>

- 3) <u>Service</u> TO HIM can be so/so <u>REWARDING</u> on one hand and ...so/so <u>Disappointing</u> on the other hand
- 4) Whenever GOD wants to get a major <u>work</u> done HE <u>calls out</u> a willing <u>SERVANT</u>
- 5) Never was there a time when men and women of Faith/ Principles/ Conviction/ and Courage are called out to <u>SERVE</u> THE MASTER <u>than NOW...RIGHT NOW</u>!
- 6) Our GOD...<u>still</u> uses <u>Ordinary People</u> from the servant class in <u>society</u> to put HIS <u>cause</u> in a place of <u>priority</u> and <u>BUILD</u> / <u>REBUILD</u> HIS CHURCH upon the <u>SURE FOUNDATION OF HIS</u> <u>WORD</u>!



#### <u>Sermonic Principle(s) - cont.</u>

10) Nehemiah's <u>PRAYER</u> was simple and clear...

- a) He <u>ACKNOWLEDGED</u> HIS GOD by HIS COVENANT / HIS RELATIONSHIP name...JEHOVAH (v. 5)
- b) He ACKNOWLEDGE HIS GOD as the <u>SUPREME</u> <u>SOVEREIGN</u> and <u>POWER</u> over ALL...the <u>GOD OF</u> <u>HEAVEN</u> (v. 5)
- c) HE is THE GOD who <u>inspires "AWE"</u>...<u>(a REVERENT</u> / <u>HEALTHY FEAR</u>)...HE is <u>TERRIBLE</u> <u>(v. 5)</u>
- d) HE is a <u>FAITHFUL GOD</u>...Keeping every <u>PROMISE</u> that HE makes to HIS <u>PEOPLE</u> (v. 5)
- e) HE <u>PRAISED GOD</u> for <u>WHO</u> HE is...HIS <u>CHARACTER</u> / <u>NATURE</u>
- f) HE <u>PRAISED GOD</u> for <u>WHAT</u> HE does!

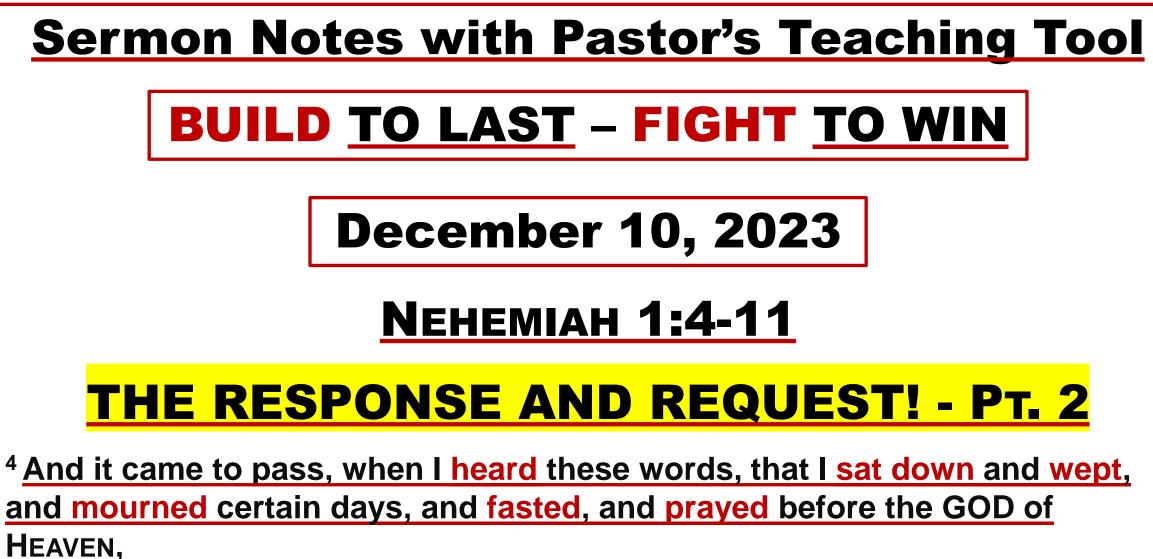
<u>Sermonic Principle(s) - cont.</u>

- 11) Nehemiah was a <u>Confessor</u> of HIS own <u>sins</u> and an <u>Intercessor</u> for the sins of his <u>people</u>
- 12) Nehemiah approached HIS GOD with an <u>ATTITUDE of</u> <u>SUBMISSION</u>...he came into the presence of his <u>GREAT</u> <u>GOD</u> as a <u>SERVANT</u> (v. 6 / v. 11)
- 13) Nehemiah made a complete <u>CONFESSION</u> of his <u>sins</u> and the <u>sins</u> of GOD'S PEOPLE (<u>ISRAEL</u>)
  - a) They (both) violated the COMMANDMENTS of THE LORD:
    - the moral principles by which their LIVES were to be LIVED
  - b) They (both) violated the STATUTES of THE LORD:
    - the rites / rituals / ceremonies of their FAITH
  - c) They (both) violated the JUDGEMENTS of THE LORD:
    - the principles of fairness practiced in their treatment of one another

### **Action Point**

Having heard and understood this teaching, answers the question, "What should I do?"

# LIVE LIKE IT. . . SERVE LIKE IT!



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