

Morning Watch

Having Dispensational Value to God in the Last Days to Turn the Age

March 1-7, 2021

Monday 3/1

Related Verses

**Rev. 12:5**

5 And she brought forth a son, a man-child, who is to shepherd all the nations with an iron rod; and her child was caught up to God and to His throne.

**Heb. 10:22**

22 Let us come forward to the Holy of Holies with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience and having our bodies washed with pure water.

**Heb. 4:16**

16 Let us therefore come forward with boldness to the throne of grace that we may receive mercy and find grace for timely help.

**Heb. 7:25**

25 Hence also He is able to save to the uttermost those who come forward to God through Him, since He lives always to intercede for them.

**Heb. 11:6**

6 But without faith it is impossible to be well pleasing to Him, for he who comes forward to God must believe that He is and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.

**Rev. 3:18**

18 I counsel you to buy from Me gold refined by fire that you may be rich, and white garments that you may be clothed and that the shame of your nakedness may not be manifested, and eyesalve to anoint your eyes that you may see.

**Rev. 11:15**

15 And the seventh angel trumpeted; and there were loud voices in heaven, saying, The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of His Christ, and He will reign forever and ever.

Suggested Reading

According to the Bible, the seed of the woman will bruise the head of the enemy. The seed of the woman in Genesis 3 primarily refers to the Lord Jesus, but the overcomers also have a part in this seed. The seed of the

woman includes the church, especially the overcomers. Even though the Lord bruised Satan's head, he is still at work. The fulfillment of the seed of the woman bruising Satan can be seen in the man-child in Revelation 12. The only Overcomer includes all the overcomers (vv. 10-11). (CWWN, vol. 34, "The Glorious Church," p. 153)

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When God changes His attitude towards a certain matter, He makes a dispensational move. Every dispensational move brings in God's new way. His most important dispensational move is in Revelation 12. He wants to end this age and bring in the age of the kingdom....How can He bring this age to a close and bring in another? He must have His dispensational instrument. This is what God wants to do today.

The rapture of the man-child brings an end to the church age and introduces the kingdom age. The man-child enables God to move....We should never forget that God can be limited. He waits for man in all of His moves. God's binding in heaven is based on our binding on earth; God's loosing in heaven is based on our loosing on earth. Everything depends on the church.

It is God's desire that created beings would deal with fallen created beings. According to His purpose, the whole church should deal with Satan; however, the church has failed. Therefore, there is the need for the overcomers to rise up. God's purpose is fulfilled in the overcomers because they work with Him. We can see the principle of the overcomers throughout the Word of God. God always lays hold of a group of overcomers to make a dispensational move. (CWWN, vol. 34, "The Glorious Church," pp. 153-154)

The writer of Hebrews tells us to "come forward"...This phrase...is used several times in Hebrews: "come forward...to the throne of grace" (4:16); "come forward to the Holy of Holies (10:22); "come forward to God" (7:25; 11:6). We need to come forward to three things: to the Holy of Holies, to the throne of grace, and to God Himself. Do not shrink backward—come forward. In Greek, the words "come forward" are one word. Most versions render it either as approach, draw near, or come near. According to the best Greek lexicon, however, the primary meaning of this word is come forward.

The Hebrew believers, were in danger of shrinking back. They were staggering and hesitating, and the book of Hebrews was written to encourage them to come forward. The writer did not tell them to go forward but to come forward. This means that the writer was in a particular place and that he wanted his readers to come forward to the place where he was....Where is God? He is on the throne of grace. Where is the throne of grace? It is in the Holy of Holies. At the time of the writing of this book, the writer was there in the Holy of Holies, calling the Hebrew brothers to come forward. (*Life-study of Hebrews*, p. 356)

After the rapture the woman will be persecuted three and a half years. Many other of her children will go through the tribulation, but God will keep them. Being an overcomer is not primarily for escaping the tribulation. We need to see of what value the rapture is to the Lord, not to ourselves.

Of all the dispensational moves, the man-child is the greatest because it removes man's power and the devil's power, and it brings in the kingdom. We live in the most privileged time; we can do the most for God. *Light will show us the way, but strength and power will enable us to walk the road. A great price must be paid in order to be used now.* (CWWN, vol. 34, "The Glorious Church," pp. 153-157)

**Further Reading:** *HWMR The Christian Life, the Church Life, the Consummation of the Age, and the Coming of the Lord - Week 8, Day 1*

**Corporate Reading of "The Basic Revelation In the Holy Scriptures" Chapter 3 – Sections: The Compound Spirit**

Tuesday 3/2

Related Verses

**Gen. 3:15**

15 And I will put enmity Between you and the woman And between your seed and her seed; He will bruise you on the head, But you will bruise him on the heel.

**Rev. 12:1-2**

1 And a great sign was seen in heaven: a woman clothed with the sun, and the moon underneath her feet, and on her head a crown of twelve stars;

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2 And she was with child, and she cried out, travailing in birth and being in pain to bring forth.

**Psa. 2:8-9**

8 Ask of Me, And I will give the nations as Your inheritance And the limits of the earth as Your possession.

9 You will break them with an iron rod; You will shatter them like a potter's vessel.

**Rev. 2:26-27**

26 And he who overcomes and he who keeps My works until the end, to him I will give authority over the nations;

27 And he will shepherd them with an iron rod, as vessels of pottery are broken in pieces, as I also have received from My Father;

**Col. 1:16-17**

16 Because in Him all things were created, in the heavens and on the earth, the visible and the invisible, whether thrones or lordships or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through Him and unto Him.

17 And He is before all things, and all things cohere in Him;

### Suggested Reading

The Lord Jesus, the seed of the woman, has bruised the head of the serpent. The Lord has destroyed Satan, the one who holds the power of death.

While the Lord Jesus was destroying the serpent on the cross, the serpent bruised His heel. This means that Satan wounded the Lord Jesus by nailing His feet to the cross (Psa. 22:16).

The woman in Genesis 3:15 firstly is Eve and secondly is all the people of God, including the virgin Mary, as signified by Eve. Hence, the seed of the woman is mainly the Lord Jesus who was born of Mary. However, more regarding the seed of the woman can be seen in Revelation 12. The woman depicted in Revelation 12 and signified in Genesis 3:15 is a universal woman, and within her is a part called the manchild (Rev. 12:1, 2, 5). In a biblical sense, woman represents weakness, for the woman is the weaker vessel (1 Pet. 3:7). The man, especially the manchild, represents strength. The universal woman of Revelation 12 has two parts: the outer part, which is the woman herself, and the inner part, which is the manchild....All the people of God are the woman, who is somewhat weak, but among all the people of God is a stronger part, which is the

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manchild, the overcomers....The manchild is also a part of the seed of the woman. (*Life-study of Genesis*, pp. 252-253)

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This manchild is not individual; he is corporate. Since the woman herself is not individual, but universal and corporate, her child must also be universal and corporate. This corporate manchild includes the Lord Jesus as the Head, center, reality, life, and nature of the manchild. This can be proved from the Scriptures. Psalm 2:8-9 prophesies that the Lord Jesus, God's Anointed One, will rule the nations with a rod of iron. Revelation 2:26-27 says that the overcomers in the churches will rule over the nations with a rod of iron. Now in Revelation 12:5 we are told that the manchild will rule all nations with a rod of iron. Therefore, according to the record of the Bible, both the Lord Jesus Himself and His overcomers will rule over the nations with a rod of iron. Thus, the manchild in Revelation 12:5 includes both the Lord Jesus and the overcomers in the churches. Furthermore, Revelation 20:4 says that Christ and the resurrected overcomers will reign as kings for a thousand years. Hence, the manchild in Revelation 12 is neither the Lord Jesus individually nor the overcomers separate from Him, but the Lord Jesus with the overcomers. Christ Himself is the foremost overcomer (Rev. 3:21). As the leading overcomer He is the Head, center, reality, life, and nature of the overcomers. Among the people of God on earth there is a stronger part which includes the Lord Jesus and the overcomers. Thus, the Lord Jesus and His overcomers compose the manchild.

On the one hand, we are the woman; on the other hand, we are the seed of the woman. We are the ones who trust in God: this is our source. We also are the seed of this source that trusts in God. Therefore, we can become strong. Only the seed of the source trusting in God can be strong, not strong in themselves, but strong in God. The Lord Jesus Himself took the lead to be such a person. He is the Head of the manchild. Now He is also the center, reality, life, and nature of the manchild. How the enemy, Satan, fights against this manchild! (*Life-study of Genesis*, pp. 253-255)

**Further Reading:** *HWMR The Christian Life, the Church Life, the Consummation of the Age, and the Coming of the Lord - Week 8, Day 2*

**Corporate Reading of “The Basic Revelation in the**

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**Holy Scriptures” Chapter 3 – Sections:** *The Spirit of Jesus; The Spirit of Christ; The Spirit of Jesus Christ*

Wednesday 3/3

### Related Verses

**Rev. 12:10-11**

10 And I heard a loud voice in heaven saying, Now has come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of His Christ, for the accuser of our brothers has been cast down, who accuses them before our God day and night.

11 And they overcame him because of the blood of the Lamb and because of the word of their testimony, and they loved not their soul-life even unto death.

**John 12:31**

31 Now is the judgment of this world; now shall the ruler of this world be cast out.

**John 16:11**

11 And concerning judgment, because the ruler of this world has been judged.

**Rev. 12:9-10**

9 And the great dragon was cast down, the ancient serpent, he who is called the Devil and Satan, he who deceives the whole inhabited earth; he was cast to the earth, and his angels were cast down with him.

10 And I heard a loud voice in heaven saying, Now has come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of His Christ, for the accuser of our brothers has been cast down, who accuses them before our God day and night.

**2 Pet. 3:11, 18**

11 Since all these things are to be thus dissolved, what kind of persons ought you to be in holy manner of life and godliness,

18 But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To Him be the glory both now and unto the day of eternity. Amen.

### Suggested Reading

The woman [in Revelation 12] represents the totality of God's people. But throughout all generations there have been some stronger ones among God's people. These are considered in the Bible as a collective unit fighting the battle for God and bringing God's kingdom down to earth.

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Verse 5 says that the woman “brought forth” the man-child. “Brought forth” here signifies resurrection, as in Acts 13:33-34. The man-child is composed of the overcoming saints who have died and who have been resurrected. This is proved by the words *unto death* in verse 11....The resurrection of all the dead overcoming saints will be the delivery of the man-child. Hence, the man-child is composed of all the overcoming saints who die before the time of this resurrection. If you are an overcomer today and live until the Lord comes back, you will not be a part of the man-child. Instead, you may be among the firstfruit mentioned in chapter fourteen. But if you are an overcomer and die before the Lord comes back, you will be resurrected to be part of the man-child.

The man-child brought forth in 12:5 is composed of the “brothers” in verse 10 who have been opposed and accused by Satan, the enemy of God. They overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, by the word of their testimony, and by loving not their soul life even unto death (v. 11). (*Life-study of Revelation*, pp. 420, 426-427)

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Although we all have come into the Lord’s recovery, we should not say that everyone in the recovery will be an overcomer....We can only say that those in the recovery have a greater possibility of being overcomers. Whether or not you will be an overcomer depends upon you; it depends upon how much you share of God’s grace....We must look to the Lord that we may be enriched, strengthened, and become more solid so that we might grow from the woman into her stronger part. But no matter how strong you become, do not prematurely separate yourself from the woman....Stay in the woman as part of the man-child until the time of delivery has come.

How can we be the man-child? If you would be part of the man-child, you must eat more, grow more, and become stronger. To put it into practical terms, you must pray more, spend more time with the Lord, eat more of the Word, experience the Lord more, grow in life more, and have more dealings with the negative things. If others would gossip, you would not gossip. If others would not pray, you would pray more. Although you should not be separate from the woman, you should be somewhat different from others. The woman is too general. Those who are part of the man-child are somewhat particular. Many of the dear ones in the Lord’s recovery are indifferent. They have little

appetite and do not like to eat very much. But if you would be in the man-child, you should not be indifferent. You must be particular, sober, and serious. You must have a good appetite and have a personal, direct moment by moment dealing with the Lord....Whether or not you will be in the man-child depends upon how you react to God’s desire, God’s move, and God’s eternal economy. If, day and night, you cannot go on until you have given yourself wholly and thoroughly to God’s economy, then it is likely that you are a part of the man-child.

Many of you have time to gossip, but you do not have time to read a few pages of the life-study messages. Are you in the man-child?...Whether or not you are part of the man-child depends upon how hungry and thirsty you are. (*Life-study of Revelation*, pp. 421-423)

**Further Reading:** *HWMR The Christian Life, the Church Life, the Consummation of the Age, and the Coming of the Lord - Week 8, Day 3*

**Corporate Reading of “The Basic Revelation in the Holy Scriptures” Chapter 3 – Sections: The Spirit of the Lord; The Spirit Identical to the Lord**

Thursday 3/4

### Related Verses

**Rev. 12:7-9**

**7** And there was war in heaven: Michael and his angels went to war with the dragon. And the dragon warred and his angels.

**8** And they did not prevail, neither was their place found any longer in heaven.

**9** And the great dragon was cast down, the ancient serpent, he who is called the Devil and Satan, he who deceives the whole inhabited earth; he was cast to the earth, and his angels were cast down with him.

**Eph. 3:16-18**

**16** That He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with power through His Spirit into the inner man,

**17** That Christ may make His home in your hearts through faith, that you, being rooted and grounded in love,

**18** May be full of strength to apprehend with all the saints what the breadth and length and height and depth are

**Eph. 6:10-11, 13**

**10** Finally, be empowered in the Lord and in the might of His strength.

**11** Put on the whole armor of God that you may be able to stand against the stratagems of the devil,

**13** Therefore take up the whole armor of God that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.

**1 Pet. 5:8-9**

**8** Be sober; watch. Your adversary, the devil, as a roaring lion, walks about, seeking someone to devour.

**9** Him withstand, being firm in your faith, knowing that the same sufferings are being accomplished among your brotherhood in the world.

### Suggested Reading

[In Revelation 12:9] *dragon* indicates greatness, cruelty, and killing; *serpent* refers to the cunning one who always deceives; *devil* means accuser, or slanderer; and Satan is the rebellious one.

Satan is cast down at this point because the overcomers, the man-child, are caught up to God. The principle here is that where the man-child is, there is no ground for the enemy. Satan has been judged on the cross of Christ, but this judgment needs to be executed. The church should carry out this judgment, but it has failed, so the overcomers must rise up to take the position of the church to execute God’s sentence on Satan....After the overcomers are raptured and caught up to God’s throne, there will be no more place there for the enemy.

A seeking believer may deal with his conscience until it becomes a pure conscience. However, when the conscience becomes pure, it is easy for it to be weak....When [it] is weak, the enemy always accuses us, causing us to constantly feel that we are not right....[So] we have to stand against the enemy by the covering of the blood. We have to not only claim but proclaim the power of the redeeming blood. (*CWWL, 1964, vol. 2, “A General Sketch of the New Testament in the Light of Christ and the Church, Part 4: Revelation,”* pp. 495-496)

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All of God’s people have a part in His eternal purpose, but not all assume their rightful responsibility. Therefore, God chooses a group of people from among them. This group is a portion of the whole, a part of the many chosen

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by God. This is the man-child brought forth by the woman.

the rapture of the man-child is not just a matter of some individuals being caught up, but more than that, it is to bring to an end the warfare which has been going on for ages and generations....When this warfare takes place in heaven, Michael and his angels fight against the dragon, who is the old serpent. Formerly he was a serpent, but now he has changed in form to a dragon. He has steadily increased his power. However, once the man-child is caught up, not only is the dragon unable to be enlarged any further, but he is cast down from heaven. The rapture of the man-child is a transaction which causes Satan to have no more position in heaven.

The man-child in Revelation 12 consists of the overcomers who stand on behalf of the church. Therefore, as soon as the man-child is caught up, Satan is cast down from heaven and the kingdom comes.

The reason for the overcomers to be the overcomers is not to receive glory or crowns for themselves, but simply to take the position which the whole church should take and do the work for the church....The church...has failed...[and] has not gained the ground for God. There is only a group of people left to do that work for the church and to take up the church's responsibility. This group is the overcomers. What they do is counted as the work of the whole church. If there are those who will be the overcomers, God's purpose is attained and He is satisfied. This is the principle of the man-child.

God's difficulty is removed by the rapture of the man-child; His problem is solved. It seems that once the man-child is born, God's purpose can no longer be hindered. This is what God is calling for today; this is what interests Him today. God needs a group of people to attain His original goal. (*CWWN*, vol. 34, "The Glorious Church," pp. 75-76, 78, 81, 83-84)

**Further Reading:** *HWMR The Christian Life, the Church Life, the Consummation of the Age, and the Coming of the Lord - Week 8, Day 4*

**Corporate Reading of "The Basic Revelation in the Holy Scriptures" Chapter 3 – Sections: The Life-giving Spirit; The Spirit of Life; The Seven Spirits of God**

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Friday 3/5

### Related Verses

**Matt. 16:18-19**

**18** And I also say to you that you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it.

**19** I will give to you the keys of the kingdom of the heavens, and whatever you bind on the earth shall have been bound in the heavens, and whatever you loose on the earth shall have been loosed in the heavens.

**Rom. 14:17**

**17** For the kingdom of God is not eating and drinking, but righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit.

**Eph. 1:22-23**

**22** And He subjected all things under His feet and gave Him to be Head over all things to the church,

**23** Which is His Body, the fullness of the One who fills all in all.

**Eph. 4:15-16**

**15** But holding to truth in love, we may grow up into Him in all things, who is the Head, Christ,

**16** Out from whom all the Body, being joined together and being knit together through every joint of the rich supply and through the operation in the measure of each one part, causes the growth of the Body unto the building up of itself in love.

**Acts 4:29, 31**

**29** And now, Lord, look upon their threatenings and grant Your slaves to speak Your word with all boldness,

**31** And when they had so besought, the place in which they were gathered was shaken, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak the word of God with boldness.

**2 Tim. 1:7**

**7** For God has not given us a spirit of cowardice, but of power and of love and of sobermindedness.

### Suggested Reading

The book of Ezra is a history of the return of Israel's captivity and the rebuilding of the house of God as the initiation of God's recovery among His elect for His testimony on the earth according to His economy. The book of Nehemiah is a history of the rebuilding of the wall

of the city of Jerusalem as a continual recovery among His elect for His testimony for the accomplishment of His economy.

The crucial point of the book of Nehemiah is that the city of Jerusalem was a safeguard and protection for the house of God, which was in the city. This signifies that the house of God as His dwelling and home on the earth needs His kingdom to be established as a realm to safeguard His interest on the earth for His administration, to carry out His economy. The rebuilding of the house of God typifies God's recovery of the degraded church, and the rebuilding of the wall of the city of Jerusalem typifies God's recovery of His kingdom. God's building of His house and His building of His kingdom go together (Matt 16:18-19). (Life-study of Nehemiah, pp. 1-2)

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The leaders of the Moabites and Ammonites were greatly displeased about Nehemiah's seeking the good of the children of Israel (v. 10).

Nehemiah 2:17-20 is a word concerning the rebuilding of the wall of Jerusalem. The leaders of the Moabites and Ammonites mocked and despised the children of Israel and asked whether they would rebel against the king by doing this (v. 19). Nehemiah answered them by saying, "The God of heaven Himself will make us prosper; therefore we His servants will rise up and build. But you have no portion nor right nor memorial in Jerusalem" (v. 20). This answer indicates that Nehemiah was very aggressive. He surely was not cowardly. Anyone who is cowardly cannot be a servant of God.

The enemies became angry and greatly enraged, and again they mocked the Jews and despised their building (vv. 1-3).

Nehemiah trusted in God by praying that God would return their reproach to themselves. Thus the Jews built the wall, and all the wall was joined together to half its height, for they had a heart to work (vv. 4-6). Today, no matter how much we may be mocked and despised, we should have a heart to build and should be aggressive.

On the one hand, the children of Israel were prepared to fight; on the other hand, they trusted in God that He would fight for them. In this matter also they were aggressive. Those who are cowardly might say that, since God will fight for us, there is no need for us to do anything. But in a very real sense, God will help those who help themselves. If you do not help yourself, God will not help

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you. According to history, God does not help the cowardly. It is the aggressive ones who have received help from God.

In the typology in the Old Testament....many persons were temporarily used by God according to their natural capacity and natural virtues to signify something spiritual. An example of this is Nehemiah and his aggressiveness, which was a virtue in his human conduct....In the New Testament, all the natural virtues and capacities should be brought to the cross. They need to be put to the cross and crossed out.

According to the real significance of the cross of Christ, the cross does not mean merely that something is put to an end but that the natural things are crossed out in order to be brought into resurrection. (*Life-study of Nehemiah*, pp. 3-5, 12-13)

**Further Reading:** *HWMR The Christian Life, the Church Life, the Consummation of the Age, and the Coming of the Lord - Week 8, Day 5*

**Corporate Reading of “The Basic Revelation in the Holy Scriptures” Chapter 3 – Sections: The Spirit; The Function Of The Spirit**

Saturday 3/6

### Related Verses

#### 1 Kings 8:48

48 And if they return to You with all their heart and with all their soul in the land of their enemies, who have carried them captive, and they pray to You toward their land that You have given to their fathers, the city that You have chosen, and the house that I have built for Your name;

#### 1 Peter 5:2-3

2 Shepherd the flock of God among you, overseeing not under compulsion but willingly, according to God; not by seeking gain through base means but eagerly;

3 Nor as lording it over your allotments but by becoming patterns of the flock.

#### Phil. 2:2-4

2 Make my joy full, that you think the same thing, having the same love, joined in soul, thinking the one thing,

3 Doing nothing by way of selfish ambition nor by way of vainglory, but in lowliness of mind considering one another more excellent than yourselves;

4 Not regarding each his own virtues, but each the virtues

of others also.

#### 2 Cor. 5:20

20 On behalf of Christ then we are ambassadors, as God entreats you through us; we beseech you on behalf of Christ, Be reconciled to God.

#### Neh. 5:15-16, 18-19

15 But the former governors, who were before me, laid heavy burdens on the people and took from them food and wine, besides forty shekels of silver; even their servants tyrannized the people. But I did not do so, because of the fear of God.

16 And I also applied myself to the work on this wall. And we did not acquire fields, and all my servants were gathered there for the work.

18 And what was prepared for one day was one ox and six choice sheep; also fowl was prepared for me, as well as all kinds of wine in abundance every ten days. Yet for this I did not demand the food appointed for the governor, for the service was heavy upon this people.

19 Remember me, O my God, for good, all that I have done for this people.

### Suggested Reading

Nehemiah was one who lived not in his natural man but in resurrection. He was aggressive, but his aggressiveness was accompanied by other characteristics. First, he loved God....He also loved the holy land (signifying Christ), the holy temple (signifying the church), and the holy city (signifying the kingdom of God). He loved God and, in typology, he loved Christ, the church, and the kingdom. As a person who loved God, Nehemiah was one who contacted God, prayed to God (Neh. 1:4).....Nehemiah trusted in God and even became one with God.

Nehemiah was an aggressive person who loved God, the holy land, the holy temple, and the holy city, who contacted God and had fellowship with Him, who trusted in God, and who was one with God. As a result, he became the representative of God. (*Life-study of Nehemiah*, p. 15)

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In verses 14 through 19 we see Nehemiah's good example....Nehemiah and his brothers did not eat the food appointed for the governor for twelve years because of the fear of God (vv. 14-15).

Nehemiah applied himself to work on the city wall. He, his brothers, and all his servants...did not acquire fields. This means they did not receive any kind of payment. Rather, he fed richly at his table one hundred fifty Jews and rulers, besides those who came to him from the surrounding nations, not demanding the food appointed for the governor, for the building service was heavy on the people (vv. 16-18).

Nehemiah, as the governor, in the position of a king, was a man with a pure heart for the rebuilding of Jerusalem's wall in carrying out God's economy. He was not selfish, he did not seek his own interests, and he was not indulgent in sexual lust like all the kings, including David. Therefore, he was qualified to enjoy the top portion, the kingship of the good land promised by God to His elect. Instead of being self-seeking, he fed others for the purpose of building up the wall. In human history he might have been the only leader of a nation to behave in such a way. As a result, he was used by God.

Nehemiah received help from God to carry out a great success in the work of rebuilding the wall of the city of Jerusalem. It is surely worthwhile for us today, especially the leading ones in the churches, to consider his example.

Nehemiah was a head, a ruler, of a nation, but he was altogether not ambitious,....indicated by the fact that he recognized his need of Ezra. In reconstituting the nation, Nehemiah realized that he did not know God's Word. But Ezra, who was famous for his knowledge of the Word of God, was still alive, and Nehemiah was willing to go to Ezra for help. Many of today's leaders would not seek help in such a way....Nehemiah knew that without Ezra he could not reconstitute the people of God.

Nehemiah was the perfect leader, the best leader in human history. Only under the leadership of such persons as Zerubbabel, Ezra, and Nehemiah could Israel be reconstituted to be the testimony of God, the expression of God on earth, a people absolutely different from the Gentile nations. This is a type of what God wants the church to be today.

There were no complaints about Nehemiah from the people. Everyone appreciated him and was grateful for him. We may say that Nehemiah was an outstanding elder, the best example of what an elder should be. I hope that all the elders in the churches today will be like Nehemiah. (*Life-study of Nehemiah*, pp. 6-7, 32-33, 31)

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**Further Reading:** *HWMR The Christian Life, the Church Life, the Consummation of the Age, and the Coming of the Lord - Week 8, Day 6*

**Hymns #893**

- 1 Conflict today is fierce,  
The strength of Satan more;  
The cry of battle calling now  
Is louder than before.  
The rebel voice of hell  
E'en stronger now becomes;  
But list, the midnight cry resounds,  
Behold, I quickly come!
- 2 Trials more bitter grow,  
The fighting doth enlarge;  
Hell's forces rally all their pow'rs  
And gather for the charge.  
Yet while we wait and watch  
And feel the war severe,  
We hear the joyful song ring out,  
Jesus, the Lord. is near!
- 3 'Tis harder at the end  
The word to testify,  
For Satan fights with all his pow'r  
Our witness to defy.  
Much greater strength we need  
The foe to overcome;  
How happy when the Lord we see  
And all our sighing's done!
- 4 Who then will forward go  
Strong in His mighty power?  
Who then will firmly trust the Lord  
Until the vict'ry hour;  
Till with the conqu'rors blest,

The triumph song's begun?  
That man will then rejoice to hear,  
Behold, I quickly come!  
5 Who then will choose God's best,  
And take the narrow track,  
Though passing thru the wildest storms,  
Yet never turning back?  
Who now will dare press on,  
Enduring pain and fear?  
All such will then rejoice to see  
Jesus, the Lord, is near!  
6 Though deep the darkness be  
We still would onward go,  
Till we the day of rapture greet  
And glory 'round shall glow.  
'Tis there we'll see the Lord,  
And Satan overcome;  
The overcomers will rejoice,  
Jesus, the Lord. has come!

**Lord's Day 3/7**

**Related Verses**

- 1 Thes. 5:2-11**  
**2** For you yourselves know perfectly well that like a thief in the night, so the day of the Lord comes.  
**3** When they say, Peace and security, then sudden destruction comes upon them, just as birth pangs to a woman with child; and they shall by no means escape.  
**4** But you, brothers, are not in darkness that the day should overtake you like a thief;  
**5** For you are all sons of light and sons of the day. We are not of the night nor of darkness.  
**6** So then let us not sleep as the rest do, but let us watch and be sober.  
**7** For those who sleep, sleep during the night, and those who get drunk are drunk during the night;  
**8** But since we are of the day, let us be sober, putting on the breastplate of faith and love and a helmet, the hope of

salvation.

- 9** For God did not appoint us to wrath but to the obtaining of salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ,  
**10** Who died for us in order that whether we watch or sleep, we may live together with Him.  
**11** Therefore comfort one another, and build up each one the other, even as you also do.

**Further Reading**

*Life-Study of Hebrews*, msg. 32  
*Life-Study of Revelation*, msgs. 34-35, 39  
*CWWN*, vol. 34, "The Glorious Church", ch. 4