

# Working Together

*"The Lord said, "Behold, they are one people, and they all have the same language. And this is what they began to do, and now nothing which they purpose to do will be impossible for them. "*

Genesis 11:6

# Lessons From Ezra & Nehemiah

- The rebuilding of Jerusalem after the Babylonian captivity started with a return of the captives and a command to rebuild the Temple of Jehovah.
  - Ezra 1:2-4
- The people were excited and ready to work
  - Ezra 3:11
- The opposition started; they frustrated and scared the Jews, even hiring lawyers to hinder their efforts.
  - Ezra 4:4-5
- The enemy appears to succeed and the work stops
  - Ezra 4:23-24

# God Is With Them

- The prophets exhorted them to do the work God had commanded. And God was with them.
  - Ezra 5:1-5
- They finished the rebuilding of the Temple according to the command of God.
  - Ezra 6:14-15
- After this great success the people did not continue working together to rebuild the city.
  - Neh 1:3



# Nehemiah Seeks God's Help

- Nehemiah prayed for God's help in rebuilding the city wall.
  - Neh 2:4-5,8
- Nehemiah views the necessary work.
  - Neh 2:11-15
- Nehemiah exhorts the people to rebuild the wall.
  - Neh 2:17-18

# Enemies Attack the Work

- Enemies ridicule the Jews attempt to rebuild the wall.
  - Neh 4:1-3
- But the people had their mind set upon the work at hand.
  - Neh 4:4-6
- The enemies threaten to attack and kill the Jews
  - Neh 4:7-11
- Nehemiah calms their fears and reminds them Jehovah is with them. They protected each other.
  - Neh 4:14-16, 20

# Sin Causes Division

- Contentions arise over the usury the Jewish nobles are charging their brethren.
  - Neh 5:1
- Nehemiah confronts the sin and they repent.
  - Neh 5:6-12
- Nehemiah leads by example and stays focused on the work at hand.
  - Neh 5:16
- Nehemiah remains faithful when tempted to sin
  - Neh 6:10-13
- The work is done!
  - Neh 6:15-16