

FROM COMFORT TO CALLING

Nehemiah 1:1-11, 2:17, 18

I. A BURDEN BEYOND COMFORT (1:1-4)

- A. Nehemiah's comfort zone
- B. Comfort can numb us (Amos 6:1; Rev 3:17)
- C. Burden begins with reality (Lam 1:1-2; Matt 23:37)
- D. Holy burdens break status quo (Matt 9:36; Acts 17:16)

II. A PRAYER THAT LIFTS THE BURDEN (1:5-7)

- A. Prayer begins with God's greatness (Isa 6:3; Ps 145:3)
- B. Prayer includes confession (Dan 9:4-5; 1 Jn 1:9)
- C. Renewal begins on our knees (Acts 1:14; Phil 4:6)

III. A PLEA THAT CLINGS TO GOD'S PROMISES (1:8-9)

- A. Pray God's Word back to Him (Ps 119:49; Jn 15:7)
- B. God's promises give confidence (Heb 10:23; Josh 21:45)
- C. Promises anchor us in storms (2 Cor 1:20)

IV. A READINESS THAT STEPS INTO ACTION (1:11)

- A. Prayer prepares for bold action (Jam 2:17)
- B. Obedience requires leaving comfort (Matt 16:24; Heb 11:8)
- C. Burden-driven faith influences others (Neh 2:18; Acts 4:13)

V. A CALL THAT AWAKENS OTHERS (2:17-18)

- A. Burdens move from personal to corporate (Gal 6:2)
 - B. Renewal begins with honesty (Hag 1:4-5)
 - C. A rallying cry awakens the community (Judg 6:34-35; Heb 10:24-25)
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