

Let your ear be attentive and your eyes open

Nehemiah 1:1-11

In this section, Nehemiah hears the news of the spiritual and physical collapse among his people in Jerusalem and he weeps and prays for 3-5 months. The kinds of things he prayed about during those months are recorded here in Nehemiah's prayer. Notice how personal he is with God. Notice how much confidence he has in God. Notice his humility and confession of sin. In this chapter we see Nehemiah as a type of Christ who weeps over Jerusalem and cries out for her redemption.

I. A distressing report from home – the walls are down and the gates are burned with fire, 1:1-3

II. Nehemiah's reaction – he weeps and prays for many days, v4

III. Nehemiah's prayer, v5-11

1. He glorifies God – He looks up, v5-6

2. He confesses sin – He looks within, v6b-7

3. He remembers God's promises – He looks back, v8-9

4. He pleads for his people on the basis of God's power – He looks ahead, v10-11

Words for Kids to Listen for

Walls broken down

Power of the resurrection

Raising up walls

Nehemiah's prayer

Prayer springs from real life.

Unruffled

Talking to yourself

Look up

Look within

Look back

Look ahead