

Put Your Shoulder to the Work, Nehemiah 3:1-32

This chapter illustrates how a united church rebuilds worship and holiness in the city. Strategy, energy, focus, willingness, team-work and doing the work with all your might are the underlying drumbeats of this chapter. It is accomplished through the leadership of the Head of the church working through the diversity of gifts of the Spirit of God among the members. It is an illustration of Jesus statement to Peter, *“I will build my church and the gates of hell will not prevail against it.”* But what is our part? *“Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord.”* 1 Cor 15:58

Seven Introductory facts

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I. The Sheep Gate, v1-2 – The work was consecrated work

II. The Fish Gate, v3-5 – Some refused to work

III. The Old Gate, v6-12 – A diverse people did the work

IV. The Valley Gate, v13-14 – Some did an enormous amount of work

V. The Refuse Gate, v14 – It was a work that made way for cleansing

VI. The Fountain Gate, v15 – They restored the gentle waters of Shiloah

VII. The Water Gate, v16-26 – Some worked carefully and zealously

VIII. The Horse Gate, v27-32 – Many worked in front of their own houses

IX. The East Gate, v29-30 – Not everyone in a particular family worked

X . The Miphkad Gate to the Sheep Gate, v31-32 – The repair begins and ends at the Sheep Gate