

## Nehemiah 9:5b-37

### BLESS JEHOVAH FOR HIS CONSTANT MERCY

- I. United in sorrow.
  - A. It was the seventh month (7:73; 8:2b,13a) and now the 24th day of that month and the church assembled again.
    - 1. As a body they together gathered, this time for fasting and with sackcloth and earth on themselves.
    - 2. They are told to “stand up and bless Jehovah your God ...” (5b-7).
  - B. What really unites these people? And what unites us with each other and with them?
    - 1. It is the fact that all these individual families had the same history, which history displays God’s mercy.
    - 2. Also as a body they separated themselves from all the strangers living among them.
- II. Their communal prayer.
  - A. We must stop thinking about ourselves and instead bless and praise Jehovah our God forever.
    - 1. In true worship we must be confronted with God: enter into His presence; come before Him.
    - 2. And “blessed be thy glorious name, which is exalted above all praise.”
  - B. All the history of the true church in the Old Dispensation, which repeatedly shows God’s mercy (17b,19a,27b,28b,31)!
    - 1. Each historical event demonstrates the greatness of God’s goodness and mercy.
    - 2. God is just as merciful to each of us today, for He “keepeth covenant and mercy” (32).
  - C. The proclamation of and demonstration of God’s mercifulness has an effect. Behold Him!
    - 1. It is this God whom we are to bless and praise in sincere worship (5b).
    - 2. When faith sees God shines forth in this bright light, then faith sees the ugliness of pride (10,16,29).
  - D. Their purpose was to confess their sins and those of their fathers and to worship Jehovah (3b).