

Commitment and Revival?

Nehemiah 9:38-- 10:39

East Berlin Community Church

Pastor Keith A. Mosebrook

February 23, 2020

Introduction

- Reluctance today to make commitments
- The Pattern for Revival
 - Begins with the Proclamation of God's Word—Nehemiah 8
 - Deepens with the Confession of Sin—Nehemiah 9
 - Solidifies by the Commitments we make—Nehemiah 10

Commitment and Revival?

A. Commitment to Obeying God's Word—Neh. 9:38—10:29

1. It was a "binding" agreement—a solemn oath. Num. 30:2; Eccl. 5
2. It was a "written" agreement
3. It was a "signed" agreement
 - 1) Nehemiah and Zedekiah—civil leaders first
 - 2) Priests—21 individuals or families
 - 3) Levites—17 individuals
 - 4) Heads of Families—44
 - 5) The "rest"—verbal assent to the covenant
4. Committed to OBEYING GOD'S WORD

B. Commitment to Distinct Living—Neh. 10:28, 30-31

1. Israel was to be distinct from the Gentile nations surrounding them.
2. Separation is simply total devotion to God, no matter what the cost.
3. Commitment to Distinct Living in two areas:
 - a. **Marriage**—10:30 Intermarriage with Gentiles. Exodus 34:12, 5-16; 2 Corinthians 6:14
 - b. **Business dealings**—10:31 Sabbath Observance
Exodus 35:1-2; Lev. 25:2-5
4. We are to be distinct from world —1 Peter 2:9, 11-12; Phil 2:14-16

C. Commitment to Support God's Work—Neh. 10:32-39

1. Four Ways in which the Jews financially supported the temple
 - a. Temple Tax—10:32-33 cp. Exod. 30:11-16
 - b. Wood Offering—10:34 cp. Lev. 6:12-13
 - c. First Fruits—10:35-37a cp. Prov. 3:9
 - c. Tithe—10:37b-39 cp. Lev. 20:30-34; Num. 18:25; Deut. 26
2. Giving for the support of the temple became a spiritual "thermometer". cp. 2 Chron. 31:9
3. "*Grace*" Giving Today?
 - a. Give proportionately to our income—1 Cor. 16:1-3
 - b. Give purposefully, generously, and cheerfully—2 Cor. 9:6-7
 - c. God's promise of abounding grace as we give—2 Cor. 9:8