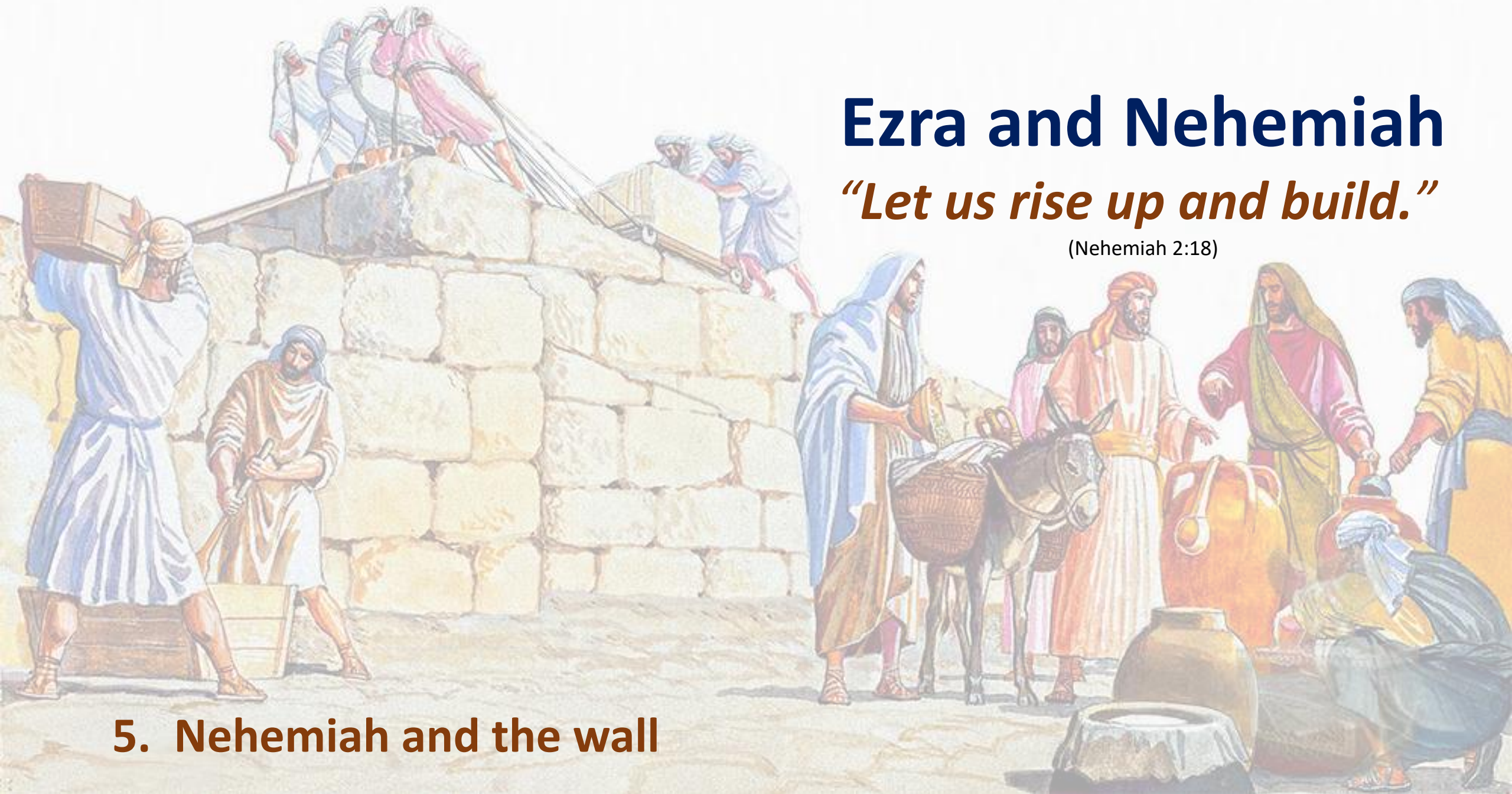


Ezra and Nehemiah

“Let us rise up and build.”

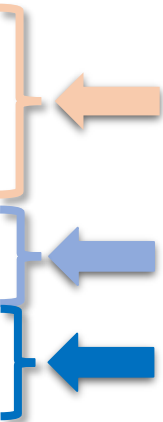
(Nehemiah 2:18)



5. Nehemiah and the wall

The Old Testament	
Law	1. Genesis
	2. Exodus
	3. Leviticus
	4. Numbers
	5. Deuteronomy
History	6. Joshua
	7. Judges
	8. Ruth
	9. 1 Samuel
	10. 2 Samuel
	11. 1 Kings
	12. 2 Kings
	13. 1 Chronicles
	14. 2 Chronicles
	15. Ezra
	16. Nehemiah
Wisdom	17. Esther
	18. Job
	19. Psalms
	20. Proverbs
	21. Ecclesiastes
Prophets	22. Song of Solomon
	23. Isaiah to 39. Malachi

The place of Ezra and Nehemiah in the Old Testament

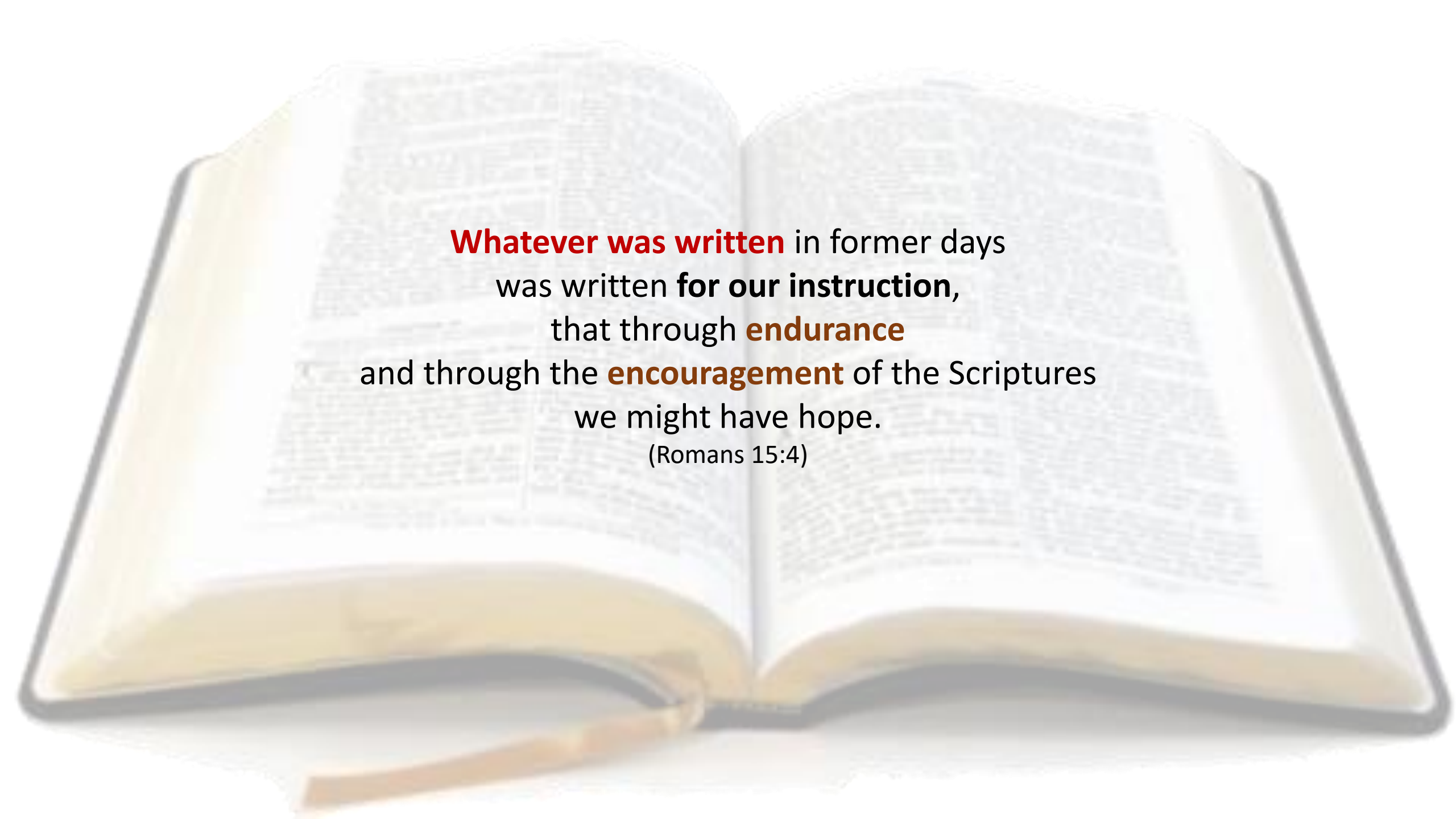


The history of Israel (both the northern and southern kingdoms) from Samuel until **the destruction of Jerusalem**.

The history of Judah from David up to **the destruction of Jerusalem**.

Returning to Jerusalem, **rebuilding** the House of God and the walls of the city, and **teaching** the people God's way.

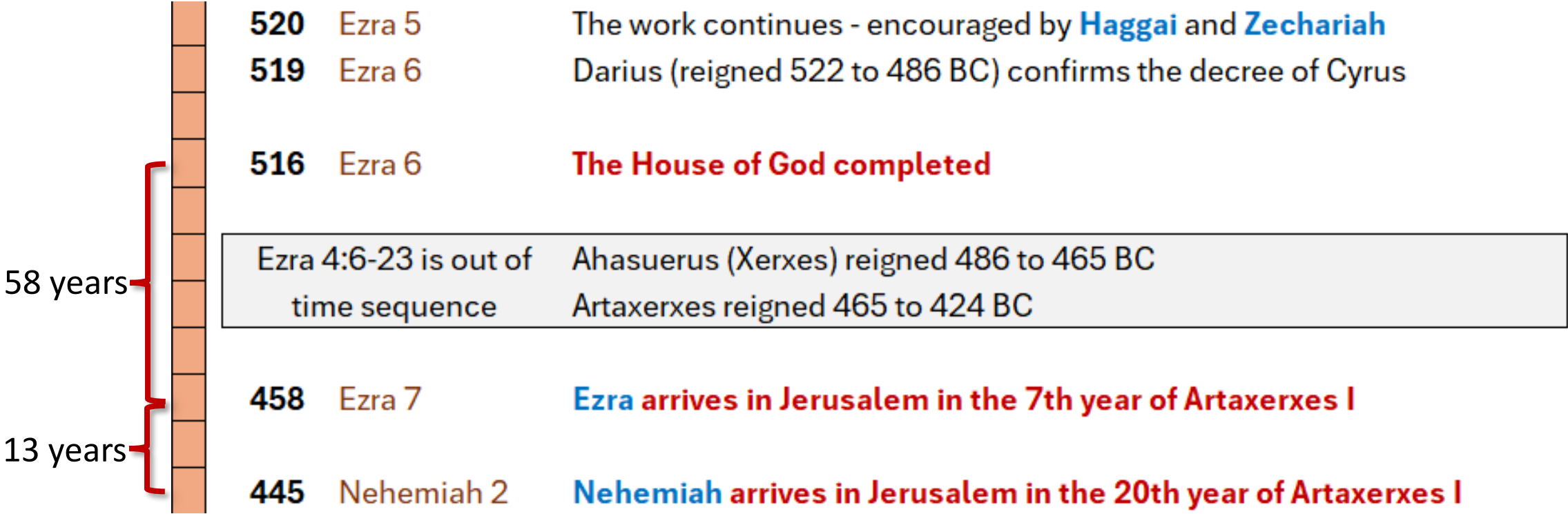
Ezra and Nehemiah are about recovering loss and rebuilding

An open book with a dark cover is shown from a top-down perspective, lying flat. The pages are white with faint, illegible text. Overlaid on the center of the open pages is a block of text in various colors and bolding.

Whatever was written in former days
was written **for our instruction**,
that through **endurance**
and through the **encouragement** of the Scriptures
we might have hope.

(Romans 15:4)

Time in Ezra and Nehemiah



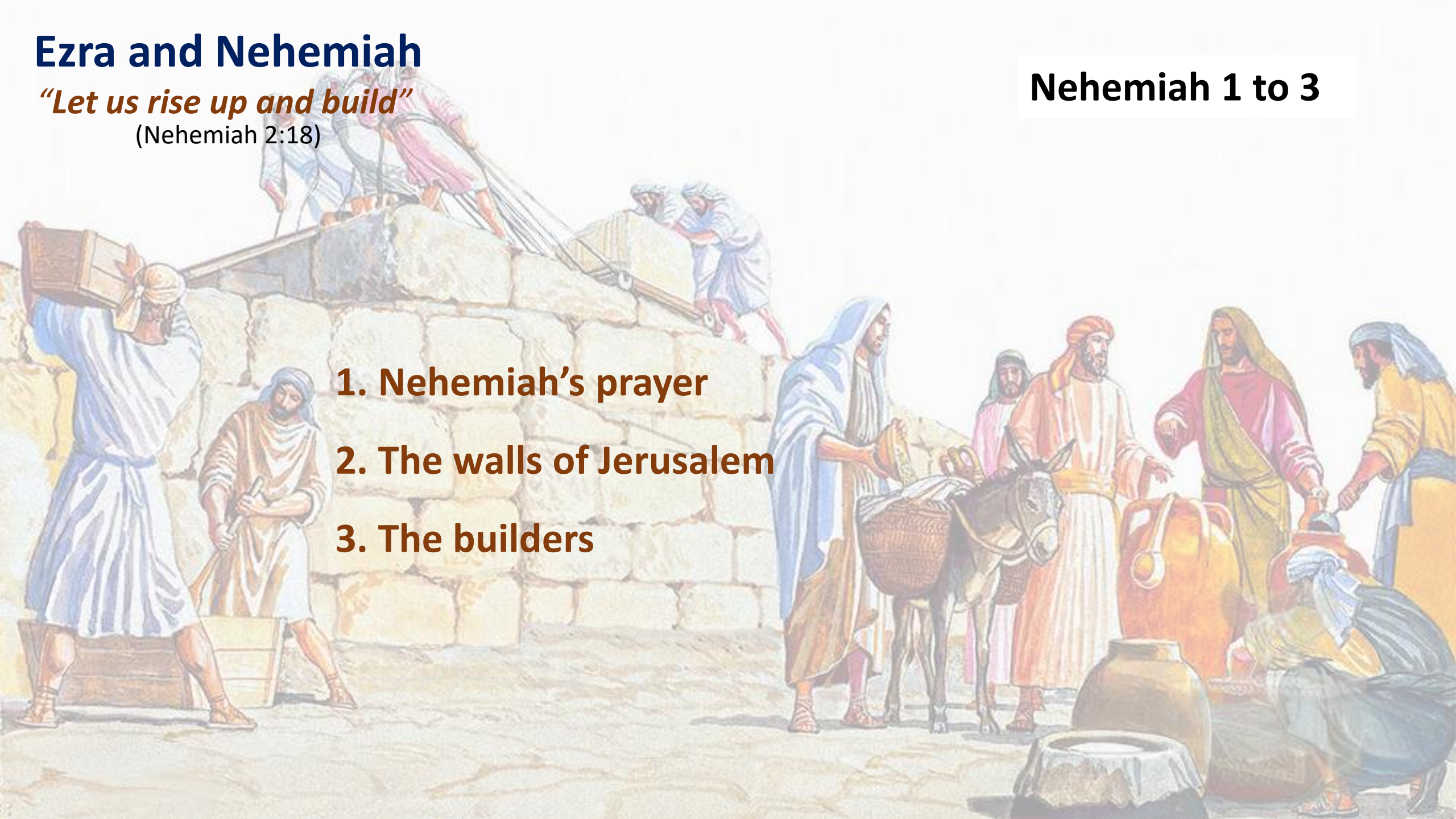
Ezra and Nehemiah

"Let us rise up and build"

(Nehemiah 2:18)

Nehemiah 1 to 3

1. Nehemiah's prayer
2. The walls of Jerusalem
3. The builders



Ezra and Nehemiah

“Let us rise up and build”

(Nehemiah 2:18)

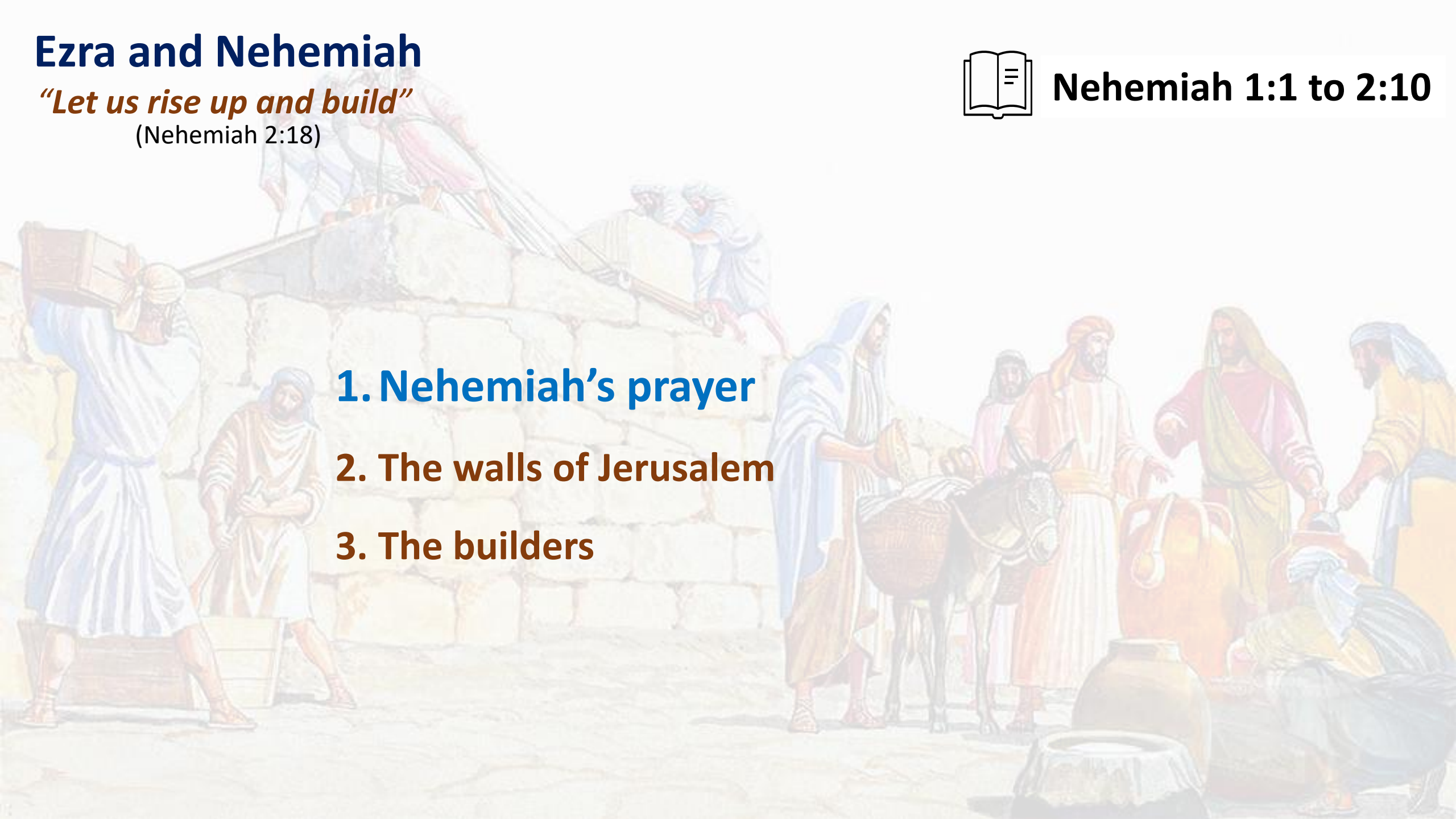


Nehemiah 1:1 to 2:10

1. Nehemiah's prayer

2. The walls of Jerusalem

3. The builders



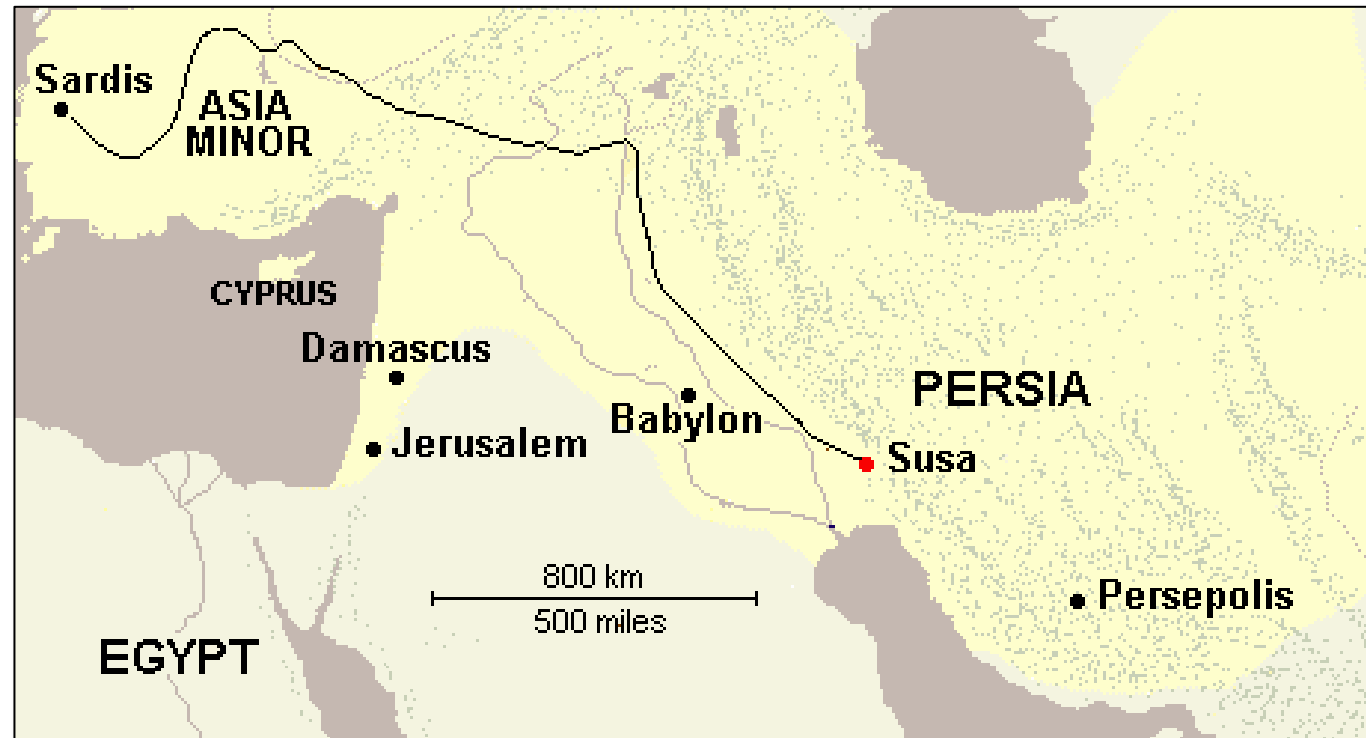
Nehemiah's prayer

The 9th month
- 445 BC

The words of **Nehemiah** the son of Hacaliah.

Now it happened in the month of Chislev, in the 20th year,
as I was in **Susa** the citadel, that Hanani, one of my brothers,
came with certain men from Judah.

(Nehemiah 1:1-2)

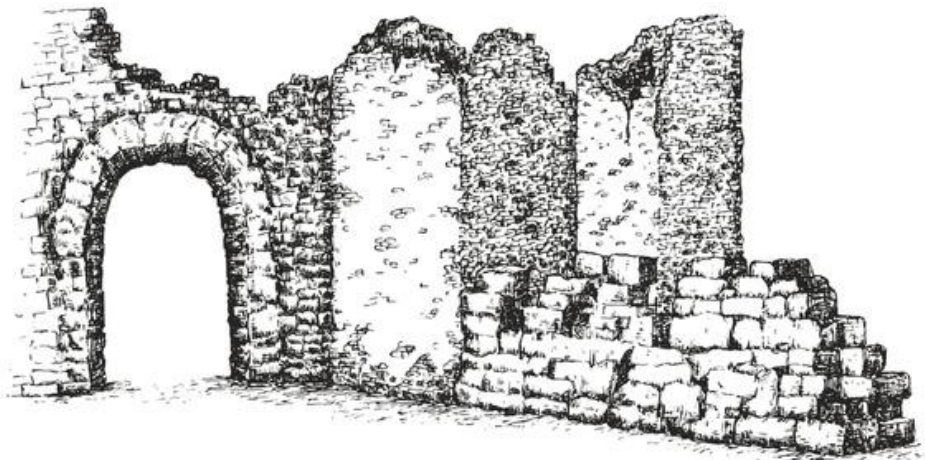


Nehemiah's prayer

“The remnant there in the province
who had survived the exile
is in great **trouble and shame**.

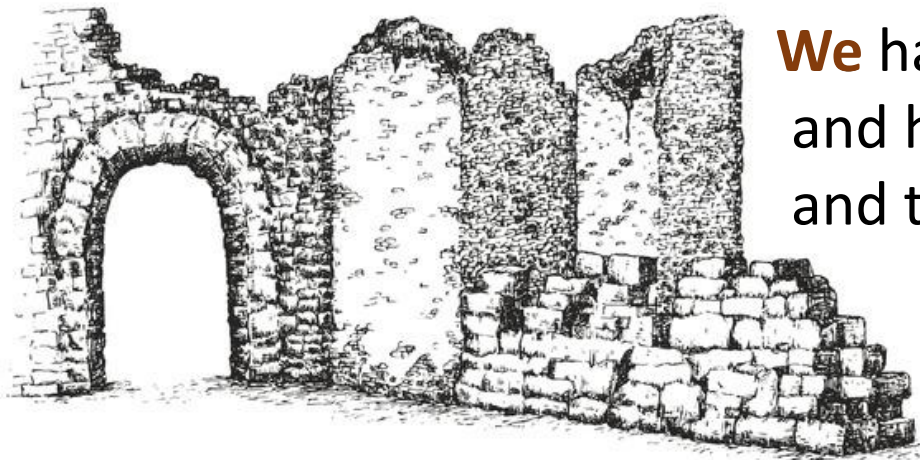
“The wall of Jerusalem is broken down,
and its gates are destroyed by fire.”

(Nehemiah 1:3)



Nehemiah's prayer

“O LORD God of heaven, the great and awesome God
who keeps covenant and steadfast love
with those who love Him and keep His commandments,
let Your ear be attentive and Your eyes open,
to hear the prayer of Your servant
that I now pray before you day and night ...
confessing the sins of the people of Israel...



We have acted very corruptly against You
and have not kept the commandments, the statutes,
and the rules that You commanded Your servant Moses.

(Nehemiah 1:5-7)

Nehemiah's prayer

“Remember the word that You commanded
Your servant Moses, saying,

***‘If you are unfaithful,
I will scatter you among the peoples,
but if you return to Me ...***

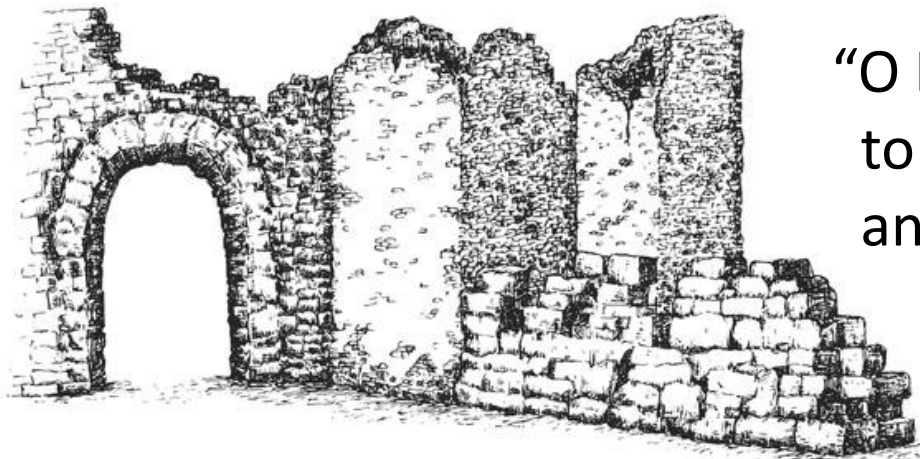
***I will gather them** and bring them
to the place that I have chosen,
to make My name dwell there.’”*

Jerusalem

“O Lord, let Your ear be attentive
to the prayer of Your servant ...
and grant him mercy in the sight of **this man.**”

Now I was cupbearer to the king.

(Nehemiah 1:8-9, 11)



Nehemiah's prayer

4 months later

In the month of Nisan, in the 20th year of King Artaxerxes...
(Nehemiah 2:1)

Why is your face sad, seeing you are not sick?
This is nothing but sadness of the heart.

Then I was very much afraid.

What are you
requesting?

So I prayed to
the God of heaven.

Why should not my face be sad,
when the city, the place of my fathers'
graves, lies in ruins, and its gates
have been destroyed by fire?

(See Nehemiah 2:2-4)

Nehemiah's prayer

What are you requesting?

So I prayed to the God of heaven.

How long will you be gone, and when will you return?

So **it pleased the king to send me** when I had given him a time.

12 years
(Nehemiah 13:6)

And **the king granted me** what I asked, for **the good hand of my God** was upon me.

If it pleases the king, and if your servant has found favour in your sight, that you **send me** to Judah, to the city of my fathers' graves, **that I may rebuild it.**

If it pleases the king, let letters be given me to the governors of the province Beyond the River...."

(See Nehemiah 2:7-8)

Nehemiah's prayer

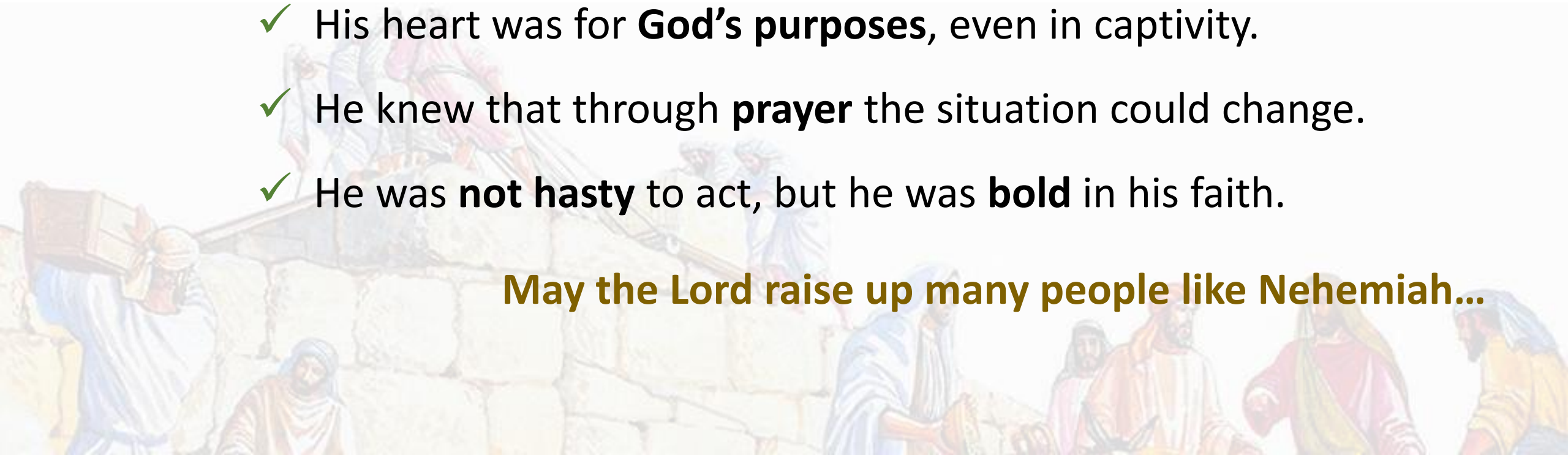
But when **Sanballat** the Horonite
and **Tobiah** the Ammonite servant
heard this, it displeased them greatly
that someone had come
to seek the welfare of the people of Israel.

(Nehemiah 2:10)

What have we seen?

- ✓ There was **great need** among God's people.
- ✓ Nehemiah was **raised up by God** for this time.
- ✓ His heart was for **God's purposes**, even in captivity.
- ✓ He knew that through **prayer** the situation could change.
- ✓ He was **not hasty** to act, but he was **bold** in his faith.

May the Lord raise up many people like Nehemiah...



Ezra and Nehemiah

“Let us rise up and build”

(Nehemiah 2:18)



Nehemiah 2:11-20

1. Nehemiah's prayer

2. The walls of Jerusalem

3. The builders



The walls of Jerusalem

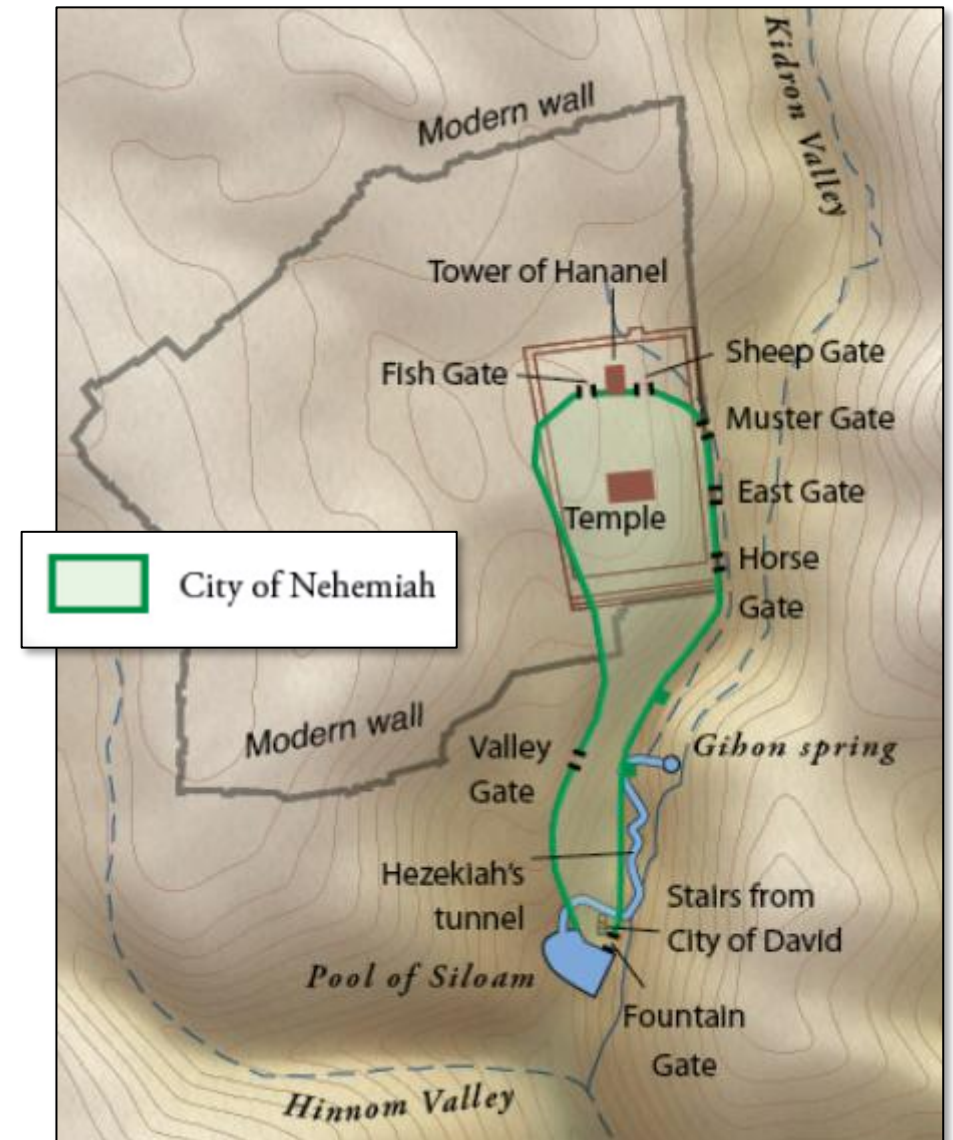
So I went to Jerusalem and was there 3 days.

Then I arose in the night,
I and a few men with me.

And I told no one what my God
had put into my heart to do
for Jerusalem....

I went out by night by the Valley Gate
to the Dragon Spring and to the Dung Gate,
**and I inspected the walls of Jerusalem
that were broken down and its gates
that had been destroyed by fire.**

(Nehemiah 2:11-13)



The walls of Jerusalem

Then I said to them,
“You see the trouble we are in,
how **Jerusalem lies in ruins** with its gates burned.

“**Come, let us build the wall of Jerusalem,**
that we may no longer suffer derision.”

And I told them of the hand of my God
that had been upon me for good, and also
of the words that the king had spoken to me.

And they said, “**Let us rise up and build.**”

So they strengthened their hands for the good work.

(Nehemiah 2:17-18)

The walls of Jerusalem

“Let us rise up and build.”

Sanballat and Tobiah and Geshem
jeered at us and despised us...

What is this thing that you are doing?
Are you rebelling against the king?

The God of heaven will make us prosper,
and we His servants will arise and build,
but you have no portion or right
or claim in Jerusalem.”

(See Nehemiah 2:19-20)

Thinking about the walls of Jerusalem...

Psalm 48

You shall call your walls **Salvation**,
and your gates **Praise**.
(Isaiah 60:18)

- **The city was defined by its walls**
 - ✓ The City of the Great King – but its walls were broken down
 - ✓ Within the walls, all was to be for the Lord
- **The walls protected Jerusalem**
 - ✓ The walls made Jerusalem strong against attack
 - ✓ The walls separated the people of God from those of the land

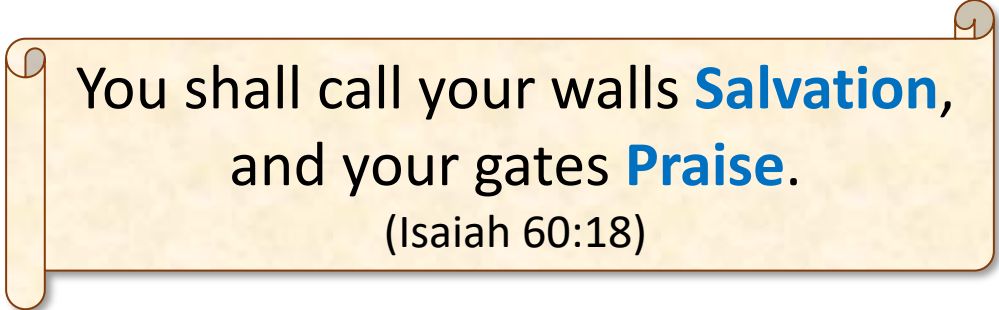
Thinking about the walls of Jerusalem...

You shall call your walls **Salvation**,
and your gates **Praise**.
(Isaiah 60:18)

...you have come to Mount Zion
and to the city of the living God,
the heavenly Jerusalem
...and to Jesus,
the mediator of a new covenant...
(See Hebrews 12:22-24)

Then I, John,
saw the holy city, **New Jerusalem**,
coming down out of heaven from God,
prepared as a bride
adorned for her husband.
(Revelation 21:2)

Thinking about the walls of Jerusalem...



You shall call your walls **Salvation**,
and your gates **Praise**.
(Isaiah 60:18)

- **The church is defined by our salvation in Christ**
 - ✓ The church bears the Lord's name and is His witness
 - ✓ Within the church, all is to be from and for the Lord
- **Our glorious salvation is our wall**
 - ✓ Keeping God's word protects us in the enemy's attacks
 - ✓ The Holy Spirit leads and gives wisdom in the battle for life

Thinking about the walls of Jerusalem...

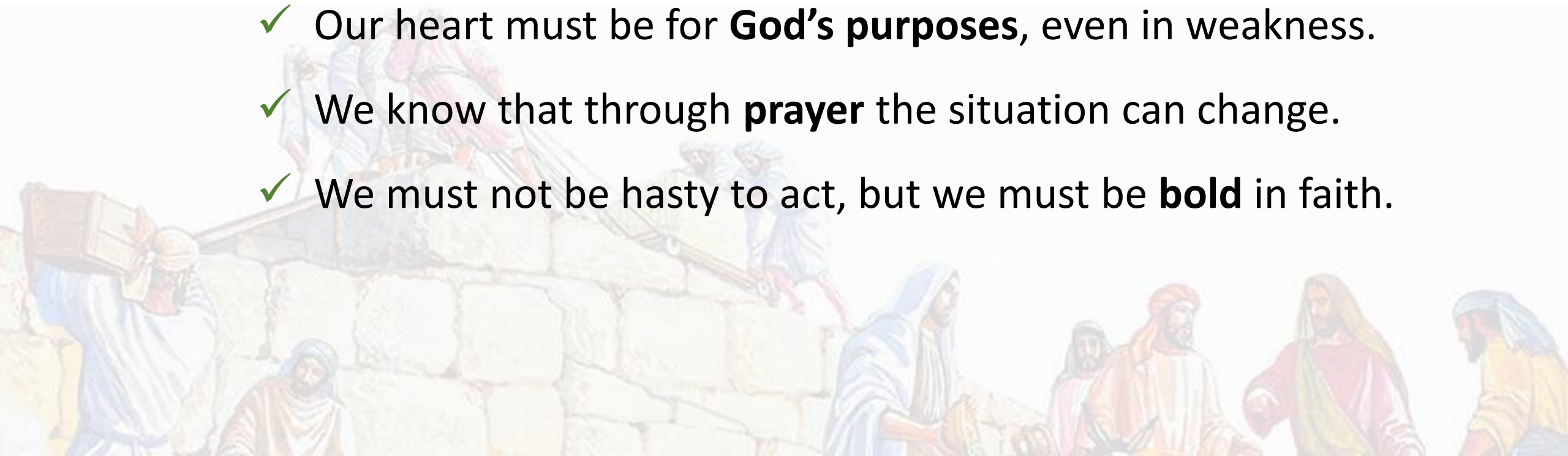
“Let us rise up and build.”

- ✓ Our **vision** of what the Lord's purpose for the church must be worthy of the Lord and His sacrifice.
- ✓ The church is to be a **witness** to the glory of Christ.
- ✓ The builders are working to **recover** for the Lord what is broken down and unworthy of Christ.
- ✓ The work is **gathering in** the redeemed harvest and **building up** the spiritual life of God's people for the glory of God.

Important! 

What have we seen?

- ✓ There is a **great need** among God's people.
- ✓ God is **raising up** people for this time.
- ✓ Our heart must be for **God's purposes**, even in weakness.
- ✓ We know that through **prayer** the situation can change.
- ✓ We must not be hasty to act, but we must be **bold** in faith.



Ezra and Nehemiah

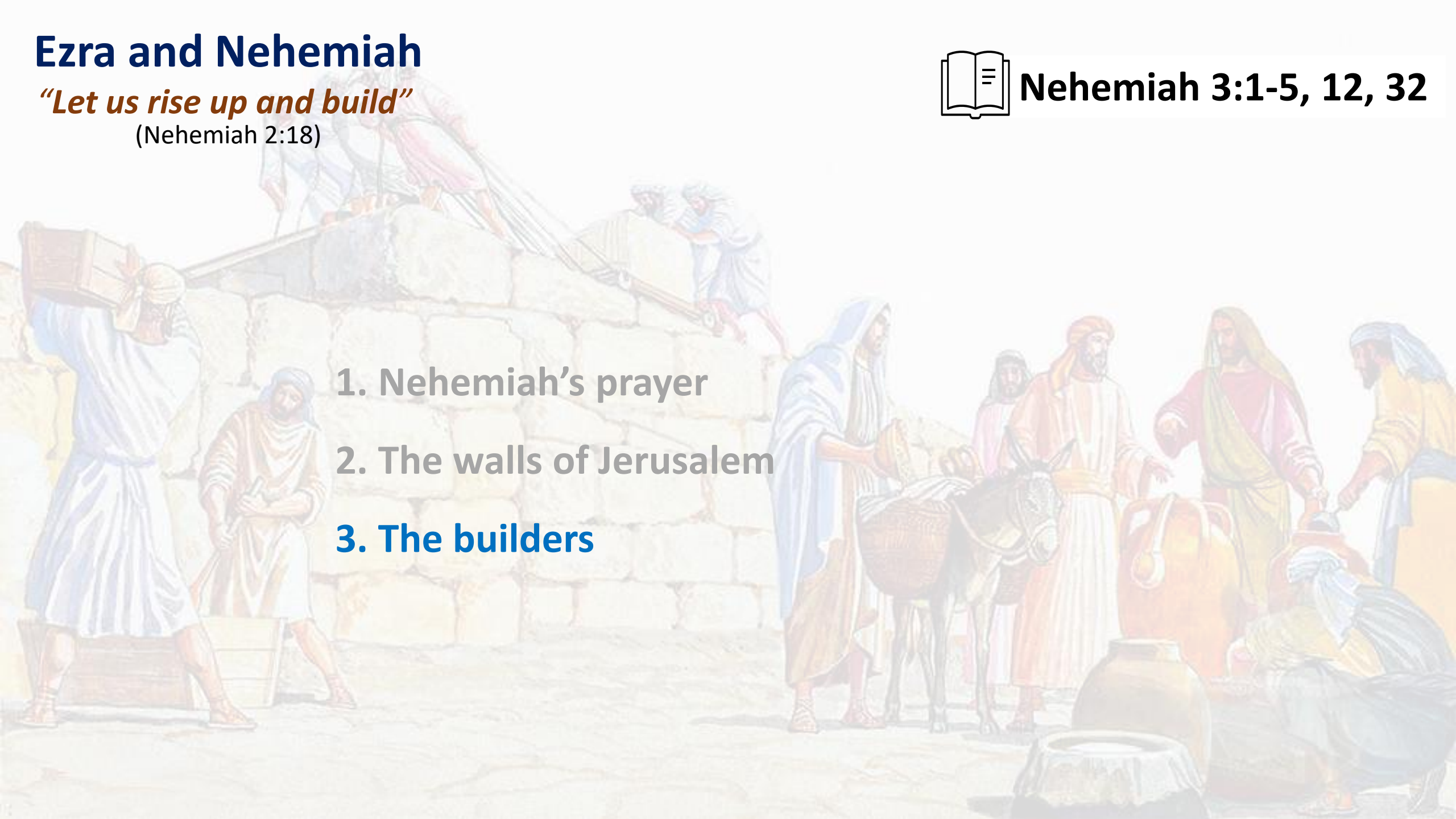
“Let us rise up and build”

(Nehemiah 2:18)



Nehemiah 3:1-5, 12, 32

1. Nehemiah's prayer
2. The walls of Jerusalem
3. The builders



NEHEMIAH CHAPTER 3

Then Eliashib the high priest rose up with his brothers the priests, and they **built the Sheep Gate**. They consecrated it and set its doors. They consecrated it as far as the Tower of the Hundred, as far as the Tower of Hananel. And next to him the men of Jericho **built**. And next to them Zaccur the son of Imri **built**. The sons of Hassenaah **built** the Fish Gate. They laid its beams and set its doors, its bolts, and its bars. And next to them Meremoth the son of Uriah, son of Hakkoz **repaired**. And next to them Meshullam the son of Berechiah, son of Meshezabel **repaired**. And next to them Zadok the son of Baana **repaired**. And next to them the Tekoites **repaired**, but their nobles would not stoop to serve their Lord.

Joiada the son of Paseah and Meshullam the son of Besodeiah **repaired** the Gate of Yeshanah. They laid its beams and set its doors, its bolts, and its bars. And next to them **repaired** Melatiah the Gibeonite and Jadon the Meronothite, the men of Gibeon and of Mizpah, the seat of the governor of the province Beyond the River. Next to them Uzziel the son of Harhaiah, goldsmiths, **repaired**. Next to him Hananiah, one of the perfumers, **repaired**, and they restored Jerusalem as far as the Broad Wall. Next to them Rephaiah the son of Hur, ruler of half the district of Jerusalem, **repaired**. Next to them Jedaiah the son of Harumaph **repaired** opposite his house. And next to him Hattush the son of Hashabneiah **repaired**. Malchijah the son of Harim and Hasshub the son of Pahath-moab **repaired** another section and the Tower of the Ovens. Next to him Shallum the son of Hallohesh, ruler of half the district of Jerusalem, **repaired**, he and his daughters.

Hanun and the inhabitants of Zanoah **repaired** the Valley Gate. They **rebuilt** it and set its doors, its bolts, and its bars, and a thousand cubits of the wall, as far as the Dung Gate.

Malchijah the son of Rechab, ruler of the district of Beth-haccherem, **repaired** the Dung Gate. He **rebuilt** it and set its doors, its bolts, and its bars.

And Shallum the son of Col-hozeh, ruler of the district of Mizpah, **repaired** the Fountain Gate. He **rebuilt** it and covered it and set its doors, its bolts, and its

bars. And he **built** the wall of the Pool of Shelah of the king's garden, as far as the stairs that go down from the city of David. After him Nehemiah the son of Azbuk, ruler of half the district of Beth-zur, **repaired** to a point opposite the tombs of David, as far as the artificial pool, and as far as the house of the mighty men. After him the Levites **repaired**: Rehum the son of Bani. Next to him Hashabiah, ruler of half the district of Keilah, **repaired** for his district. After him their brothers **repaired**: Bavvai the son of Henadad, ruler of half the district of Keilah. Next to him Ezer the son of Jeshua, ruler of Mizpah, **repaired** another section opposite the ascent to the armoury at the buttress. After him Baruch the son of Zabbai **repaired** another section from the buttress to the door of the house of Eliashib the high priest. After him Meremoth the son of Uriah, son of Hakkoz **repaired** another section from the door of the house of Eliashib to the end of the house of Eliashib. After him the priests, the men of the surrounding area, **repaired**. After them Benjamin and Hasshub **repaired** opposite their house. After them Azariah the son of Maaseiah, son of Ananiah **repaired** beside his own house. After him Binnui the son of Henadad **repaired** another section, from the house of Azariah to the buttress and to the corner. Palal the son of Uzai **repaired** opposite the buttress and the tower projecting from the upper house of the king at the court of the guard. After him Pedaiah the son of Parosh and the temple servants living on Ophel **repaired** to a point opposite the Water Gate on the east and the projecting tower. After him the Tekoites **repaired** another section opposite the great projecting tower as far as the wall of Ophel.

Above the Horse Gate the priests **repaired**, each one opposite his own house. After them Zadok the son of Immer **repaired** opposite his own house. After him Shemaiah the son of Shecaniah, the keeper of the East Gate, **repaired**. After him Hananiah the son of Shelemiah and Hanun the sixth son of Zalaph **repaired** another section. After him Meshullam the son of Berechiah **repaired** opposite his chamber. After him Malchijah, one of the goldsmiths, **repaired** as far as the house of the temple servants and of the merchants, opposite the Muster Gate, and to the upper chamber of the corner. And between the upper chamber of the corner and the Sheep Gate the goldsmiths and the merchants **repaired**.

NEHEMIAH CHAPTER 3

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All the builders are known
and remembered

The builders

- Are you **discouraged** by what you see about you?
“**Let us rise up and build.**”
- Do you feel that the work is too much, even **impossible**?
“**Let us rise up and build.**”
- Do you fear the **opposition** to this great work?
“**Let us rise up and build.**”
- Do you long to see Christ **glorified** in His people?
“**Let us rise up and build.**”
- Are you “**His workmanship**”, created for good works?
“**Let us rise up and build.**”
- Are you willing to be **a living sacrifice** for the Lord?
“**Let us rise up and build.**”

I will build My church,
and the gates of hell
shall not prevail against it.

(Matthew 16:18)

