



*Nehemiah #10

11/02/08

**“BUILDING THE KINGDOM OF GOD,
STRENGTHEN WITH THE JOY OF THE LORD”**

Nehemiah 7:4 - 8:12

“V” Is for Vigilance

Nehemiah 7:1-73

1. **Enlisting leadership** (Neh. 7:1-3)
2. **Establishing citizenship** (Neh. 7:4-69)
This section parallels Ezra 2:1-64.
3. **Encouraging worship** (Neh. 7:70-73)

Citizenship and leadership together can make a state, but it takes worship to make that state into a godly nation. John Stuart Mill wrote, *“The worth of a state, in the long run, is the worth of the individuals composing it.”*



The People and the Book

Nehemiah 8:1-12

1. **We must understand the Word of God** (Neh. 8:1-8)

The Bible is not a “magic book” that changes people or circumstances because somebody reads it or recites it. *God’s Word must be understood before it can enter the heart and release its life-changing power.*

He brought the Book (Neh. 8:1-4)

He opened the Book (Neh. 8:5-6)

He read and explained the Book (Neh. 8:7-8)

2. **We must rejoice in the Word** (Neh. 8:9-12)

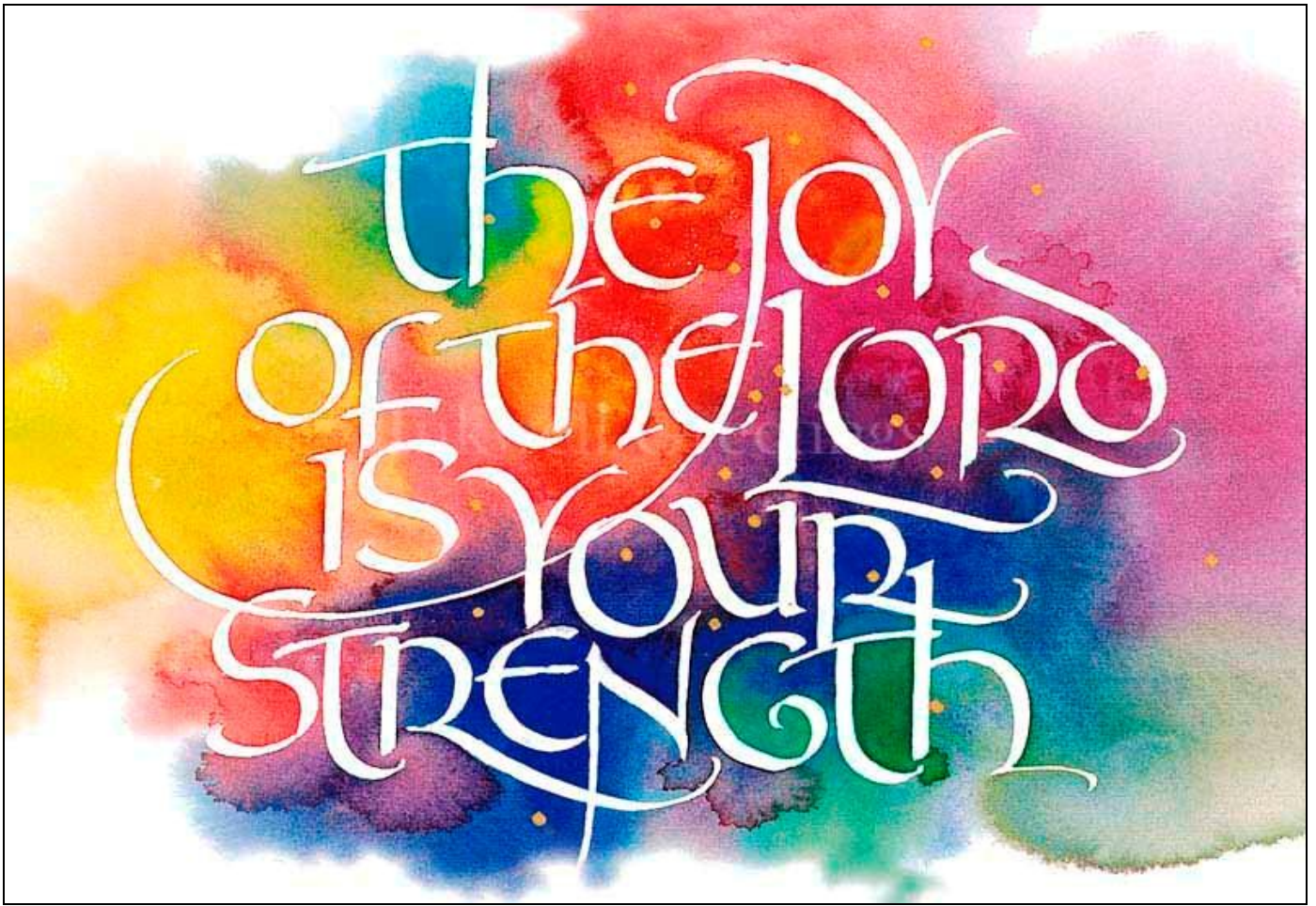
As Ezra read and explained the Word, the assembly’s first response was one of conviction and grief. They mourned over their sins, *“for by the law is the knowledge of sin”* (Rom. 3:20)

The Word of God brings conviction and leads to repentance, but it also brings us joy; for the same Word that wounds also heals. “Your words were found, and I ate them, and Your word was to me the joy and rejoicing of my heart; for I am called by Your name” (Jer. 15:16, NKJV). “The statutes of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart” (Ps. 19:8). “Your testimonies I have taken as a heritage forever, for they are the rejoicing of my heart” (119:111, NKJV).

***“It is as wrong to mourn when God has forgiven us
as it is to rejoice when sin has conquered us.”***

Q. Do you delight in God’s Word? Would you rather have God’s Word than food (119:103; Luke 10:38-42), or sleep (Ps. 119:55, 62, 147-148), or wealth? (vv. 14, 72, 137, 162) If you delight in His Word, God will delight in you and share His best blessings with you.

****Psalms 19:8.. The statutes of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart...***



JOY

“Gladness of Heart”

(AGAPE'S CONSCIOUSNESS)

*Psalms 16:11 *John 15:11; 16:22

Joy of Jesus

Others Centered Lifestyle

Yourself United with Christ



