

Rebuild #10

Rebuilding by Renewing

(*Nehemiah 10:28-39*)



Introduction

There is a deliberate order of what happens in Chapters 8-10.

God's people have heard God's Word, repented from their sins, and rejoiced in his mercy – and now, and only, now – because of all this they make a “firm covenant in writing” (*Nehemiah 9:38*) to live for God.

This is also how the gospel works: we live for God, not to earn our salvation, but because God saved us! Cf. *Romans 12:1-2*



Sermon points

If you love me, you will keep my commandments.

(John 14:15)

I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship.

(Romans 12:1)

1. Not marrying outside the people of God (v30)

Do not be unequally yoked with unbelievers. For what partnership has righteousness with lawlessness? Or what fellowship has light with darkness?

(2 Corinthians 6:14)

2. Not ignoring the Sabbath rest (v31)

Therefore, while the promise of entering his rest still stands, let us fear lest any of you should seem to have failed to reach it.

(Hebrews 4:1)

Come to me, all who labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.

(Matthew 11:28)

3. Not neglecting the temple (v32-39)

Jesus answered them, “Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.”

(John 2:19)

Do you not know that those who are employed in the temple service get their food from the temple, and those who serve at the altar share in the sacrificial offerings?

In the same way, the Lord commanded that those who proclaim the gospel should get their living by the gospel.

(1 Corinthians 9:13-14)



Discussion starter

What motivates you to live a life honouring to God?



From the Bible

1. In the light of all God's mercies, what do God's people promise and re-commit to?
What is the New Testament application?

V29

V30

V31

V31

2. How does this show submission to God?

For background: Exodus 12:1-3; Exodus 34:11-16; Exodus 20:8-11;
Leviticus 27:26-27 etc.

3. How does the temple point us to Jesus? Cf. John 2:19-20



Think it through

1. What would it look like in your life if you put God first, especially in your relationships, ministry and finances?
2. Do you give regularly to the work of the church? If not, what could you give?



Pray

Almighty God, we bring you praise and thanksgiving, and ourselves, our souls and bodies, to be a holy and lifelong offering to you. Lord, accept this duty and service we owe you, not because we deserve it but because of Jesus Christ our Lord in whose name alone we come to you. Amen.



Verse for the week

“Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might.” **(Deuteronomy 6:4-5)**