

Come Let Us Build Up the
Wall of Jerusalem

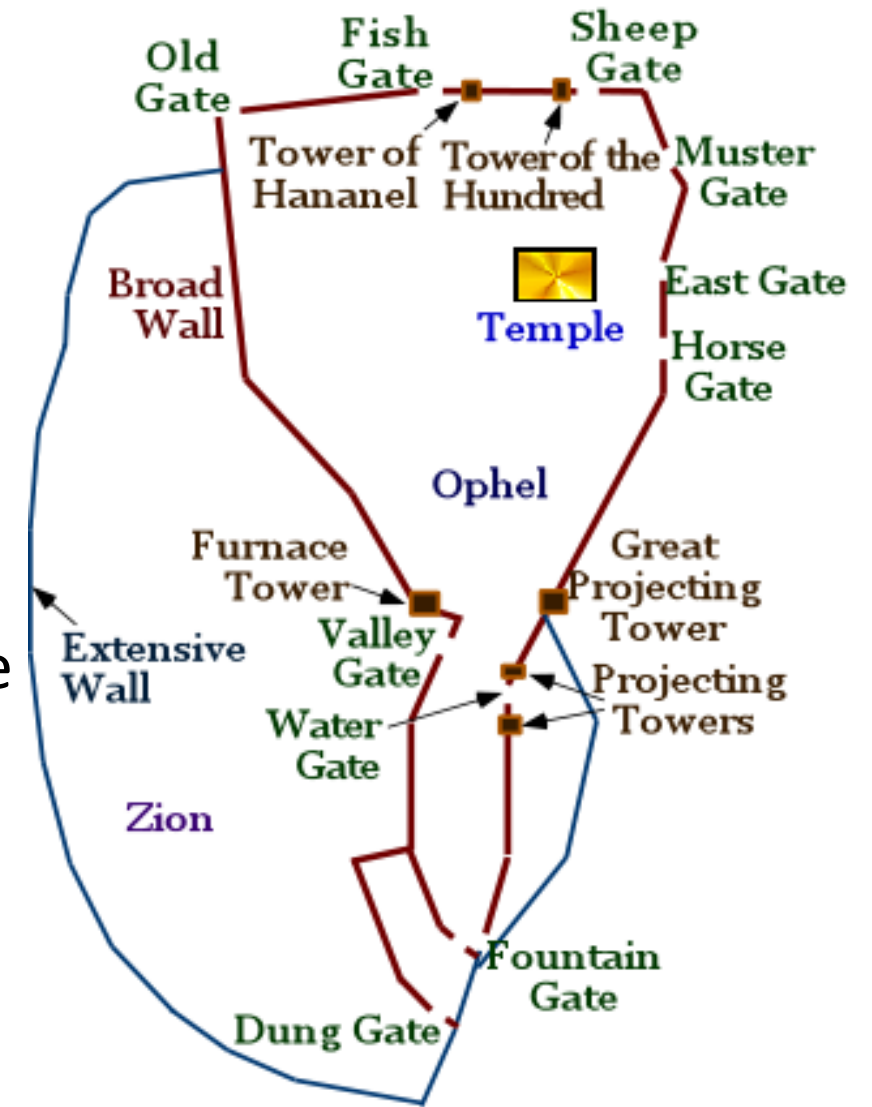
Introduction

- This is a calling and invitation to take action, of entering the last work of God in the Old Testament time
- The significance of the city of Jerusalem (Hebrews 11:16, Psalms 48)
- Why the wall and the gates? (Isaiah 60:18)
- The application in today's setting: the recovery of spiritual reality

Introduction

Walk about Zion and go round about her; count the towers thereof. (Psalm 48:12 Darby)

- Altogether there are 12 gates, 10 repaired & rebuilt, the other 2 were preserved with no damage (Gate of Ephraim & Prison Gate not pictured)
- It only took 52 days to finish this work; it is the operation of God with His people.
- Key person of engaging this work: spiritual leadership, the man Nehemiah
 - He loves God and God's will
 - He is a man of prayer
 - He is very prudent
 - He is inspirational



NEHEMIAH'S JERUSALEM

Sheep Gate (Neh 3:1-2)

- **Who is Jesus:** “Behold, the Lamb of God, Who takes away the sin of the world”
 - John 1:29, 32, 34 & 36
 - He is the One Who baptizes with the Holy Spirit & the Son of God
 - John 1:33-34
 - He is the Living witness of God
- **What Jesus has done** as the Lamb of God
 - Christ offered Himself spotless to God, purified your conscience from dead works (Heb 9:14)
 - Through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ, once for all; having offering one sacrifice, has sat down in perpetuity at the right hand of God (Heb 10:10, 12)

Built and consecrated the Sheep Gate: to realize who is Jesus and what Jesus has done for us and hallowed His Name (*consecrate; praise; honor; worship*)

Repair of the wall in this section

How can we receive Christ and the reality of His redemption work?
(Neh 3:1)

- Tower of the Hundred
 - Tower = spiritual high place, place of the spiritual watchman for God's people
- Now we present ourselves to God, also consecration (Rom 6:12-14, 19)
 - Present our bodies as instruments of righteousness to God
- Tower of Hananel: *God has favor*
 - In our experience: Rom 12:1-2, 3-5
 - Present our bodies as a living sacrifice, this is worship & service, then God's purpose of salvation in Christ can be fulfilled and realized in God's people

Fish Gate

Jesus told her, "I am the Resurrection and the Life" (John 11:25-26)

He has annulled death, and brought to light the Life and the incorruptibility (2 Tim 1:10)

1. What is Resurrection?

- What enters into death first, then swallowed, bound and comes out intact (incorruptibility)
- Resurrection means victory (1 Cor 15:54)

2. Importance of Jesus *is the* Resurrection

- He is willing to taste death for everyone by the grace of God (Heb 2:9)
- As He enters into death, He died to sin once for all and lives to God once for all (Rom 6:9-10)

3. Through death, He annulled him who has the might of death and released those who became slaves of sin because of the fear of death (Heb 2:14-15)

4. Because He suffered death, He has been crowned with honor and will lead many sons into glory

Experience of the Fish Gate

How to receive and enjoy the power of the Resurrection of Christ?

1. By the mercy and great love of God (Eph 2:4-8)
2. Longing and desire will be generated & created in us (Phil 3:10)
3. Attitude of willingness: If we die together with Christ, then we believe we shall live together with Him (Rom 6:8)
4. But if the Spirit of Him that has raised up Jesus from among the dead dwells in you, shall quicken your mortal bodies (Rom 8:11)

Old Gate

- Leads to Golgotha, the place of Skull (Matt 27:31-37)
- Reveals an old path; *Stand in the way and see, thus says Jehovah, and ask for the ancient path, which is the good way, and walk therein, and ye shall find rest for your soul.* (Jer 6:16)
- To know Christ crucified and follow Him closely
 1. He is the answer of God to all human problems and troubles (1 Cor 2:2)
 2. Christ crucified is the power of God and the wisdom of God; power can divide what is old and new creation, divide earthly & heavenly, take away sin & death, bringing in righteousness & life
 3. In Christ crucified, we meet and receive the mercy, great love, holiness & righteousness of God (John 1:51)
 4. Only Christ crucified can manifest and release the power and life of God to us (John 12:23-24, 12:32)

Old Gate

How do we enter into the reality of taking up our own cross & following Jesus? This is the repairing of the wall after seeing the gate!

1. Jesus urges us to enter into the narrow gate and walk in the narrow way (Matt 7:13-14). *Christ* is the narrow gate & way (John 10:7,9; 14:6). Only in this way can we be nourished in our life, leading to eternal life.
2. Live in the great sacrificial love of Christ (Gal 2:20); an intelligent and reasonable appreciation
 - To be crucified with Christ = deny self; how? Because of His love
 - Then in appreciation, accept what He has done for me by faith
3. To fully enjoy the outcome of the Good News, need to suffer with Christ (Phil 1:29); this is also our weapon (1 Peter 4:1)
4. Follow the footsteps of Christ (1 Peter 2:21); wherever the Lamb goes, we follow
5. Always carrying about in our body the dying of Jesus, that the death and life of Jesus may be manifested in our bodies (1 Cor 4:10)

Section of the wall after the Old Gate

14 groups of people engaged in the rebuilding and repairing work

1. 2 groups of people rebuilt and repaired the gate door frame, beams and bars and leaves (Neh 3:6)
 - Significance of the meaning of the cross
2. 6 groups of people repaired the wall until the Broad Wall (2 ft broadening out to 30 ft): narrow section (constrained) until broadening (great rest) (Neh 3:7)
3. 5 groups of people repaired up to the Tower of Furnace (Neh 3:9-11)
 - A place where everything is burned to ash, our natural man reduced to ashes
4. A father, an administrator, together with his daughters, repaired the last section after the Tower of Furnace: revealing spiritual function (Neh 3:12)

Wall: The experience and the result of walking the way of the cross

1. From compressed to broadness
2. From being constrained to liberty and rest in the Lord
3. From humility to ascension
4. Being reduced to ashes, from brokenness until perfection