

**HOW CAN WE KNOW IF WE TRULY CARE ABOUT THE WORK OF GOD?
NEHEMIAH'S EXAMPLE - PART 1
Nehemiah 1:1-4**

- I. **OUR INTERACTIONS WITH OUR BROTHERS AND SISTERS SHOULD INCLUDE A DESIRE TO KNOW ABOUT HIS PEOPLE AND HIS WORK:** The Lord used the coming of Nehemiah's brother and some men from Judah to prompt him ask about the Jews and about Jerusalem (1-2)
 - A. **Context (1)**

 - B. **Nehemiah's inquiry reveals concern** for the Jews in the land and Jerusalem (2)

- II. **WHEN HEARING OF THE DIFFICULT STATE OF HIS PEOPLE AND WORK, OUR HEARTS SHOULD BE MOVED TO GO TO THE LORD:** The Lord used their answer to move the heart of Nehemiah to weep, pray, confess, wait, and help with the work (3-4, misc.)
 - A. **Their difficult state revealed (3)**
 - 1. The remnant were great distress and reproach (3a)

 - 2. The wall of Jerusalem was broken down and gates burned (3b)

 - B. **The response of Nehemiah: The news affected him deeply and thus caused him to go to the Lord (4)**
 - 1. He sat down and wept

 - 2. He mourned for days

 - 3. He was fasting and praying before the God of heaven

- III. **WHY DID THIS AFFECT NEHEMIAH SO MUCH?** The answer reveals much about the heart of those who care about the work of God

NEXT WEEK we will look at NEHEMIAH'S PRAYER in depth