

The Man Who Recognized Greatness

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I. Introduction.

- A. It is always too soon to quit.
- B. Many churches today need to have their foundations rebuilt.
- C. Nehemiah was called to rebuild his community.
- D. The greatness of God kept Nehemiah going
- E. Text: Nehemiah 1:1.

II. When you have a great God, you see great opportunities.

- A. The survivors from captivity were in mourning after the exile.(Jeremiah 15:5)
- B. Nehemiah saw an opportunity to help.
- C. Believing in a great God does not minimize the problems, but it overcomes weaknesses in order to meet the need.

III. When you believe the greatness of God, you will pray with great faith.

- A. It does not work to make prayer an emergency system only.
- B. The purpose of prayer is to get God's will done on earth.
- C. We are too impetuous in prayer. (Psalm 32)

IV. When you believe in a great God, you overcome great obstacles.

- A. Obstacle #1: the king.
- B. Obstacle #2: getting people to follow. The church needs leadership.
- C. Obstacle #3: recruiting people.

1. Don't spend your time putting out brush fires.

2. The mark of a leader is sacrifice.

V. When you believe in a great God, you finish what you start.

VI. When you believe in a great God, you bring great glory to his name.

Application questions:

1. What opportunities have you missed from having too small a view of God?

2. What does it look like to pray in faith? Explain.

3. What can we learn about leadership from Nehemiah? Explain.
