

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

September 23-29, 2024

Monday:		Psalms 80
Tuesday:		Psalms 81
Wednesday:	Nehemiah 1-2	Psalms 82
Thursday:	Nehemiah 3-4	Psalms 83
Friday:	Nehemiah 5-6	Psalms 84
Saturday:	Nehemiah 7	Psalms 85
Sunday:	Nehemiah 8	Psalms 86

Weekend Reflection

Nehemiah records for us the rebuilding of the walls in Jerusalem. God put it on Nehemiah's heart to do this work and reestablish this crucial part of the city's defense. And he faced severe opposition.

Nevertheless, the work went on. The workers would have a sword in one hand (for personal defense) and a trowel in the other (for the construction work), and Nehemiah believed that "our God will fight for us." And indeed, the Lord fought for them. The walls were finished.

In Nehemiah 8, Ezra reads the Law and the people weep in response. But the weeping turns to joy as Nehemiah and Ezra teach the people: the Joy of the Lord will be your strength.

It is an amazing time of faith in God. And it should be a source of encouragement, especially as we face opposition and hostility and discouragement. Our God will fight for us. The joy of the Lord is our strength.

SUNDAY SERMON

The sermon for **Sunday, September 29**, is on John 4:27-30. Read this passage before the service to prepare your heart for the preaching of God's Word.

Faith Groups

- What can we learn from verse 34 and Jesus calling the work the Father had sent him to do as his food?
- In what sense are the fields "white for harvest"? What does that mean, and what are some of the implications for Christians and for churches?
- Why do the "sower and the reaper rejoice together"?
- Whose labor do we enter into (verses 37-38)?
- What are the practical implications of this passage for our church? For this Faith Group? For me as a Christian?