
Strengthening Your Hands To Work (The Anointing To Rebuild)

Rebuilding The Walls Of Protection

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May 21, 2023

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Sermon: Rebuilding The Walls Of Protection: Strengthening Your Hands To Work (The Anointing To Rebuild)

Lesson Text

Nehemiah 2:17–18 (KJV)¹⁷ Then said I unto them, Ye see the distress that we *are* in, how Jerusalem *lieth* waste, and the gates thereof are burned with fire: come, and let us build up the wall of Jerusalem, that we be no more a reproach. ¹⁸ Then I told them of the hand of my God which was good upon me; as also the king's words that he had spoken unto me. And they said, Let us rise up and build. So they strengthened their hands for *this good work*.

John 9:1–4 (KJV)¹ And as *Jesus* passed by, he saw a man which was blind from *his* birth. ² And his disciples asked him, saying, Master, who did sin, this man, or his parents, that he was born blind? ³ Jesus answered, **Neither hath this man sinned, nor his parents: but that the works of God should be made manifest in him.** ⁴ **I must work the works of him that sent me, while it is day: the night cometh, when no man can work.**

Introduction

So far in our series on Rebuilding the Walls of Protection, we've looked at rebuilding the walls of protection with prayer and with favor. Today we will look at the work of our hands.

Have you ever been in an emotional place or space where you just didn't feel like working? Maybe you were sad, frustration, or depressed about how life or relationships were going.

Now here's the dilemma, in order to build the walls of protection around us to keep us out of these emotional places, we must work. And the key to getting back to work is in our hands.

Throughout scripture, we see references to the power of the hand or what's in one's hand to accomplish the assignment, purpose, or will of God.

When Moses was fearful of getting to work to deliver Israel from the bondage of Egypt, God asked him, "What's in your hands?"

Moses had a rod in his hand to part the red sea; the widow at Zarephath had a handful of meal and a little cruise of oil to sustain themselves throughout the famine; David had a slingshot and 5 rocks to defeat Goliath; And Jesus had 2 fish and 5 loaves of bread to feed the multitude.

Many people never build the walls of protection around their ministries, homes, families, purpose, or calling because they fail to strengthen what's in their hands to do the work.

In our main lesson text, Nehemiah spoke of the Hand of God, the Hand of the King, and the Hand of the People to do the good work of rebuilding the wall.

Jesus said in our second lesson text, **"I must work the works of him that sent me, while it is day: the night cometh, when no man can work"**.

Today we will learn how to strengthen our hands of Position, Praise, and Power so that we can do the work of rebuilding our walls of protection.

Series and Sermon: Rebuilding The Walls Of Protection: Strengthening Your Hands To Work (The Anointing To Rebuild)

“The Authority to Work, The Atmosphere to Work, and the Anointing to Work”

I. Strengthening Your Hands of Position (Authority To Work)

Nehemiah 2: ¹⁸ ***Then I told them of the hand of my God which was good upon me***; as also the king’s words that he had spoken unto me. And they said, Let us rise up and build. So they strengthened their hands for *this good work*.

To rebuild the walls of protection, we must strengthen our hands of position. This is about our authority to work.

In the fictional series Game of Thrones, we became familiar with the phrase “Hand of the King”. It was, however, a real position in medieval times that symbolized the most powerful appointed position in the Kingdom. Other terms included Lord Chancellor, Chief or Prime Minister, or Grand Vizier.

Positions such as chief of staff, homeland security advisor, chairman of the joint chiefs of staff are all high-level positions that advises the president and could be consider “Hand of the King”!

Colossians 3: ¹ If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God. ² Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth.

Two things we see hear; 1) Christ the Word is the Hand of God, the highest position of authority to speak on behalf of God, and 2) If we set our affections on the Word, we can walk in that same authority.

- Luke 9: ³⁵ And there came a voice out of the cloud, saying, This is my beloved Son: hear him.
- John 14: ¹ **Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me.**
- John 14: ⁶ Jesus saith unto him, **I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.**

In our lesson text, Israel was in a desperate place; the people were distressed, the gates were burned down, the walls of protection had breaches, and they were living in reproach.

But God sent Nehemiah as the Hand of the God to speak the Word to the people.

Nehemiah 2: ¹⁸ Then I told them of the hand of my God which was good upon me; as also the king’s words that he had spoken unto me.

We have been given the authority of the Hand of the King, so use the Work!

Job 22: ²⁸ Thou shalt also decree a thing, and it shall be established unto thee: and the light shall shine upon thy ways.

1 John 5: ¹⁴ And this is the confidence that we have in him, that, if we ask any thing according to his will, he heareth us: ¹⁵ And if we know that he hear us, whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we desired of him.

Luke 11: ⁹ **And I say unto you, Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you.**

Matthew 16: ¹⁹ **And I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.**

II. Strengthening Your Hands of Praise (Atmosphere To Work)

Nehemiah 2: ¹⁸ Then I told them of the hand of my God which was good upon me; as also the king's words that he had spoken unto me. ***And they said, Let us rise up and build.*** So they strengthened their hands for *this good work*.

In rebuilding the walls of protection, the second thing we must strengthen is our hands of praise.

As we stated earlier, there are times in our lives where we just don't feel like doing the work. Times of sadness, anger, frustration, disappointment, or depressed.

And when things are not going well, most people are in a posture where their head is down, their body is slumped down, their hands are down, because they feel down.

Psalms 22: ¹ My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me? *why art thou so far from helping me, and from the words of my roaring?* ² O my God, I cry in the daytime, but thou hearest not; and in the night season, and am not silent.

But noticed that after the people of God heard the Word from the hand of the king, they changed their atmosphere with praise and said "Let us rise up and build"!

Psalms 22: ³ But thou *art* holy, *O thou* that inhabitest the praises of Israel.

To get back to work when things are not going well, don't wait for life to change your atmosphere, change your praise and watch your atmosphere change.

Psalms 134: ² Lift up your hands *in* the sanctuary, and bless the LORD.

Psalms 63: ⁴ Thus will I bless thee while I live: I will lift up my hands in thy name.

Psalms 47: ¹ O clap your hands, all ye people; shout unto God with the voice of triumph.

III. Strengthening Your Hands of Power (Anointing To Work)

Nehemiah 2: ¹⁸ Then I told them of the hand of my God which was good upon me; as also the king's words that he had spoken unto me. And they said, Let us rise up and build. ***So they strengthened their hands for this good work.***

- We strengthen our hands of position to work with the Authority of the Word
- We strengthen our hands of praise to work with the Atmosphere of our Praise

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- We strengthen our hands of power to work with the Anointing of God's Power

In this final strengthening of our hands, we've must get to work rebuilding the walls!

We must work because we need to eat (received the blessings of the Lord):

- 2 Thessalonians 3: ¹⁰ For even when we were with you, this we commanded you, that if any would not work, neither should he eat.
- Revelation 22: ¹² And, behold, I come quickly; and my reward *is* with me, to give every man according as his work shall be.

We must work because of those who need us:

- John 9: ¹ And as *Jesus* passed by, he saw a man which was blind from *his* birth. ² And his disciples asked him, saying, Master, who did sin, this man, or his parents, that he was born blind?
- Luke 4: ¹⁸ **The Spirit of the Lord *is* upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised,**

We must work to manifest the glory of God:

- John 9: ³ Jesus answered, **Neither hath this man sinned, nor his parents: but that the works of God should be made manifest in him.**
- Romans 8: ¹⁸ For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time *are* not worthy *to be compared* with the glory which shall be revealed in us.

We must work because night is coming:

- John 9: ⁴ **I must work the works of him that sent me, while it is day: the night cometh, when no man can work.**

We must work because we've been given the power to work:

- Deuteronomy 8: ¹⁸ But thou shalt remember the LORD thy God: for *it is* he that giveth thee power to get wealth, that he may establish his covenant which he sware unto thy fathers, as *it is* this day.

“I'm Anointed to Do the Work”: to do the work of the ministry, to do the work of my calling, to do the work of my home and family, to do the work of the church, family, relationships!”

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Midweek Study Lesson Plan (Sermon: Strengthening Your Hands To Work (The Anointing To Rebuild))

Lesson Text

- Nehemiah 2:17–18, John 9:1–4

Sermon Outline (Notes)

- I. *Strengthening Your Hands of Position (Authority To Work)*
- II. *Strengthening Your Hands of Praise (Atmosphere To Work)*
- III. *Strengthening Your Hands of Power (Anointing To Work)*

Questions (What was your takeaway from Sunday's Sermon?)

I. Getting to Know "Me"

1. What do you wish someone taught you a long time ago?
2. Do you think you rely too heavily on your phone? Why or why not?

II. Into the Bible

1. The first clause of Psalm 22:1 says, "My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me? Where else are these words found in scripture? How did God forsake the speaker of these words found elsewhere in scripture? Does God forsake His people today?"
2. What is day(time) and night(time) symbolic of in John 9:4 and Psalm 22:2? Do day and night times only apply to believers? How does the symbolism apply to the lives of people today?

III. Life Application

1. What has God put in your hand that you can use to work for Him?
2. How would you teach the third point of the sermon to encourage someone who needs to get back to their work for the Lord?