MONTHLYNEV/SLETTER

Brethren, I do not count myself to have apprehended; but one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead,
I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

Philippians 3:13-14



By Richard Baxter

"You shall see neither hook nor line, much less the subtle angler himself, while he is offering you his bait. And his bait shall be so fitted to your temper and disposition, that he will be sure to find advantages within you, and make your own principles and inclinations betray you; and whenever he ruins you, he will make you the instruments of ruin to others."

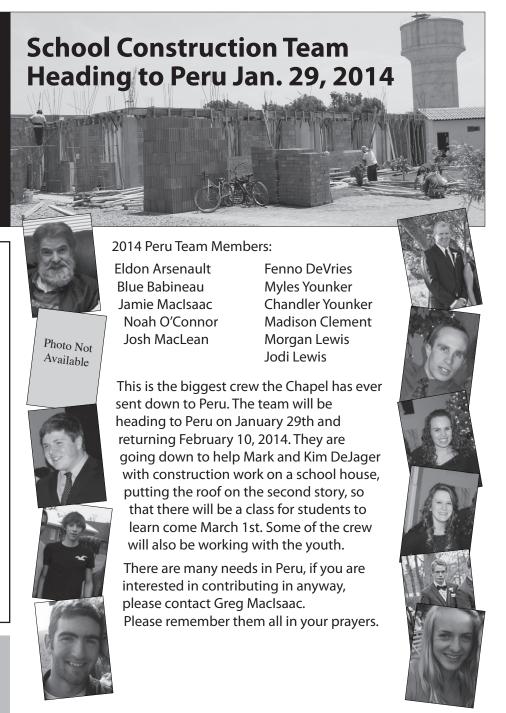
(12 Nov. 1615 - 8 Dec. 1691, commenting upon the nature of temptation and our adversary).

Submitted by Rod Belyea

Kids can go to the Creation Museum for FREE

January 1 through December 31, 2014, ... all kids who are 12 years old and under can come to the Creation Museum free of charge! The only stipulation is that the children must be accompanied by at least one paying adult.

http://creationmuseum.org Located in Petersburg, KY



Pray About All Things

(From What God Does When Men Pray pg. 35)

A lady once asked G. Campbell Morgan, "Do you think we ought to pray about even the little things in life?" Dr. Morgan, in his typical British manner, replied, "Madam, can you think of anything in your life that is big to God?"

Submitted by Leonard VandenBerg



The Humility of Nehemiah

by Greg MacIsaac

As I sit here at the table thinking about the Word of God I am almost overwhelmed on how to even know where to start. After much thinking I decided to look at a book that I knew little about. Sure I had read the book before but never really looked at it. If you asked me what do you know about the book of Nehemiah I would've said that he led people to rebuild the wall of the city of Jerusalem and that was about it. So on that note it was time to take a look at this practical book, specifically the person who allowed God to lead him before taking his very next step. We just want to look at some of the practical decisions that Nehemiah made, so we can apply the same lessons to our life. These thoughts will only cover the first chapter. May the Lord lead you to study the book further. I would encourage you to read the book and try to pick out some practical things how we can apply it to our lives as Nehemiah did.

A little background leading up to the time of Nehemiah: After the death of Solomon Israel was divided in two. We are told in Mark chapter 3:24 that when a kingdom is divided against itself it cannot stand. There had been 70 years of darkness on Israel. Now Nehemiah and Ezra were about to bring them into the Light of the Lord's work by building the wall. If you take the time, read Jeremiah 52:9-14 and you will see how dark those days really were.

The name Nehemiah means

"The comfort of the Lord." The people would need the comfort of the Lord over the number of days while the walls were being built.

Nehemiah's first question was about how the Jews were doing who had escaped and survived the captivity. When he heard that people were in great affliction and reproach and the walls of Jerusalem were broken down, he wept.

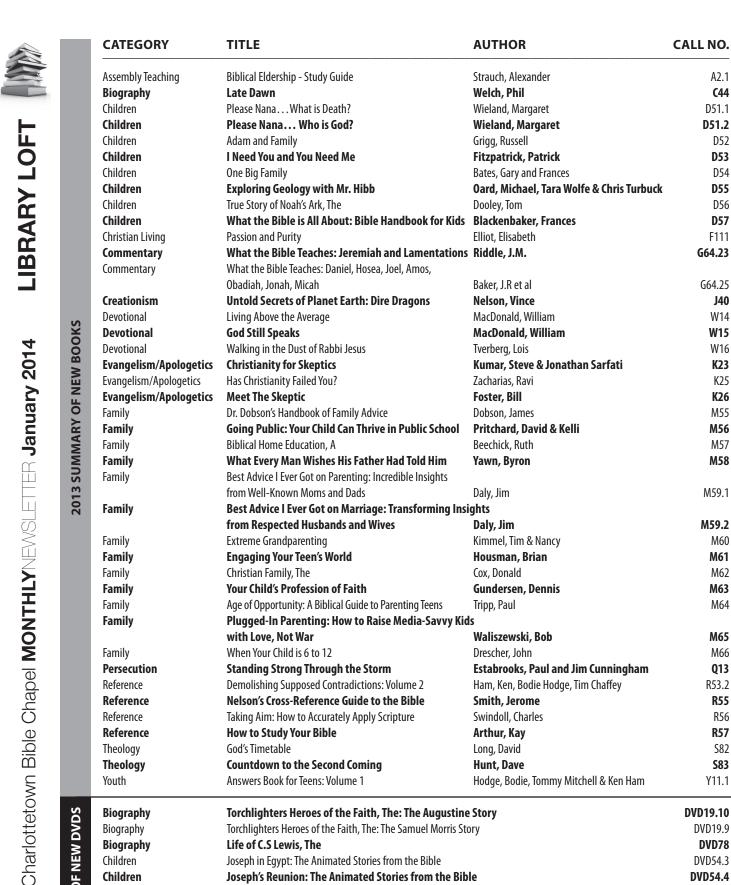
It does not take long to start realizing the personality of Nehemiah. In 1:4 we find that he is a man of tender heart as he hurt when his people hurt. He had faith as he quickly went to God in prayer. His first concern was for the people more than for the place. In verse 5 we see he knows God will honour those who honour him. This is leading into admitting that he along with the people have fallen away from the Lord.

Nehemiah does not try to pass the blame on to others. He confesses that he and his father's house have sinned (1:6). It has been said that "Once the Lord's people lose the truth of separation, they lose their testimony in the world." Nehemiah knew it was time to get people back to the Lord. His heart was as tender as it could be for the Lord. Jeremiah wrote these words, "Oh that my head were waters, and mine eyes a fountain of tears, that I might weep day and night for the slain of the daughter of my people!" (Jer. 9:1). I am sure this is how Nehemiah must have felt for his own people. Remember, that burden has to be there first before the work can begin.

In 1:7 we see that Nehemiah was specific about the sin he and his people had committed before God. He confesses they did not keep his commandments, statutes or judgments. We need to confess our sin the same way, be specific and not just a blanket confession.

There is a great promise here for God's people. It is the same today as it was back in Nehemiah's time. When we draw close to God he will draw close to us. Remember it says that in Nehemiah 1:9, but that means there is a condition that goes with the terms. It says that if we turn to him he will gather us unto himself. As I look at verse 10 it is now time for the people to claim that promise through God's mighty power. Do we still take the time to claim God's promises for ourselves? They are as real today as they were in Nehemiah's time. As we close up chapter one we see in this last verse that it becomes personal for Nehemiah. He feared the Lord and knew he needed help as he asked the Lord for His attention. The fact that he was the cupbearer of the King tells us much. He was trusted by the king and would have been in a position of authority and influence. Just to jump ahead as we finish some thoughts. Nehemiah had a goal in mind and with the Lord's blessing and because the Lord was behind him the wall got built in fifty-two days. There were trials and opposition as there is in our own life. Remember he stayed focused no matter what came up. It is exactly what we have to do as far as our walk with the Lord is concerned.

Just to let everyone know that these are some simple thoughts from a simple mind. It does not take a scholar to open the Word of God and try to learn something from it. The one thing that will be the difference between someone trying to learn from God's Word, or not, will be time. If you can find time, yes, but sometimes you have to make time to look into the Word. It will be the world of difference in your relationship with the Lord. Once you get a taste of God showing you things in His Word, there is nothing that can compare as the Spirit opens our eyes.



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January 2014

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SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
			1	2	8	4
			Prayer & Bible Study Is CANCELLED for today		, C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C C	X-Faith Works vs Bible Chapel 7:30pm
5 AM: Leonard V. PM: Rod Belyea 6:00pm Men's Prayer	9	7 9:00am Ladies Prayer Meeting 10:00am Ladies Missionary Group	∞	6	7:00pm Youth Group	11 ×Faithworks vs Bible Chapel 8:45pm
			7:00pm Prayer & Bible Study			
12 AM: Wayne Guindon PM: David O'Connor 6:00pm Men's Prayer	13	14 9:00am Ladies Prayer Meeting 10:00am Ladies	15	16	17 7:00pm Youth Group	18 XGrace vs Bible Chapel 8:45pm
Meeting		Bible study 6:25 pm AWANA	7:00pm Prayer & Bible Study			
AM: Luke DeJager PM: Luke DeJager 6:00mm Mer/s Praver	20	21 9 am Ladies Prayer 10 am Ladies Bible Study 6:25 pm AWANA	22	23	24 7:00pm Youth Group	25 &Christian Reform. vs Bible Chapel 7:30pm
Meeting			7:00pm Prayer & Bible Study			
26 AM: PM: 6:00pm Men's Prayer Meeting	27	28 9 am Ladies Prayer 10 am Ladies Bible Study 6:25 pm AWANA	29 7:00pm Prayer & Bible Study	30	31 7:00pm Youth Group	** No Hockey on Feb 1st **