

Nehemiah 9 & 10

Time to Repent

HOOK:

- 1) A friend who has been outside of Christ ever since you have known him, tells you, "I have to get right with God." What would you tell him to do?
- 2) Is forgiveness a feeling, a condition, both, or something else?
- 3) Do you ever make New Years resolutions? How many have you kept?
- 4) Should a church require members to sign a "membership agreement of conscience?"

BOOK:

- 1) What is the focal point of the entire 9th Chapter (God's character)
- 2) When they saw God's greatness, what did it tell them about themselves?
- 3) How long did the time of confession and worship last? (vs 3)
- 4) How much of the Hebrew history does this chapter account for? (the exodus to exile)
- 5) How many signatures were on the covenant document? (84)
- 6) What was the covenant with God? (pledge to submit to the Word of God and to separate themselves from their pagan, Gentile neighbors. Also various temple matters.)
- 7) What were some of the rather "extreme" promises? (intermarrying, Sabbath commerce)
- 8) Read Ex 34:10-17. What is the problem with marrying outside the faith?
- 9) Why was there so much emphasis on "first" things?

LOOK:

- 1) Why do believers need a national day of humiliation (or humbling)?
- 2) How can confession of sins cause a person to worship?
- 3) This chapter illustrates the problem with "revivals" as a whole. What is it?
- 4) What does this prayer in chapter 9, say specifically about our stubbornness and pride?
- 5) Which was harder for the people; building the wall or getting right with God?
- 6) What motivated the Israelites to make and sign this written agreement?
- 7) Read Matthew 5:33-37; 23:16-22. What is the problem humans have with oaths?

TOOK:

- 1) Read 1John 1:5-10. What does this passage teach us about confessing our sins?
- 2) Can confessing sins silently be as effective as publicly confessing? What effect do we desire?
- 3) When in your life have difficult circumstances motivated you to recommit yourself to the Lord?

"Every true Christian has in his heart a sense of the moral excellence of God's Law. And the more mature he becomes in Christ, the more fully he perceives and lauds the laws' goodness, holiness, and glory. The more profoundly he is committed to the direction of the Holy Spirit in his life, the deeper his love for the Lord Jesus Christ becomes, the deeper his sense of God's holiness and majesty becomes, and the greater will be his longing to fulfill God's law." - John MacArthur