

## NEHEMIAH : PRAYER BEFORE ACTION

In Nehemiah Ch.6:5, it says that Sanballat sent a letter to Nehemiah telling him that Gesham said that Nehemiah and the Jews were planning to revolt and that is why he is rebuilding the wall. It also said that Nehemiah is going to be their king and that Nehemiah has told prophets to proclaim this news. When Nehemiah heard of this, he said, "Nothing like what you are saying is happening; you are just making it up out of your head" (Nehemiah 6:8). In this incident, Sanballat was accusing Nehemiah of him going to be king of Judah. Nehemiah responded in the way he did because what Sanballat had heard was not true and there was no evidence to back this rumor, so Nehemiah just ignored it.



During Nehemiah's days, it was a sin to use the House of God or church for any other reason than to praise and worship God. In Nehemiah Ch.6:10, Shemiah tried to tempt Nehemiah by telling him to hide in the church so that he would be protected from the men who were trying to kill him. But then Nehemiah questioned to himself, "Should a man like me run away? Or should one like me go into the temple to save his life" (Nehemiah 6:11)? This attempt tried to create fear in Nehemiah, but since he was wise and a child of God, he realized what was right and was able to make the correct decision. He realized that God had not sent this man to protect him from his enemies because hiding in the church was a sin because the church could only be used for praise and worship to God. He also realized that God would not send a message that would cause any of his children to sin, so Nehemiah's wisdom from God helped him to resolve his problems and fears.

In Nehemiah 6:9, it says, "They were all trying to frighten us, thinking, 'Their hands will get too weak for the work, and it will not be completed.' But I prayed, 'Now strengthen my hands.'" When Nehemiah was building the wall of Jerusalem, there were many people who opposed it. They wanted to create fear in Nehemiah and the workers by threatening them of being killed, so that they can stop the progress of the wall, but Nehemiah prayed to God to strengthen him.

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### Special points of interest:

- \* St. Thomas day July 3rd
- \* Independence Day July 4th
- \* Church Perunal July 8th



## PARABLES OF JESUS

**The Good Samaritan Luke 10:25-37 :** This is a story that Jesus told when a man asked what he must do to have everlasting life. "What is written in the commandments?" Jesus asked. The man answered: "You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all

your strength, and with all your mind; and you must love your neighbor as yourself.." Then the man wanted to know, "But who is my neighbor?" Jesus then told about the man who was on his way from Jerusalem to Jericho and was robbed and beaten and left half dead by the roadside. First a priest came by, and when

he saw the wounded man, he passed by on the other side. Next a Levite came and he, too, looked at the hopeless man and passed by on the other side of the road. Then a Samaritan came along. He took care of the hurt man and then put him on his donkey and took him to an inn to stay. *..Continued pg 2*

## CALENDAR

**Young Adult Meeting:**  
Call and coordinate Mr. Kirk Edwards for next meeting.

**Martha Mariam Samajam:** Meeting will be held at Church on Sunday July 15th and 22nd .

**Sunday School:**  
Friday, August 3rd to 5th: OVBS 2007

**Choir Practice:**  
Carol/Choir practice every Sunday after Mass.

**Prayer meeting:**  
Please call and coordinate with Mrs. Aleyamma Mathew to host monthly Zonal prayer meeting at your residence.

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**We're on the Web !**

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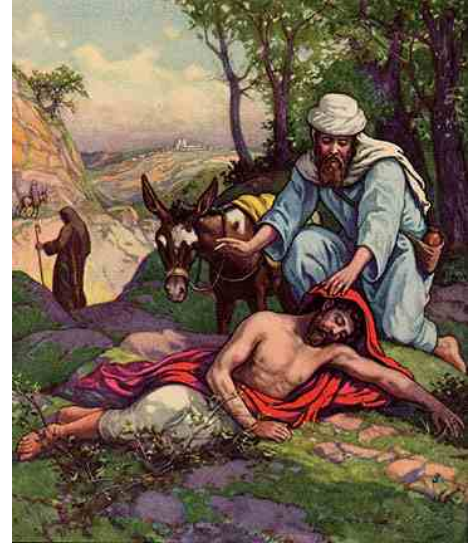
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## PARABLES OF JESUS

The Samaritan paid for everything. When Jesus finished the parable, he asked, "Which of the three men was a neighbor?" The man answered, "The man who took pity on him." Jesus told him, "Go and do likewise."

### **The Parable of Sower Matthew 13:1-23:**

In this story, Jesus told about the word of God being like seed that a sower (farmer) threw out. It fell on many kinds of soil. Some of the seed fell by the wayside, along the path. The birds came down and ate the seed. This is like the person who hears the message, but does not understand it. The evil one comes and takes it away. Some seed fell on the rocky ground. The plants came up quickly, but there was not much earth so the plants dried up. This is the person who receives the word, but falls away when trouble comes. Some seed fell on the thorny ground and the thorn bushes choked the seed. This is the person who is worried about life and wealth. Then some of the seed fell on good ground. Those seed grew into healthy plants and produced a good crop, some a hundredfold, some sixtyfold and some thirtyfold. "The good soil," said Jesus, " is like



people who are honest. When they hear God's word, they remember it, and do what God says." These people produce a bountiful crop for the Lord.

<http://www.gardenofpraise.com/bib121s.htm>

## *Continued...* NEHEMIAH: PRAYER BEFORE ACTION



When Nehemiah's enemies heard of the progress of the wall, they were upset and wanted to intimidate Nehemiah and his people, so Nehemiah made half of the workers work as guards to protect all of the workers while the

other half continued to work on the wall. Nehemiah was a very prudent and clever man because of his assistance from God. He had many hardships because of the much opposition that were against the rebuilding of the wall, but the first thing he always did was pray to God. God guided him through all of his problems and sought to make Nehemiah find resolutions to his problems. Nehemiah always thought about the situations he was placed with and made the right decisions based on knowing what God expected and what His commandments were. He finished building the wall and weakened his opposition with the help of the Lord. He was a very intelligent and faithful man who believed in God and by doing so, he overcame his problems.

..... *By Sarah Mathew and Stephanie Mathew*