

A.L.I.V.E. Bible Study
Wednesday, September 23, 2020
Nehemiah 1

1. What happened in Sunday's Bible Study in Ezra 10?
 - a. Ezra was told that the people had intermarried and not kept themselves separate.
 - b. Ezra prayed, confessed, wept, and threw himself on the floor.
 - c. The people began to repent.
 - d. There was accountability for those who had turned away from the will of God.

2. How, according to 1:1-2, did Nehemiah hear about what was going on in Jerusalem?
 - a. He saw it on CNN (or probably Fox News).
 - b. His family called him weekly to tell him how things were going in his home country.
 - c. Some people came through town from Judah and Nehemiah contacted them and asked them what was going on in Judah and Jerusalem.

3. About how long had it been since the first exiles had returned?
 - a. Oh, it was probably a few months.
 - b. Nehemiah probably begins in the 20th year of Artaxerxes I, which would be about 115 years after the decree of King Cyrus.

4. What state was Jerusalem in at this point?
 - a. The exile was over and there were some who had returned to Judah from Babylonian captivity.
 - b. They returned from captivity proud and victorious and had rebuilt their city immediately
 - c. The walls of Jerusalem had been burned down and there were a few people living amongst the rubble and in the surrounding areas.
 - d. The people who had been proud to be God's people were living in disgrace because they had nothing to call their own, no city to live in, and could not even govern themselves.

5. What does Nehemiah do about this news?
 - a. He weeps for his people.
 - b. He prays to God for forgiveness for the wickedness of his people and their disobedience including himself in those who did wrong.
 - c. He prays for favor with the King for what he is about to ask.

6. Where does Nehemiah put the blame for what has happened in Judah and Jerusalem?
 - a. He is angry with God for his lack of provision and blessing.
 - b. He blames all the Israelites who were alive at the time of the exile (he probably hadn't even been born yet).
 - c. Though he seems to be a faithful and godly man, he takes the responsibility of the wickedness on himself as well.

7. How do we react when we see people who aren't serving God and a church that is dying in America because Christians are not following Christ's commission.
 - a. Ehhhh! There's not much I can do about it, I guess I'll just let it go.
 - b. It breaks our heart and we weep for the church and God's people.
 - c. We ask forgiveness for the church's inaction and realize that at times we have been a part of that and we have not done what God was calling us to do.
 - d. We pray for ways that we can personally make an impact and make a difference in people's lives.