

On This Foundation: (A Biblical Ancient World Novel about Nehemiah) (The Restoration Chronicles)

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The Powerful Concluding Novel to The Restoration Chronicles

When news that the wall of Jerusalem is broken down, and its gates have been burned with fire, Nehemiah, Jewish cupbearer to King Artaxerxes in Persia, seeks God's guidance. After fasting and prayer, he's given leave to travel to Jerusalem and rebuild the city wall, not anticipating all the dangers that await him on his arrival.

The leaders of the surrounding nations become his fierce enemies, plotting to assassinate him and halt the work. A drought, meanwhile, has left the country impoverished, many families resorting to selling their children as bondservants just to keep from starving.

Capturing the rebuilding of the wall through the eyes of a number of characters, On This Foundation is a powerful exploration of faith in the midst of oppression, and hope that, in spite of appearances, the gracious hand of God is upon those who believe.

The Lord determined to tear down the wall around the Daughter of Zion.

He stretched out a measuring line and did not withhold his hand from destroying.

He made ramparts and walls lament;

together they wasted away.

Lamentations 2:8

Nehemiah shook his head, unable to grasp what he was hearing. "So you're telling me that the city and the temple mount are both completely vulnerable? Our enemies could come in and kill our people and destroy Jerusalem and the Almighty One's temple all over again?"

"Completely vulnerable," the leader confirmed.

"And because of it, the number of robberies and vicious attacks has been escalating after two years of drought."

Nehemiah felt a powerful anger building inside him as the picture of the city's helplessness grew clearer. "I need to return to my responsibilities in the citadel. We'll talk again," he promised as he left them.

The leader's words continued to echo in Nehemiah's mind throughout the afternoon and evening, long after he returned to his spare living quarters in the citadel for the night. "Great trouble and disgrace." The report appalled him, not only for the sake of the people who were being robbed and killed by their enemies, but for the Almighty One's sake. He opened the shuttered window and looked out at the vast sprinkle of stars above the roof of the palace.

Just as the magnificent city of Susa brought glory and honor to the Persian king, so, too, should the city and temple of the one true God bring glory and honor to Him.

Nehemiah closed the window and paced the floor. And although all of Nehemiah's instincts

urged him to find a way to protect his brothers once again--to protect all of his people in Jerusalem--he had no way to do it.

"Our fellow Jews who survived the exile and are back in the province are in great trouble and disgrace."

Alone, in his room, Nehemiah didn't try to stop his tears. Stone by Stone, the Wall Will Rise Once More Around God's City

When news reaches him that Jerusalem's wall is shattered and its gates burned with fire, a distraught Nehemiah seeks God's guidance in fasting and prayer. Granted an unexpected leave from his duty as cupbearer to the Persian king Artaxerxes, Nehemiah sets out for Jerusalem to rebuild the city wall--never anticipating all the dangers that await him on his arrival.

The leaders of the surrounding nations become his fierce enemies, plotting to assassinate him and stop the wall's reconstruction forever. A drought, meanwhile, has left the country impoverished, with many families resorting to selling their children as bondservants just to keep from starving.

Capturing the rebuilding of the wall through the eyes of a number of characters, On This Foundation is the powerful conclusion to The Restoration Chronicles. This exploration of faith in the midst of oppression offers hope that, in spite of appearances, the gracious hand of God is upon those who believe.

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