

# FIELD OF DREAMS

Nehemiah 10:28-39

Sunday, October 16, 2021

Now the leaders of the people settled in Jerusalem. The rest of the people cast lots to bring one out of every ten of them to live in Jerusalem, the holy city, while the remaining nine were to stay in their own towns. The people commended all who volunteered to live in Jerusalem.

In 1989, Universal Pictures released a movie titled “Field of Dreams.” In it, Ray Kinsella, played by Kevin Costner, hears a whisper in his cornfield. “If you build it, he will come” the strange voice whispered to Ray Kinsella. And from this the 36-year-old farmer is inspired to build a baseball field in the middle of his cornfield in hopes that the spirit of a former baseball great would return and play on his field. But as the movie progresses the purpose for building this field takes on a much deeper meaning. This field becomes a field of second chances. And in one monologue, Terrence Mann, played by James Earl Jones takes this strange whisper “if you build it he will come” and amplifies it to “if you build it they will come.” Meaning not only will the spirits of former baseball greats come but people from all over the nation will come. People who have lost hope and are in search of peace will come, he says. People who have allowed the mundane to make them lose sight of the miraculous will come. “Ray, the people will come” ...

Transition: And as we close out this book of Nehemiah today, that’s where we find ourselves.

- Before the walls were rebuilt, Nehemiah 7:4 reminds us that no one wanted to live in Jerusalem. The temple had been rebuilt but Jerusalem was still a ghost town. Jerusalem was a disgrace... Jerusalem, that holy city, was a reproach... So much so until when Nehemiah heard about it, he broke down and cried.
- BUT THIS IS EXACTLY WHERE GOD MEETS HIS PEOPLE
- And now in chapter 11-13, the people begin to populate the city again.
- And because Nehemiah followed the voice of God, God takes them from disgrace to dignity... God takes them from shame and embarrassment to esteem and excellence...

This is my synopsis of Nehemiah... One point and one point only... here it is...

## **IF YOU BUILD IT, THEY WILL COME...**

- a. Whatever you're building this morning build in faith...
- b. So powerful was this move of God in the life of the people of God that after the walls are built people began to leave the land of their inheritance and start over in Jerusalem.
- c. Whatever you're building this morning, you're going to face some hard days... it was true for Nehemiah and will be true for you and me...
- d. CHURCH... if we build it, they will come... the sinner will come... the backslider we come back...
- e. RELATIONSHIPS... if we build it, they will come... **is there a single man or woman here who believes this? KEEP BUILDING THE RIGHT WOMAN WILL COME... THE RIGHT MAN WILL COME...**
- f. RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD... if we build it, they will come... strength will come... stronger faith will come...