

BETHANY BIBLE STUDY & DISCUSSION



NEHEMIAH PART-3 CHAPTER 3

KJV

7.16.2025

COOPERATIVE REBUILDING of WALLS & GATES

REBUILDING OF GATES AND WALLS (1-32): Who were the builders? What was the scope of the work? How many gates are mentioned? Do any the gates exist today or have historical/prophetic significance? How did Nehemiah get the cooperation of a diverse group of people? Are there anyone who did not participate? What can we learn from non-cooperative people? Could Nehemiah have completed the work on his own?

***REFLECTION:** What can we learn about 'success in rebuilding' from Nehemiah? If cracked or broken, How are you restoring the broken spiritual walls in your personal life?*

CHAPTER 2

REVIEW

(sad) Nehemiah takes the courage to **meet with the king**

Nehemiah (after prayer) **makes bold requests:**

- Release from duties to go to Judah to rebuild the walls (12 year leave)
- Timber for gates, walls, and personal home

Nehemiah's **request granted** by a pagan king (earlier stopped building of walls)

Nehemiah goes to Jerusalem and encourages **participation**. **“Let us Rise and Build for God’s hand is with us”** **Opposition**, but dismissed.

Nehemiah’s PRAYER answered with:

PLAN + PROVISIONS + COOPERATION (of People)



NEHEMIAH

Chapter 3, Part-3

July 16, 2025

WHO WERE THE BUILDERS?

Several workers, families, and diverse groups co-operating with Nehemiah's plan

Civic leaders (9, 12, 14, 16, 19), Temple Priests (1, 22)

Skilled Tradesmen (8,32), Common men and women (2-4, 12)

How do you unite and lead such a diverse group? Not easy.

It can be done only by God's grace (only one group didn't cooperate, nobles (5))

SCOPE OF THE WORK

GATES & WALLS need to be repaired. Security compromised even if one gate or portion of wall is broken.

Nehemiah personally inspected the gates and walls (2:11-16).

Good leaders understand the nature & scope of work before delegating.

THE WORK FOR WORKERS



Hard Physical Labor: Work required clearing the rubble, carrying heavy stones, carrying other materials, repairing



Collaborate: Work well as a team



Focus: Focus on the task assigned (specific portion of wall and/or gate), while keeping hope on the ending (of finished walls & gates)



Work ethics: Disciplined and persevere, Not get discouraged or tired, follow Nehemiah's instructions

JERUSALEM GATES

Several gates: pre-exile, post-exile, new Testament, modern day Jerusalem (some gates have multiple names)

Nehemiah mentions twelve gates (10 in chapter 3)

Today, we have 8 gates, 7 are open: Herod's Gate, the Damascus Gate, New Gate, Jaffa Gate, Zion Gate, the Dung Gate, Lions' Gate, 8th gate: Golden gate (or gate of mercy) is sealed

and finally, the 12 gates in the NEW Jerusalem (Revelation 21:12)

NEW JERUSALEM, REVELATION 21

¹⁰ And he carried me away in the spirit to a great and high mountain, and shewed me that great city, the holy Jerusalem, descending out of heaven from God, ¹¹ Having the glory of God: and her light was like unto a stone most precious, even like a jasper stone, clear as crystal;

¹² And had a wall great and high, and had **twelve gates**, and at the gates twelve angels, and names written thereon, which are the names of the twelve tribes of the children of Israel:

¹³ On the east three gates; on the north three gates; on the south three gates; and on the west three gates. ¹⁴ And the wall of the city had twelve foundations, and in them the names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb.

Sheep gate (3:1)

Fish gate (3:3)

Old gate (3:6)

Valley gate (3:13)

Dung gate (3:14)

Fountain gate (3:15)

Water gate (3:26)

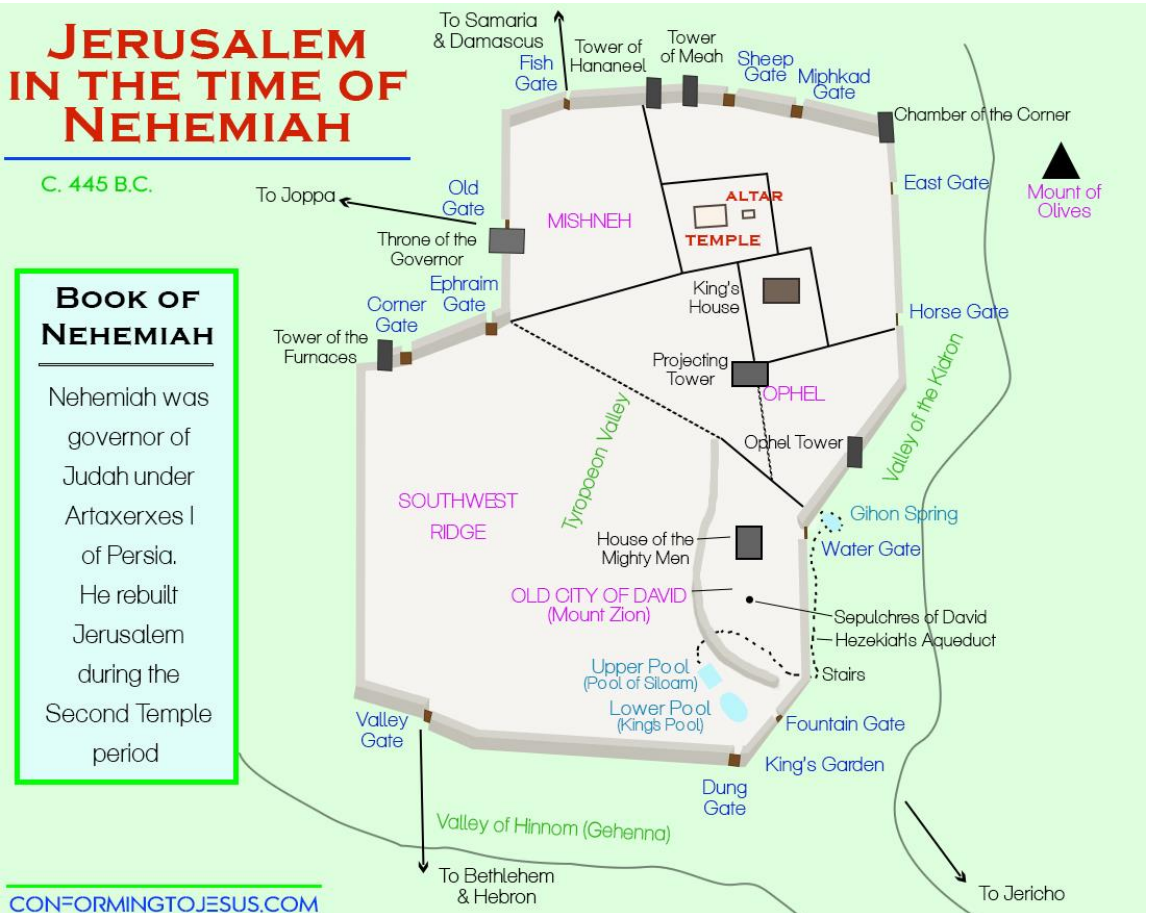
Horse gate (3:28)

East gate (3:29)

Miphkad/Inspection gate (3:31)

Gate of Ephraim (8:16)

Prison gate (12:39)



1. SHEEP GATE 3:1

THEN ELIASHIB THE HIGH PRIEST ROSE UP WITH HIS BRETHREN THE PRIESTS, AND THEY BUILDED THE **SHEEP GATE**; THEY SANCTIFIED IT, AND SET UP THE DOORS OF IT; EVEN UNTO THE TOWER OF MEAH THEY SANCTIFIED IT, UNTO THE TOWER OF HANANEEL. ² AND NEXT UNTO HIM BUILDED THE MEN OF JERICHO. AND NEXT TO THEM BUILDED ZACCUR THE SON OF IMRI.

Sheep gate is the gate through which animals brought for sacrifice

Rebuilding begins with the high Priest, Eliashib

Gate built and sanctified (separated, set apart). Only sheep gate was sanctified

Doors built and two towers

SHEEP GATE REMINDS US OF

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LORD JESUS CHRIST,

THE LAMB WITHOUT BLEMISH,

THE FINAL SACRIFICE

[Isaiah 53:7](#) he is brought as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is dumb, so he openeth not his mouth.

[John 1:29](#) Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world.

[John 19:30](#) “IT IS FINISHED”

2. FISH GATE ³

BUT THE FISH GATE DID THE SONS OF HASSENAAH BUILD, WHO ALSO LAID THE BEAMS THEREOF, AND SET UP THE DOORS THEREOF, THE LOCKS THEREOF, AND THE BARS THEREOF ⁴ AND NEXT UNTO THEM REPAIRED MEREMOTH THE SON OF URIJAH, THE SON OF KOZ. AND NEXT UNTO THEM REPAIRED MESHULLAM THE SON OF BERECHIAH, THE SON OF MESHEZABEEL. AND NEXT UNTO THEM REPAIRED ZADOK THE SON OF BAANA. ⁵ AND NEXT UNTO THEM THE TEKOITES REPAIRED; BUT THEIR NOBLES PUT NOT THEIR NECKS TO THE WORK OF THEIR LORD.

Maybe called fish gate because fishes brought here from sea of Galilee

One of the entrances built by sons of Hassenaah (3)

Three adjoining entrances built by other families (4-5)

Meremoth (Ezra 8:33, counted treasures brought from Babylon)

Malchijah (Ezra 10:33, confessed and divorced his foreign wife) (**lesson:** restored sinners can be used by God)

Nobles did not participate (maybe lacked humility to work with their workers) (**Lesson:** nobles lost an opportunity to be part of God's work)

3. OLD GATE

⁶ Moreover the **old gate** repaired Jehoiada the son of Paseah, and Meshullam the son of Besodeiah; they laid the beams thereof, and set up the doors thereof, and the locks thereof, and the bars thereof.

⁷ And next unto them repaired Melatiah the Gibeonite, and Jadon the Meronothite, the men of Gibeon, and of Mizpah, unto the throne of the governor on this side the river.

⁸ Next unto him repaired Uzziel the son of Harhaiah, of the goldsmiths. Next unto him also repaired Hananiah the son of one of the apothecaries, and they fortified Jerusalem unto the broad wall.

⁹ And next unto them repaired Rephaiah the son of Hur, the ruler of the half part of Jerusalem.

¹⁰ And next unto them repaired Jedaiah the son of Harumaph, even over against his house. And next unto him repaired Hattush the son of Hashabniah. ¹¹ Malchijah the son of Harim, and Hashub the son of Pahathmoab, repaired the other piece, and the tower of the furnaces.

¹² And next unto him repaired Shallum the son of Halohesh, the ruler of the half part of Jerusalem, he and his daughters.

OLD GATE OR ANCIENT GATE

Built by many in community (including rulers, and women).

Many may not have had the skills but volunteered, and God used them.

If we are willing to serve, God will enable us. God looks at our heart (and not our skillset)

I Corinthians 1:26 For ye see your calling, brethren, how that not many wise men after the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble, are called: ²⁷ But God hath chosen the foolish things of the world to confound the wise; and God hath chosen the weak things of the world to confound the things which are mighty; ²⁸ And base things of the world, and things which are despised, hath God chosen, yea, and things which are not, to bring to nought things that are:

4. VALLEY GATE ¹³ THE VALLEY GATE REPAIRED HANUN, AND THE INHABITANTS OF ZANOAH; THEY BUILT IT, AND SET UP THE DOORS THEREOF, THE LOCKS THEREOF, AND THE BARS THEREOF, AND A THOUSAND CUBITS ON THE WALL UNTO THE DUNG GATE.

Repaired by Hanun and inhabitants of Zanoah

Called valley gate as it lead down to a valley

5. DUNG GATE¹⁴ BUT THE DUNG GATE REPAIRED MALCHIAH THE SON OF RECHAB, THE RULER OF PART OF BETHHACCEREM; HE BUILT IT, AND SET UP THE DOORS THEREOF, THE LOCKS THEREOF, AND THE BARS THEREOF.

Repaired by Malchiah, a ruler

Gate used to remove trash

Maybe not the most desirable gate to work on.

6. FOUNTAIN GATE, 15-25

¹⁵ But the gate of the fountain repaired Shallun the son of Colhozeh, the ruler of part of Mizpah; he built it, and covered it, and set up the doors thereof, the locks thereof, and the bars thereof, and the wall of the pool of Siloah by the king's garden, and unto the stairs that go down from the city of David.

¹⁶ After him repaired Nehemiah the son of Azbuk, the ruler of the half part of Bethzur, unto the place over against the sepulchres of David, and to the pool that was made, and unto the house of the mighty. ¹⁷ After him repaired the Levites, Rehum the son of Bani. Next unto him repaired Hashabiah, the ruler of the half part of Keilah, in his part. ¹⁸ After him repaired their brethren, Bavai the son of Henadad, the ruler of the half part of Keilah. ¹⁹ And next to him repaired Ezer the son of Jeshua, the ruler of Mizpah, another piece over against the going up to the armoury at the turning of the wall.

²⁰ After him Baruch the son of Zabbai earnestly repaired the other piece, from the turning of the wall unto the door of the house of Eliashib the high priest. ²¹ After him repaired Meremoth the son of Urijah the son of Koz another piece, from the door of the house of Eliashib even to the end of the house of Eliashib. ²² And after him repaired the priests, the men of the plain. ²³ After him repaired Benjamin and Hashub over against their house. After him repaired Azariah the son of Maaseiah the son of Ananiah by his house.

²⁴ After him repaired Binnui the son of Henadad another piece, from the house of Azariah unto the turning of the wall, even unto the corner. ²⁵ Palal the son of Uzai, over against the turning of the wall, and the tower which lieth out from the king's high house, that was by the court of the prison. After him Pedaiah the son of Parosh.

6. FOUNTAIN GATE (15-25) 15

BUT THE GATE OF THE FOUNTAIN REPAIRED
SHALLUN THE SON OF COLHOZEH, THE RULER OF PART OF MIZPAH; HE BUILT IT, AND COVERED IT, AND SET UP THE
DOORS THEREOF, THE LOCKS THEREOF, AND THE BARS THEREOF, AND THE WALL OF THE POOL OF SILOAH BY THE
KING'S GARDEN, AND UNTO THE STAIRS THAT GO DOWN FROM THE CITY OF DAVID.

Gate located near king's garden

fountain head, channeling water to the city

Repaired by multiple groups such as Rulers (15, 17), priests (22) and others from different tribes.

7. WATER GATE ²⁶ MOREOVER THE NETHINIMS DWELT IN OPHEL, UNTO THE PLACE
OVER AGAINST THE WATER GATE TOWARD THE EAST, AND THE TOWER THAT LIETH OUT.
²⁷ AFTER THEM THE TEKAITES REPAIRED ANOTHER PIECE, OVER AGAINST THE GREAT TOWER THAT
LIETH OUT, EVEN UNTO THE WALL OF OPHEL.

Close to area that held rainwater, and was source of water for the city

Tekaites seen assisting here (earlier fish gate, 3:5)

Area with vast open public space that was used by Ezra and Nehemiah to read God's word

Nehemiah 8:1 And all the people gathered themselves together as one man into the street
that was before the water gate;

8. HORSE GATE ²⁸ FROM ABOVE THE HORSE GATE REPAIRED THE PRIESTS, EVERY ONE OVER AGAINST HIS HOUSE. ²⁹ AFTER THEM REPAIRED ZADOK THE SON OF IMMER OVER AGAINST HIS HOUSE. AFTER HIM REPAIRED ALSO SHEMAIAH THE SON OF SHECHANIAH, THE KEEPER OF THE EAST GATE

Used by horses to access the stables. Horses used to protect the residents.

PSALM20:7 Some trust in chariots, and some in horses: but we will remember the name of the Lord our God.

Proverbs 21:31 The horse is prepared against the day of battle: but safety is of the Lord.

9. EAST GATE 29 AFTER HIM REPAIRED ALSO SHEMAIAH THE SON OF SHECHANIAH, THE KEEPER OF THE EAST GATE. ³⁰ AFTER HIM REPAIRED HANANIAH THE SON OF SHELEMLIAH, AND HANUN THE SIXTH SON OF ZALAPH, ANOTHER PIECE. AFTER HIM REPAIRED MESHULLAM THE SON OF BERECHIAH OVER AGAINST HIS CHAMBER.

Meshulam seen again (earlier, Fish gate repair, 3:4)

Gate with Prophetic significance:

Ezekiel saw the glory of God depart from the East gate (Ezekiel 10:19) Subsequent vision saw the glory of God return from the East (maybe East gate) (Ezekiel 43:1-4) Jesus entered Jerusalem through the East gate (Mathew 21).

East gate (~ golden gate) has been sealed for nearly five centuries.

Prophecy of second coming of the Lord relates to the East gate (Ezekiel 44:1)

EAST GATE AND THE GLORY OF GOD

Ezekiel 10: ⁴ **Glory Present** Then the glory of the Lord went up from the cherub, and stood over the threshold of the house; and the house was filled with the cloud, and the court was full of the brightness of the Lord's glory.

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¹⁹ **Glory Departs** And the cherubims lifted up their wings, and mounted up from the earth in my sight: when they went out, the wheels also were beside them, and every one stood at the door of the east gate of the Lord's house; and the glory of the God of Israel was over them above **Glory on the move** Ezekiel 11:23 And the glory of the LORD went up from the midst of the city, and stood upon the mountain which *is* on the east side of the city.

FUTURE RETURN AND RESTORATION

EAST GATE AND THE GLORY OF GOD

FUTURE RETURN AND RESTORATION

Ezekiel 43:4 **Glory Returns to the Temple** And the glory of the Lord came into the house by the way of the gate whose prospect is toward the east.

(without the glory of the Lord present, the temple is just any ordinary building)

Mark 11:15 And they come to Jerusalem: and Jesus went into the temple,

10. MIPHKAD GATE ³¹ AFTER HIM REPAIRED MALCHIAH THE GOLDSMITH'S SON UNTO THE PLACE OF THE NETHINIMS, AND OF THE MERCHANTS, OVER AGAINST THE GATE MIPHKAD, AND TO THE GOING UP OF THE CORNER.

Also known as 'inspection gate' as visitors to Jerusalem had to go through this gate to enter.

Reminds us that one day we also will have to pass through the 'judgement' gate

Everyone (Believers and Unbelievers) will be judged and will have to give an account.

Romans 14:¹² So then every one of us shall give account of himself to God.

FINAL JUDGEMENT DETERMINES THE END OF EVERYONE!

Glorious Hope of Believers: Saints rewarded and welcomed into the everlasting kingdom.

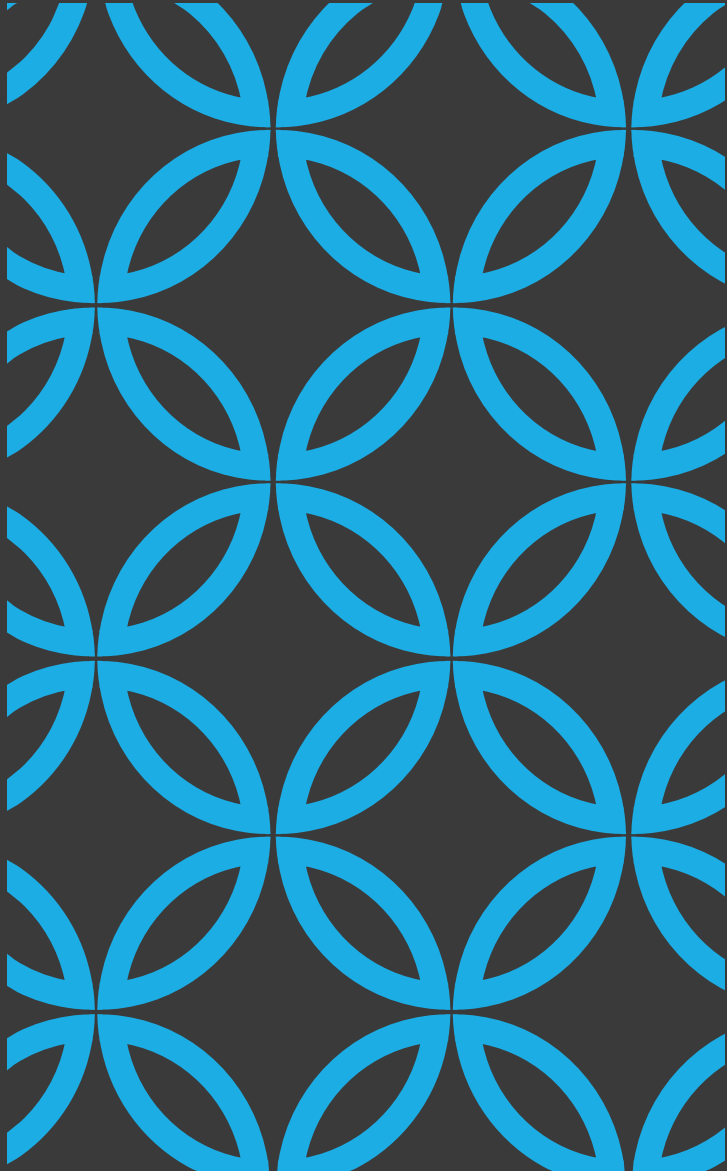
Revelation 21:7 He that overcometh shall inherit all things; and I will be his God, and he shall be my son.

I Corinthians 5:¹⁰ Judgement of Believers For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad.

Miserable End of Unbelievers: antichrist (Revelation 19:20), satan (Revelation 20:10) and sinners thrown into the lake of fire (Revelation 20:11-15)

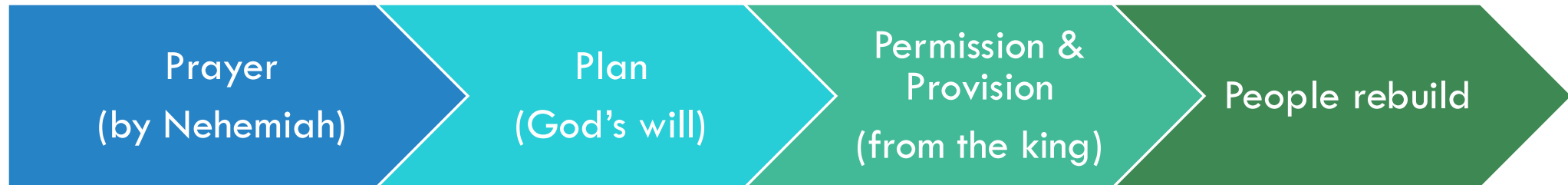
Revelation 21:8 But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death.

RETURN TO SHEEP GATE ³² AND BETWEEN THE GOING UP OF THE
CORNER UNTO THE SHEEP GATE REPAIRED THE GOLDSMITHS AND THE MERCHANTS.



REFLECTIONS

**#1 ONE MAN'S OBEDIENCE TO GODLY VISION CAN
ACHIEVE MUCH...** *GOD OFTEN CALLS ONE BUT ENGAGES MANY IN
HIS WORK FOR HIS GLORY*



#2 WHY WAS NEHEMIAH SUCCESSFUL?

Had a vision
inspired by fasting
& prayer

Gathered support of
king + secured
resources

Assessed the scope of
the work

Inspired diverse group
of people (some
outside of Jerusalem)
to participate

Delegated effectively
(by gates & portions of
wall, by skill level)

Depended on God



#2 CHURCH IS ONE BODY, ONE SPIRIT, BUT DIVERSITY OF GIFTS (1 CORINTHIANS 12)

Nehemiah needed everyone to complete the work

All work and all workers are precious (and known by name) in God's eyes

We all need to work together to fulfill God's vision for His kingdom

Those who discourage/complain/stand on the sidelines lose God's divine blessings.



#4 WE ALL HAVE A ROLE IN GOD'S KINGDOM

We can lead and inspire with a vision

Or

We can participate in executing the vision

ALL ARE REWARDED BY THE LORD!