

Arise & Build, #11
DON'T RUN OFF!

December 9–10, 2023 // Sermon Study Guide // Pastor Mark Henry, D.D.

Text: Nehemiah 13

Truth Points: What truth was covered this weekend in the message?

1. Read Nehemiah 13. The chapter starts with the people running to God. What are the steps of running to God found in verses 1–3? Are they still the same steps or have times changed?
2. How has Nehemiah's leadership role changed in the book? Who is standing with him in these last days of the Old Testament record?
3. How had the people become thieves? Who were they stealing from? Did it impact the worship of God? How did God confront them through the prophet Malachi? What confrontation, invitation, and promise of God are found in Malachi 3 about these issues?
4. Why did the people live in judgment of the 10 commandments? Was this confronted?
5. God created the family. If He put limits on who a person should marry, do people in the past, or the present, have the right to resist Him, His will, and His authority? What did Nehemiah think?
6. What are three lessons we learn about leadership from Nehemiah? What are three lessons we learn about people in the world?

Reflection Points: How does God want me to think, feel, act, and speak because of this truth?

1. Am I running from God or to God? What would the Holy Spirit say? What would my friends and family say? Has anyone run successfully from God in history? Why would I think I could do it successfully?
2. Am I stealing from God? Why is it so hard to trust God in the area of finances? How do I get on track?
3. Am I quick to embrace God's commands when they are read or quick to ignore them? Would I have stood with Nehemiah that day or would I have been resisting him?
4. How will God remember you? Will He remember you for the good you did for His name, His people, and His leaders? Or will God remember you for the evil you did Him, His name, and His people?

Action Points: What am I going to do **this week** because of this truth?

1. **Read** Luke 1–2 in preparation for next weekend.
2. **Reflect** on Nehemiah 13:14, 22, 31 every day.
3. **Memorize** Nehemiah 13:14 (NASB95), "Remember me for this, O my God, and do not blot out my loyal deeds which I have performed for the house of my God and its services."
4. **Ask** yourself two questions every day:
 - Am I running to God or away from God right now?
 - How will God remember me?
5. **Share** with another follower of Jesus what you are learning about God, the Bible, Jesus, etc. Help them follow Jesus better in 2023.