

“A Different Approach, to a New Year”

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Sunday, January 3, 2016

Self – Improvement

What should I do about me?

1 The words of Nehemiah son of Hakaliah:

In the month of Kislev in the twentieth year, while I was in the citadel of Susa, 2 Hanani, one of my brothers, came from Judah with some other men, and I questioned them about the Jewish remnant that had survived the exile, and also about Jerusalem.

3 They said to me, “Those who survived the exile and are back in the province are in great trouble and disgrace. The wall of Jerusalem is broken down, and its gates have been burned with fire.”

4 When I heard these things, I sat down and wept. For some days I mourned and fasted and prayed before the God of heaven. 5 Then I said:

“Lord, the God of heaven, the great and awesome God, who keeps his covenant of love with those who love him and keep his commandments, 6 let your ear be attentive and your eyes open to hear the prayer your servant is

praying before you day and night for your servants, the people of Israel. I confess the sins we Israelites, including myself and my father's family, have committed against you. 7 We have acted very wickedly toward you. We have not obeyed the commands, decrees and laws you gave your servant Moses.

8 "Remember the instruction you gave your servant Moses, saying, 'If you are unfaithful, I will scatter you among the nations, 9 but if you return to me and obey my commands, then even if your exiled people are at the farthest horizon, I will gather them from there and bring them to the place I have chosen as a dwelling for my Name.'

10 "They are your servants and your people, whom you redeemed by your great strength and your mighty hand. 11 Lord, let your ear be attentive to the prayer of this your servant and to the prayer of your servants who delight in revering your name. Give your servant success today by granting him favor in the presence of this man."

I was cupbearer to the king. **Nehemiah 1:1-11**

What breaks your heart?

"The things that break your heart are the very things that feed your passions. What are the things that keep you up at night? What are the things that disturb you the most? What do you get most

passionate about? What makes you pound the table? What puts you on the edge of your seat?" – Luke Parrott

What needs to be done around me?

If you really want to become a better person, do something to make the world a better place.

People who blame things don't change things.

What breaks your heart?

People who actively follow Jesus make things better!!

Devotion to God is measured in terms of devotion to others.

History is linear

Our sin broke God's heart and He responded

You have no idea what hangs in the balance of your decision to embrace the burden God has put in your heart.