My dear friends, you know what that fellow told me later on? He did accept the Lord. Groundly, soundly saved. One day I entertained him in our home, stayed overnight. He said, "You know what my ambition is?" I said, "I have no idea." He said, "I want to preach at the Moody church." I said, "Oh for heaven's sake." That's your element. That's just this side of heaven. I said, "I have news for you, I preach to the moody church, that's not the greatest delight. The delight in doing God's will wherever you are because the Lord Jesus could speak to 5000 men besides women and children, four thousand side women children, multitudes. Do you think he said it below my dignity to see you Nicodemus? Don't you know my office hours are posted, can't you read and you woman of Samaria. What are my disciples gonna think when they come back? And they did talk. Look, they know who be speaking to but what do you think he came to save? Disciples? These tremendous religious ones? Some of them went to perdition, not the disciples. Some of them went to perdition. They wouldn't trust him at all. They wouldn't believe him. No, even when he was on the cross. No friends. Oh, if we don't serve God in the little place he's never going to use you in the large place." So we have unity of effort. We have unity of labor, diversity of effort, now consummation of the work.

The joy of the whole work was that it was finished, verse six of chapter four. So built we the wall, thank God, and all the wall was joined together to half of its height for the people had a mind to work. There is the notation. As to the completion of half of the wall, but half of the wall is in all the wall is it? No, look at chapter six and verse fifteen. They didn't leave it just half done, six fifteen. So the wall was finished, six fifteen, so the wall was finished. In the twenty and fifth day of the month Elul in fifty and two days. Do you read what I read? That whole was all done in
52 days, think of it, even in a lunar calendar which the Jews had. They have a lunar solar. Even in a lunar calendar that's not two months. And with us, we have a solar calendar it's not two months.

Think of it, the whole wall was done, only God can do a work like that in that amount of time. Look at six sixteen, the very next verse. "And it came to pass when all our enemies heard of this and all the nations that were about, all the nations that are about us saw these things. They were much cast down in their own eyes." They couldn't believe it. For they perceive that this work was brought by our God and that was exactly what Nehemiah wanted.

He didn't want his name on it. God's glory then suggested the dedication belongs historically the Chapter 6 where we read of the completion of the wall. Well, the dedication mentioned in chapter twelve has its proper moral place after the confession, we'll be seeing that, separation, cleansing of the people that had a revival. The dedication of the wall was postponed, you don't have to dedicate something the minute it's finished. I see so many churches that were dedicated before they had everything painted and the poor men and women worked on it, have to work extra-long hours afterwards to get it in some kind of shape because it's already been dedicated, but anyhow, it's all for the Lord. All from the underpinning to the roof the dedication of the wall is no more important than the completion but oh in Chapter 7. Notice what happened. You say it's an awful lot of talk about a wall in a book. Yes, but when the wall was built and the people name minutely in Chapter 8 don't ever miss it, the longest day you read the Bible in Chapter 8.

You know what they're doing? They ask for the word of God and when they were in this place God wanted them to be, they want to hear more of his word. You see the results than? That building the wall had on them spiritually and my they did something that I in 50 years in the
Christian church had never seen. When the word of God and Ezra was on a podium, the only place that you find the word there in the Hebrew translated pulpit. Here he was on the pulpit, when he opened the word it wasn't about Bible like this, a scroll. But they knew what he was opening and he was above all the people and they saw it. You know what they did. They stood up and not only that, from that time until noon the whole forenoon they stood and listened to the Bible. They had been in a place like that? I haven't either. Yes, oh my friends, they'll be spiritual results with you and me today if we faithfully build a wall of love and testimony about the loss Jew and Gentile and verse 9 of Chapter Eight, look at it, eight nine. Here we read, "And Nehemiah who is the Tirshatha of, that means the governor, and Ezra the priest." Beautiful how they worked together he was a scribe and the Levi too taught the people said unto all the people. "This day is holy under the Lord your God, mourn not, nor weep", because it was so much in the blessed book that that was being read that they had lived up to. For all the people wept when they heard the words of the law when they were right before God they weep as Nehemiah did in Chapter One. It takes to the eighth chapter before they start weeping.

In a coming day blessed God, Zechariah 12, "They shall look unto him whom they appear and they shall mourn for him. As for an only son and be in bitterness for him that's for the first born. And then we read, this family is going to mourn the Kings and the Levite's and the Shimietes, the ordinary priests and all the remaining ones shall mourn because, talk about a nation being at the mourners bench. And you know, God has not only told us that's what's going to happen, but he even tells us the words they're going to say. Their confession, really? Isaiah 53 We did a statement stricken smitten of God and afflicted, but he's wounded for our transgressions broke for our iniquities the chastisement of our peace was upon him and by a stripes we are healed. Oh we like sheep have gone astray, we've turned everyone to his own way
the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all. And who among his own generation consider that he was cut off out of the land of the living for the transgression of my people whom the stroke was due. I tell you they’re going to confess. They're going to say, how stupid could we have been and how benighted, how incense say, how blind, how deaf, how unfeeling, how insensitive. So here, they saw on that day God's word. Has to have its full authority if good is going to be accomplished and be permanent at the same time.

In Chapter 9, the reading of the word is followed by separation and confession and prayer. We'll be dealing with that tomorrow Lord willing. Oh, up to the very day of the dedication, there was a separating from the evil in their midst. Look at the 13th chapter and the first verse on that day 13 1. What do we read here on that day? On that day, they read in the book Moses, Oh yeah, kept at, kept at it. And Chapter 10, the covenant with God is sealed. Chapter Eleven the rulers, chapter 12 the priest and the Levites. Oh it went from top to bottom from stem to stern. Pre Simi life. Went up with Zerubbabel. A long period seems to elapse before the events of Chapter 13, but there they are.

Nehemiah had been away, in verse 6 of Chapter 13 and been away from Susa and Persia. Was granted leave twelve years after the first permission, oh that man of God got things done. On his second visit, he found no need to rebuild, to repair, to restore the wall only to confirm what had been done already. That's by God's grace maintain our interest in the work of God. And let's see rich, genuine spiritual fruitage. The Feast of Tabernacles. That's not a miss any more than it is in the 14th chapter of zecha, Zechariah. The last chapter Zechariah. Tabernacles, and it's not a miss in Revelation 7, and Gods shall tabernacle among them. That's not an error. The word of God fits in. And in a preliminary way, John 1:14, the word was made flesh and dwelt,
Oh no, the original is eskenosin, Tabernacle among us would be held his glory. As though the only begotten. Of the Father full of grace and true, yes. Would be held his glory.

Do you know why Matthew, Mark and Luke have a mount of transfiguration experience and John doesn't? Would be out of place in John, out of place in John because all the way through that book his glory was being manifest, his Deity. And we beheld his glories of the only begotten of the fall the full of grace and true. You don't believe it? The first in the second chapter this beginning of miracles he did and manifested His glory. Every one of his signs a miracle for the glory of God. Bible is a unified testimony to him, so he didn't have to rebuild, didn't have to repair. Oh, let's see fruitage.

The feast of tabernacles. How beautifully it speaks oh millennial rest in covenant relationship restored with a God to whom they have returned. So they built the wall. They surely did, bless God. But it took toil, Labor, patience, love, perseverance, all of it. I think this is one of the finest stories I've heard about John D Rockefeller Junior. I haven't heard too many. We didn't travel exactly in the same society. John D Rockefeller Junior. Famous millionaire by the way. If you'd been to the Holy Land and seen that beautiful Palestinian museum. Limestone, beautiful. That was a gift of his, John D Rockefeller Junior. The senior, you remember the senior one? Was the one who gave ten cent tips you know and had an iron Castor Hicks to me? I don't know what it was he had had an operation.

Well I dearest say from some of the accounts we have some of them had a greater concern for the things of God than some of the later ones have had the John D. Rockefeller junior, the son of the first one, famous millionaire. In one of his Sunday school addresses in New York said, "There are many secrets of success, but I suppose the true secret is work. Just plain work." That's supposed to be a bad word now in our language. Work, said Rockefeller the
second, the junior. He said, "In my boyhood in Harvard. I sat one evening working over
Shakespeare when a certain figurative sentence cropped up and it puzzled me, even a Harvard
student," imagine that. You can always tell a Harvard graduate, you can't tell him much. We can
always tell him. So he got this figurative sentence and it puzzled said, puzzled me. So I said to
my father, he was reading his newspaper besides the lamp in the room. I said, "Father, what does
this mean?" He said. "What?" He said, "This sentence in Shakespeare. There is a tide in the
affairs of men which taken at the flood leads on to fortune." That is the statement of
Shakespeare. He said, "Father, what kind of tied would that be?" His father said simply, "Tied
down to business son, tied down to business." Slightly different spelling of the word tide, but
he's right all bit of it. Let's persevere in our building for the spiritual welfare of Jew and Gentile.
God will see to it. It's brought to a blessed completion.

What a lot of encouragement Nehemiah is. We read of so many works that fall flat on
their faces. Well it ought to fall on Nehemiah, here it is. Here we have an instruction manual.
And you know what we ought to say to folks. As so many folks say today with certain devices,
labor saving and other devices. When everything else fails read the directions. Let's work for the
night is coming. Unsaved or needy, adversaries are on every hand. And don't you forget it. Don't
you ever forget it? You don't have to go to a seminary, you don't have to have an extended
theological education. People are needy, adversaries are on every hand focus so lost and eternity
is so long and it hastens on.

Father in the quiet of this time how we thank thee from the depths of our hearts for a man
like Nehemiah. What a worthy, what a noble one. What a choice servant of life. What a man
given amazing insight into knowing how to do and how to administer the affairs of man and how
to excite them to do thy work. How to motivate them and how to keep himself in the background
and how to keep his life literally enveloped in prayer. Bless these dear ones, the homes they represent. Some are on their way back. They have to because of the affairs of their business and for other reasons. Others may be coming in. Thank thee for these grounds that have been hallowed through tears and sacrifice of blood and effort and the sacrificial giving of so many of thy children and those who lead it. Lord, may it ever continue to be as a lighthouse set on a hill for the wayfaring ones, for the needy, the hungry just as the hostile ministers to certain ones, needy ones.

So all of us need refreshing. Bless the service this evening our be with the afterglow, be with a completion of it. How rapidly these days run into eternity. How much time is consumed, few realize it's a year and more ahead that these arrangements are made to get the schedules clear to get the calendars free and for these as well. They're all busy folk father we know give blessing. Now with the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ wondrous grace the love of God our Father unspeakable love unfathomable and the sweet communion and fellowship of the Blessed Holy Spirit who indwells us. May these abide with us now until our Lord Jesus shall come and forever and ever amen.

Lord bless you. Remember the book store is open book nook, and we'll be there in due time to sign the John Henry father, the Lord bless you.

[Musical postlude till the end]