The Story: Chapter Twenty-One

Rebuilding the Walls

According to the grace of God given to me, like a skilled master builder I laid a foundation, and someone else is building upon it. Let each one take care how he builds upon it. **11**For no one can lay a foundation other than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ.

1st Corinthians 3:10-11

**Victorious Because of a Vision**

* The Distinguishable Difference:
  + Successful People: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
  + Unsuccessful People: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* The Sequence of a Vision
  + Becomes **aware of it**.
  + Personally **own it**.
  + Decide to **seek it**.
  + Actively **work for it**.
  + Fully **achieve it**.

**God’s vision for Nehemiah**

* God grabbed Nehemiah’s **attention.** (*The Story* p. 295)
  + A peculiar position: Cupbearer to the King
  + A providential visitor: Nehemiah’s brother – Hanani
  + A proper understanding of self
  + A promise of future potential
* God reveals the **problem** and the **potential.** (*The Story* p. 295 - 296)
  + Nehemiah knows God is a **Holy God**.
  + Nehemiah knows he is a **sinner** among **sinners**.
  + Nehemiah saw the **need** as desperate.
  + Nehemiah sought God for: **forgiveness, wisdom, and grace.**
  + Nehemiah **joined in** with all his heart, mind, will, and strength.

**All Visions Have a Price**

* The value of a vision is that it encourages you to **give up** all that you are in order to receive all that you **can become.**
* A God-given vision will **send** you to others. (*The Story* p. 295)
  + No person has successfully fulfilled God’s vision for their life until they have positively affected the lives of others.
* A God-given vision will **stretch** you to overcome. (*The Story* p. 297)
  + Any problem is a big problem when there is no vision. Any problem is not a problem when there is a vision.
* A God-given vision will **solidify** your resolve. (*The Story* p. 299)
  + There is a vast difference between a person with a vision and a dreamer.
    - Dreamer: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
    - Visionary:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
    - Dreamer:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
    - Visionary:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
    - Dreamer:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
    - Visionary:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* A God-given vision will **climax** with worship. (*The Story* p. 300)
  + God gets all the **credit.**
  + God’s people experience great **joy**.

**4 Reproaches of Malachi**

* We have shown **contempt** for God’s name. (*The Story* p. 302)
* We have been **unfaithful**. (*The Story* p. 302)
* We have **robbed** God. (*The Story* p. 303)
* We have spoken **arrogantly** against God. (*The Story* p. 303)