# **Vision - New Beginnings - Pt 14 Vision & Body Life**

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New Beginnings / Leadership; Vision / Nehemiah; Nehemiah 1; Nehemiah 2:11-20; Nehemiah 3

 **VISION**

[**Proverbs 29:18**](https://ref.ly/logosref/BibleNKJV.Pr29.18)

NKJV “Where there is no revelation, the people cast off restraint; But happy is he who keeps the law.”

ESV: “Where there is no prophetic vision the people cast off restraint, but blessed is he who keeps the law.

KJV: “Where there is no vision, the people perish: But he that keepeth the law, happy is he.

**Turn in your Bible with me to**

[**Nehemiah 2:11-20**](https://ref.ly/logosref/BibleNKJV.Ne2.11-20)**.**

• **Vision must be from the Lord - “Is it Good or is it God”** [**Nehemiah 2:11-16**](https://ref.ly/logosref/BibleNKJV.Ne2.11-16) **Nehemiah had come into the city and he needed to see for himself the report he had received in** [**Nehemiah 1:3**](https://ref.ly/logosref/BibleNKJV.Ne1.3)**. Nehemiah surveyed the city and the wall and determined the vision.**

• **Vision must be shared -** [**Nehemiah 2:17-18**](https://ref.ly/logosref/BibleNKJV.Ne2.17-18) “17 **Then I said to them,** “You see the distress that we are in, how Jerusalem lies waste, and its gates are burned with fire. **Come and let us build the wall of Jerusalem, that we may no longer be a reproach.”** 18 And I told them of the hand of my God which had been good upon me, and also of the king’s words that he had spoken to me. So they said, “Let us rise up and build.” Then they set their hands to this good work.”

• [Habakkuk 2:2](https://ref.ly/logosref/BibleNKJV.Hab2.2) “2 Then the Lord answered me and said: “**Write the vision And make it plain** on tablets, **That he may run who reads it.**”

• **Vision must be Caught -** [Nehemiah 2:18](https://ref.ly/logosref/BibleNKJV.Ne2.18) “18b... “**So they said, “Let us rise up and build.**” **Then they set their hands to this good work.**”

• **Vision often will be opposed** - [Nehemiah 2:19](https://ref.ly/logosref/BibleNKJV.Ne2.19) “19 But when Sanballat the Horonite, Tobiah the Ammonite official, and Geshem the Arab heard of it, **they laughed at us and despised us**, and said, “What is this thing that you are doing? Will you rebel against the king?””

• **Vision must be acted on in faith** - [Nehemiah 2:20](https://ref.ly/logosref/BibleNKJV.Ne2.20) “20 So I answered them, and said to them, “T**he God of heaven Himself will prosper us**; **therefore we His servants will arise and build...”**

• [**2 Corinthians 5:7**](https://ref.ly/logosref/BibleNKJV.2Co5.7) “7 For we walk by faith, not by sight.”

**Faith is to believe what we do not see. The reward of this faith is to see what we believe.—Augustine of Hippo**

• Kevin DeYoung - Professor at Reformed Theological Seminary - “We ought to live for what we cannot see and for the God who sees all.”

We move forward in Faith not sight:

4 times in scripture we are admonished that “the just shall live by faith”

• [Habakkuk 2:4](https://ref.ly/logosref/BibleNKJV.Hab2.4) “But the just shall live by his faith.”

• [Galatians 3:11](https://ref.ly/logosref/BibleNKJV.Ga3.11) “ “the just shall live by faith.””

• [Romans 1:17](https://ref.ly/logosref/BibleNKJV.Ro1.17) “17 For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, “The just shall live by faith.””

• [Hebrews 10:38](https://ref.ly/logosref/BibleNKJV.Heb10.38) “38 Now the just shall live by faith; But if anyone draws back, My soul has no pleasure in him.””

• **Tommy Barnett “Great works do not just happen, they are caused. Vision, likewise, is caught, as well as taught. Proverbs relates, “Where there is no vision, the people perish” (**[**Proverbs 29:18**](https://ref.ly/logosref/Bible.Pr29.18)**). I am convinced that where there are no people the vision perishes.”**

• **Oswald Chambers “**It is essential to practice the walk of the feet in the light of the vision.”

• **ESSENTIAL** - **Of the utmost importance:** BASIC, INDISPENSABLE, NECESSARY

• Believe in Faith God Himself with cause the Vision to come to pass - Therefore put your hand to the plow. **It takes every one of you!**

**Henry Blackaby, In his book Experiencing God: Knowing and doing the will of God puts it this way: “If you want to know the will of God for your life; Watch for what God is doing and join Him in it.”**

[**Nehemiah 3**](https://ref.ly/logosref/BibleNKJV.Ne3)**.**

Home-work. Go home today and take a RED pen, much like this one here (Show RED Pen) and I want you to find and underline every time in this chapter you find the phrase “Next To” or the phrase “After Them”

27 times the phrase “Next To” or “After Them” is used in this passage, 13 times “Next To” is used and 14 times “After Them” is used.

Only one instance is shown where someone did not participate : [Nehemiah 3:5](https://ref.ly/logosref/BibleNKJV.Ne3.5) “5 Next to them the Tekoites made repairs; but their nobles did not put their shoulders to the work of their Lord.”

You might find some who are not committed, they don’t want to do the work needed in the church, and you have one of two responses:

1. Let their influence stop you from continuing by faith and work

2. Continue on in the work God has called them to do : Notice the before and after. [Nehemiah 3:5a](https://ref.ly/logosref/BibleNKJV.Ne3.5a) “5 Next to them the Tekoites made repairs;...” [Nehemiah 3:6](https://ref.ly/logosref/BibleNKJV.Ne3.6) “... Moreover Jehoiada the son of Paseah and Meshullam the son of Besodeiah repaired the Old Gate; they laid its beams and hung its doors, with its bolts and bars.”

a. The did not let the behavior of those Tekoite nobles to influence their hearts and minds into NOT being a part of what God was doing!

b. Don’t let the people around you who are negative, non-committal people who are not engaged with the work of God keep YOU for stepping up in your “Next To Them” place in God’s vision and work of His church!

Scripture tells us:

 [Ephesians 2:8-10](https://ref.ly/logosref/BibleNKJV.Eph2.8-10) “8 For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, 9 not of works, lest anyone should boast. 10 **For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.”**

**Created in Christ Jesus**

[**Isaiah 43:7**](https://ref.ly/logosref/BibleNKJV.Is43.7) “7 Everyone who is called by My name, **Whom I have created for My glory**; I have formed him, yes, I have made him.””

[Isaiah 43:21](https://ref.ly/logosref/BibleNKJV.Is43.21) “21 This people **I have formed for Myself**; They shall declare My praise.”

The New Testament picture of us “As” the Body of Christ is a picture of [Nehemiah 3](https://ref.ly/logosref/BibleNKJV.Ne3). We are next to and after them for God’s glory. We are fit together for a function.

**Our Wall to build is not a do but a become - Our vision has been expressed as our prayer focus for 2023:**

• **That we would be Gospel-centric people:** [**Matthew 28:18-20**](https://ref.ly/logosref/BibleNKJV.Mt28.18-20)

 How do we become Gospel-centric people? We share the Gospel.

• **That we would be a Worshiping people:** [**John 4:23-24**](https://ref.ly/logosref/BibleNKJV.Jn4.23-24)

 How do we become Worshipping People? We come and actively worship. We sing we lift our hands we Actively worship.

• **That we would be a praying people:** [**1 Timothy 2:8**](https://ref.ly/logosref/BibleNKJV.1Ti2.8)

 How do we become a praying people? We pray. Set time for prayer each day, come to prayer and worship night each month. Just Do it!

• **That we would be a Serving people:** [**Galatians 5:13**](https://ref.ly/logosref/BibleNKJV.Ga5.13)

 How do we become a Serving people? We Serve. We bear one another’s burdens, we find ways to serve others.

• **That we would be a Generous people:** [**1 John 3:17**](https://ref.ly/logosref/BibleNKJV.1Jn3.17)

 How do we become a generous people? We give. We meet needs.

**These are our “Wall to Build”**