

## **REASONS FOR WORSHIPING GOD (Nehemiah 9)**

### **I. His position.**

- A. Nehemiah knew that God was to be praised because of His position.
- B. He knew that God's name was "above all blessing and praise" (9:5), because God was Lord alone (9:6).
- C. Notice some of positions in which we see God in Bible.
  - 1. Creator (Ecclesiastes 12:1; 1 Peter 4:19).
  - 2. Redeemer (Psalm 78:35).
  - 3. Savior (1 Timothy 2:3-4).
  - 4. Provider (Psalm 55:22).
  - 5. Lord (Matthew 4:10).
  - 6. Judge (Genesis 18:25).
- D. Like Israel of old, modern Israel (Christians), should worship God because of His position.
- E. He is worthy of praise and adoration because of who He is.

### **II. His promises.**

- A. 3 times in this chapter, Nehemiah refers to the promises made by God concerning Canaan (vs. 8, 15, 23).
  - 1. Although modern premillennialists contend that these land promises haven't been fulfilled, God's word makes it clear that they have.
  - 2. Joshua 23:14 - not one thing had failed.
- B. God is worthy of worship because He did what He said He would do.
- C. If He hadn't done what He promised, He wouldn't be worthy.
- D. Today, we should worship God because of the promises He has made and kept.
- E. He is a God who cannot lie (Titus 1:2).
- F. Just as surely as He kept promises in Old Testament, He will keep the promises He has made to us: He has not changed.

### **III. His pity.**

- A. Nehemiah reminded the people of how God had seen the affliction of their forefathers in Egypt and heard their cries (9:9).
- B. He knew that God was worthy of their worship because of His great pity that He'd shown them.
  - 1. Psalm 103:13-14.
  - 2. Isaiah 63:9.
- C. Like a loving Father, God carried His sick children on His back.
- D. In like manner, God has carried us on many occasions in our lives.
  - 1. When we were dying in sin, God sent Son (John 3:16).
  - 2. He sent Him to die in our place.
- E. Like James, we must confess... (James 5:11).
- F. Were it not for His pity, man would still be drowning in sin.

### **IV. His power.**

- A. Nehemiah refers to God as the great, mighty and terrible God (vs. 32).
- B. Each of these words describes one who is great in power.

- C. In addition to these words, Nehemiah recalled the mighty signs and wonders God performed against Pharaoh.
  - 1. 9:9-11.
  - 2. One so great and powerful is certainly worthy of worship.
- D. His power is glorious (Colossians 1:11).
- E. He is upholding the world by the word of His power (Hebrews 1:3).
- F. Of course, we are most thankful for His saving power.
- G. Through His word He has... (Colossians 1:13-14).
- H. Nothing is too hard for Him (Jeremiah 32:17).
- I. Things that are impossible with us are possible with Him (Matthew 19:26; Philippians 4:13).

**V. His provisions.**

- A. Many times, Nehemiah made reference to provisions of God.
  - 1. Light (9:12) - by day a cloud, by night a pillar of fire.
  - 2. 9:13-14-as pillars guided through the wilderness, His word guided them through life.
  - 3. 9:15, 20-when they were hungry God gave manna, when thirsty God provided water - 40 years God sustained His people (9:21).
  - 4. 9:21 - clothes lasted.
  - 5. 9:21 - feet that didn't swell.
  - 6. 9:25 - land that was fat- moved into a land others had prepared for them.
- B. With all of these blessings, how could they not worship God who had been so good to them?
- C. We worship God because of all of His provisions.
  - 1. He has given us physical blessings (1 Timothy 6:17).
  - 2. He has provided all spiritual blessings (Ephesians 1:3).

**VI. His pardon.**

- A. Despite sinning over and over again, God remained ready to pardon (9:17).
- B. Repeatedly, He delivered them according to His great mercy (9:28).
- C. In like manner, we should praise Him for pardon offered to us.
  - 1. No God like Him in area of pardon (Micah 7:18).
  - 2. In His mercy, God sent Jesus take our place (Hebrews 2:9).

**VII. His patience.**

- A. For many years, God was willing to forbear the sinfulness of His people (9:30-31).
- B. He had repeatedly sent His prophets to restore them.
- C. We should worship God because of His great patience (2 Peter 3:9).
- D. As He waited in Noah's day, He waits today (1 Peter 3:21).

**VIII. His purity.**

- A. Even though God punished them, they did not charge Him with being unjust or impure.
- B. They knew He had done right and they had done wickedly (9:33).
- C. Therefore they worshiped Him for His purity.
- D. God is worthy of our worship for the same reason.

- E. He remains a God that is not a respecter of persons (Roman 2:11; James 2:1).

From a sermon by Wade Webster.