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).
      5. Lord (Matthew 4:10).
   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.
   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, Gd 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.