

One Whom God Can't Forget¹

Nehemiah 13:31

INTRODUCTION:

1. The Bible says, "God remembered Noah" (Gen. 8:1), because God can't forget obedience.
2. The Bible says, "God remembered his covenant with Abraham, with Isaac, and with Jacob" (Ex. 2:24), because God can't forget His people who keep their agreements with Him.
3. The Bible says, "The Lord remembered" Hannah (1 Sam. 1:19), because of her humble prayer and promise to Him.
4. So, three times in the book of Nehemiah 13, the governor called on God to remember him (vv. 14, 22, 31).
5. The greatest thing is to have our sins *not* remembered. Is being in the mind of God a good thing?
6. Nehemiah is remembered because of his zeal.

DISCUSSION: Nehemiah was zealous about...

I. Prayer.

- A. Nehemiah had prayed for and received favor and mercy from the king (ch. 2). He and Israel had rebuilt the city walls in fifty-two days, "accomplished with the help of our God" (6:16).
- B. When he found the plot of his enemies he "prayed to our God" (4:8, 9).
- C. When enemies tried to frighten the people, he prayed (6:9).
- D. Nehemiah was not self-reliant; he was God-reliant.

II. Purpose.

- A. Nehemiah was focused on getting the worship of God back in order.
- B. The last chapter (13) highlights the zeal of his purpose.
 1. Concerning the pollution of the temple (vv. 8, 9)
 2. Concerning the Levites (vv. 10, 11)
 3. Concerning the conduct of business on the Sabbath day (vv. 19-21)
 4. Concerning the intermarriage of believers and unbelievers (vv. 23-27)
 5. Concerning the order of worship (vv. 30, 31).

CONCLUSION:

1. May we never be lacking in zeal (Rom. 12:11) especially in prayer and purpose.
2. "Remember me, O my God, for good" (13:31).

¹ From "The People God Can't Forget" by Robert Stone, www.sermoncentral.com. Accessed 12/05/2012. Adapted by Andy Kizer.