

What You Can Count on When You Take God Seriously—Part 1

Nehemiah 1:11-2:20

For the eyes of the Lord run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to show himself strong on behalf of those whose heart is loyal to him.
2 Chronicles 16:9 (NKJV)

I. When you take God seriously, you will ENGAGE God's POWER.

Read Nehemiah 2:1-6

It pleased the king to send me. Nehemiah 2:6 (NIV)

The king's heart is like a stream of water directed by the Lord. He turns it wherever he pleases. Proverbs 21:2 (NLT)

II. When you take God seriously, you will EXPERIENCE God's PROVISION.

Read Nehemiah 2:7-9; 5:14

And because the gracious hand of my God was upon me, the king granted my requests. Nehemiah 2:8b (NIV)

Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than we can ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen. Ephesians 3:20 (NIV)

III. When you take God seriously, you will be _____ to God's _____.

I went to Jerusalem, and after staying there three days, I set out during the night with a few men. I had not told anyone what my God had put in my heart to do for Jerusalem. Nehemiah 2:11-12 (NIV)

The first three realities of *Experiencing God*:

1. God is always _____ around you.
2. God pursues a _____ with you that is real and personal.
3. God _____ you to become involved with Him in His _____.

IV. When you take God seriously, you will _____ God's _____.

Read Nehemiah 2:13-17

I also told them about the gracious hand of my God upon me and what the king had said to me. They replied, "Let us start rebuilding." So they began this good work. Nehemiah 2:18 (NIV)

V. When you take God seriously, you will _____ Satan's _____.

When Sanballat the Horonite and Tobiah the Ammonite official heard about this, they were very much disturbed that someone had come to promote the welfare of the Israelites. Nehemiah 2:10 (NIV)

But when Sanballat the Horonite, Tobiah the Ammonite official and Geshem the Arab heard about it, they mocked and ridiculed us. "What are you doing? they asked. "Are you rebelling against the king?" Nehemiah 2:19 (NIV)

VI. When you take God seriously, you will _____ God's _____.

I answered them by saying, "The God of heaven will give us success. We his servants will start rebuilding, but as for you, you have no share in Jerusalem or any claim or historic right to it." Nehemiah 2:20 (NIV)