

Where's Your Chair?

Nehemiah 3 23-32



O pray for the peace of Jerusalem: 'May they prosper who love you.
Peace be within your walls and tranquillity within your palaces.'
Psalm 122:6-7

Praising:

Christ is made the sure foundation,
Christ the head and corner-stone,
chosen of the Lord and precious,
binding all the Church in one;
holy Zion's help for ever,
and her confidence alone.

Reading:

Nehemiah 3:23-32
Back where they started at the Sheep Gate

Nehemiah's catalogue of works and workers continues. Not just houses are repaired but the more decorative features of the walled city like the towers. Again, the temple servants are included as willing volunteers, as well as another batch of priests who attend to the sections that their own homes look out over. By the time his list reaches the works

done by the goldsmiths and merchants, Nehemiah has brought us back full circle to the Sheep Gate. Having walked a lap of the city under cover of darkness to assess the job, Nehemiah is now able to walk a second mental lap acknowledging the hands-on role of everyone who has taken up the challenge. He had committed the whole undertaking to God before embarking on it. God's response and blessing of Nehemiah's initiative is now plain for all to see.

Listening:

Praying:

We pray Lord for the ever-widening commitment of our whole Church family

- that young and old we would see our role, seize the moment, and play our part
- that there would be a sense of everyone stepping up and many hands making light work
- that sizing-up the task, we would pursue it and see it through under God's blessing

Father: bring me to see that the greater my fear at the obstacle before me, the more ready you are to make good my deficiency, for in your power and for your glory I can do anything. Amen

Doing:

Monday, 12 September 2016