

1 - He Cared Enough To Ask - vs. 1-3

* Nehemiah - A layman / Cap. bearer to Artaxerxes King of Persia
"butler extraordinary" "brother"
son of Hachibiah / relative of Hanani / Jew

* Nehemiah - holds an important position in the palace
could have returned to Jerusalem but chose to stay in Susa "Shushan"
God had him in just the right place/time/moment
just as He had Esther/Joseph/Moses/Joshua, etc.

→ Just another routine day and Nehemiah meets his brother, Hanani, and asks him how things were in Jerusalem.

→ This Routine Day turned into a Turning Point in Neh. Life

↳ Moses at the Burning Bush

↳ David in Valley of Elah bringing food to his brothers

↳ Peter, James, John were mending their nets after a night of failure but Jesus called them to be fishers of men

↳ You Never Know what a routine day may become

→ Why would Nehemiah Ask - it wasn't his fault the Jews were in a mess

* Some folk do not want to know - so they never ask
"Don't die of Ignorance" - he was well-off & successful
"it's not his problem, he's in Susa"
"What you don't know can't hurt you" - FATHSE
"Facts don't cease to exist because they are ignored" - Huxley

→ Nehemiah's Asked - What did he learn?

* Anxious to know truth
* Concerned about situation
* Cared Enough To Ask!

(p. Jer. 15:5)

No great nation
only a remnant

great affliction & struggling to survive
'shambles'
- walls & gates -

Remnant ✓
Ruins ✓
Reproach ✓

Once had been great glory, now a reproach