

# **Building Solid Foundations**

## **Fresh Start: Opportunity VS Obstacle**

**2 Corinthians 5:17; Nehemiah 2:17**

## 2 Corinthians 5:17-20

*Now we look inside and what we see is that anyone united with the Messiah gets a **FRESH START**, is created new. The old life is gone; a new life burgeons! Look at it! All this come from the God who settled the relationship between us and him and then called us to settle our relationships with each other. God put the world square with himself through the Messiah, giving the world a **FRESH START** by offering forgiveness of sins. God has given us the task of telling everyone what he is doing. We're Christ's representatives!*

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## Opportunity VS Obstacle

**Nehemiah 2:17-18** *Then I said to them, You see the trouble we are in: Jerusalem lies in ruins, and its gates have been burned with fire. Come, let us rebuild the wall of Jerusalem, and we will no longer be in disgrace. 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.*

**Lesson learned: Submit EVERYTHING to the Lord**

**We receive a FRESH START because  
God is ALWAYS with us**

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**Nehemiah 2:19-20** *But when Sanballat the Horonite, Tobiah the Ammonite official, and Geshem the Arab heard of it, **they laughed at us and despised us**, and said, What is this thing that you are doing? ...So I answered them, and said to them, The God of heaven Himself will prosper us; therefore we His servants will arise and build, but you have no heritage or right or memorial in Jerusalem.*

**Remember what we have!**

**We have a heritage: God's inheritance; **power for the future****

**We have a right: as God's Children; **power for today****

**We have a memorial: a historical place; **power in the past****

God is God and there is none like Him!

**God came to be with us and He stands with us declaring  
WE have a problem and together WE will fix it!**

*So let **US** rise up and build!*

## Trust in God's Word

**Proverbs 3:5-6** *Trust in the LORD with all your heart; do not depend on your own understanding. Seek his will in all you do, and he will direct your paths.*

## Pray to the Lord and Keep on Praying

**2 Chronicles 7:14** *If My people who are called by My name will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land.*

## Maintain Community Support

**1 Peter 4:7-11** *But the end of all things is at hand; therefore be serious and watchful in your prayers. **And above all things have fervent love for one another, for love will cover a multitude of sins.***

## **Stop Living in the Past**

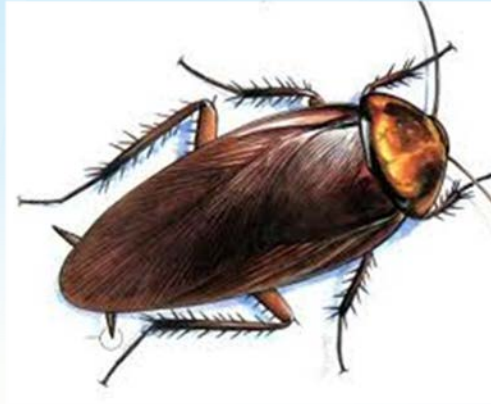
**Isaiah 43:18-19** *Do not remember the former things, Nor consider the things of old. Behold, I will do a new thing, Now it shall spring forth; Shall you not know it? I will even make a road in the wilderness And rivers in the desert.*

## **Ephesians 5:10-20**

*Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the worthless deeds of evil and darkness; instead, rebuke and expose them. It is shameful even to talk about the things that ungodly people do in secret. But when the light shines on them, it becomes clear how evil these things are. And where your light shines, it will expose their evil deeds. **Therefore He says: Awake, you who sleep, Arise from the dead, And Christ will give you light.***

# The Cockroach Principle

Our past secrets will have power in our lives only as long as they remain hidden in the dark. Secrets only have power as long as they remain a secret.



*Awake, O sleeper, rise up from the dead, and Christ will give you light*

**Isaiah 60:1** *Arise, shine; For your light has come! And the glory of the LORD is risen upon you.*

## **Live with the Expectancy of the Lord**

**Luke 21:25-28** *And there will be strange events in the skies — signs in the sun, moon, and stars. And down here on earth the nations will be in turmoil, perplexed by the roaring seas and strange tides...**So when all these things begin to happen, stand straight and look up, for your salvation is near!***

**God wants us to live our lives with spiritual *expectation* not in spiritual *desperation!***

## **1 Corinthians 11:23-26**

*For I received from the Lord that which I also delivered to you: that the Lord Jesus on the same night in which He was betrayed took bread; and when He had given thanks, He broke it and said, Take, eat; this is My body which is broken for you; do this in remembrance of Me. In the same manner He also took the cup after supper, saying, This cup is the new covenant in My blood. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me. For as often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death till He comes.*

# GOD FIRST ALWAYS!

by BELIEVING with faith in His death (the sacrifice of his flesh) and resurrection...

by RECIEVING the Lord, living in obedience, depending on His Word and trusting in the Holy Spirit for power.