



Climbing The Walls

Part 1



Introduction: **Video Illustration:** Taylor's gift (*mom hears daughters' heart again.*) **The question is, were they hearing Taylor Storch's heart or Patricia Winter's heart? When someone hears and sees your life, what do people hear?**

Text: God's word calls it a Rich Mystery for a believer. What is this mystery?
Colossians 1:27b

Outline:

The Story of Nehemiah. **Nehemiah 1:3**

Have you ever felt like things in your life or relationships were getting so out of control, you felt like "climbing the walls"? It is an idiom meaning "to be anxious or annoyed to the point of being in a frenzy/panic". But even when you are climbing the walls, **the wall can crumble!**

I. Weakened Defense.

A. Loss of Hope. Jerusalem's Wall and gates are a picture of a life who's defenses against attack have grown weak and one who is vulnerable to hurt or misery. When this remnant of a people were looked at, it was evident that you saw a broken heart and spirit. A crumbling hope. Their hearts hurt!

- i. You may look at your life and feel there is no longer any ability left to resist attacks. You have perhaps fallen victim to sinful habits that you now find difficult, if not impossible, to break. That is the kind of ruin that is described here.

There may be some who feel unable to stop wrongful sexual practices. You have gone along with the ways of the world. You have fallen into practices that the Bible says are wrong. You know they are wrong. But you have difficulty stopping them. You may be indulging in pornography. You may be addicted to drugs. You may be hooked on tobacco or alcohol. Perhaps you have a bitter spirit. You can be addicted to a critical and stern attitude, that complains about everything, as much as you can be an addict to drugs. It is so habitual that you find yourself having difficulty stopping it. Perhaps your drift began innocently. You did not realize you were forming a habit, but now you no longer can stop it. Your defenses are gone. The walls of your city are broken down. Perhaps also your **gates, or your way out, seems burned**. Gates are ways in and out. So that almost anything can come in and get out? Have the wrong spirits

been allowed to come in your borders and the Holy Spirit lost His place as FIRST and Guard? **2 Timothy 1:14** *deposit is the truth of the gospel that has been treasured away in the believers heart. It will bear fruit and bring powerful results...if allowed to stay and do it work.

- ii. There are parts of your life you cannot talk about. You do not want anyone to know. You have a sense of great personal distress and are feeling reproach and disgrace. You have been scarred emotionally. No one may know about it. To others you appear to be a success. They think you are doing fine, but inwardly you know you are not. As you examine the walls and the gates of your life you find much of it in ruins.

B. (When) Your Heart has drifted away. (Video BG)

- i. Your energy, your passion, your purpose.

You can't fulfill God's purpose if your heart is far from God or has drifted away. Your life will be much more fulfilling when you trust God, have a healthy heart, centered on God, and have surrendered to Jesus as your savior!

- ii. **Nehemiah 1:4-11a** Read

God can and will restore you! You can pray and intercede! You can repent and return to God's heart! You can be His vessel of honor – bringing glory to His name! Don't settle for less!

Remember Taylor and Patricia, The sacrifice that touched our heart...Jesus did far greater for you! So His heart can be seen and heard through your life!

You need roll up your sleeves and get ready to return, repent, be restored and obey God's will for your life! There is much for you to do! You are not in this alone! God will help you, your bro. and sis. in Christ will help you! Church will help you! Take hands and let's commit together.