

# WELCOME



A person with long hair, wearing a grey hoodie and blue jeans, stands on the peak of a jagged, grey rock formation. They are looking out over a vast, green valley filled with patchwork fields and small towns. In the far distance, a range of rugged, grey mountains stretches across the horizon under a pale, overcast sky. The overall mood is one of solitude and contemplation.

The joy of the Lord is your strength

Derk Jan van der Veen



**COVID-19**

**Recovery**

**War car pollution**

**Climate change**

**power mistakes**

**Storm**

**Uncertain**

**Hurricane**

**MONEY**

**Warning**

**protocol review**

**pushes to reduce greenhouse gases**

**dollar**

**ness,**

**ore**



<sup>16</sup> Then the children of Israel, the priests and the Levites and the rest of the descendants of the captivity, celebrated the dedication of this house of God with joy.



<sup>27</sup> Blessed be the LORD God of our fathers, who has put such a thing as this in the king's heart, to beautify the house of the LORD which is in Jerusalem,



<sup>15</sup> So the wall was finished on the  
twenty-fifth day of Elul, in fifty-two days.



Nehemiah 6: 15 (NKJV)



<sup>5</sup> And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, for he was standing above all the people; and when he opened it, all the people stood up.

<sup>6</sup> And Ezra blessed the LORD, the great God. Then all the people answered, “Amen, Amen!” while lifting up their hands. And they bowed their heads and worshiped the LORD with their faces to the ground.



<sup>6</sup> Then Ezra rose up from before the house of God, and went into the chamber of Jehohanan the son of Eliashib; and when he came there, he ate no bread and drank no water, for he mourned because of the guilt of those from the captivity.



<sup>25</sup> So I contended with them and cursed them, struck some of them and pulled out their hair, and made them swear by God, saying, “You shall not give your daughters as wives to their sons, nor take their daughters for your sons or yourselves.



The theme of Ezra is faithfulness to the Lord, both in worship (hence the importance of the new temple) and in keeping the Torah, the Mosaic Law.

The theme of Nehemiah is the Lord's protection of His people and the need for their faithfulness in keeping the Thora (the Mosaic Law) and their faithfulness in worship.

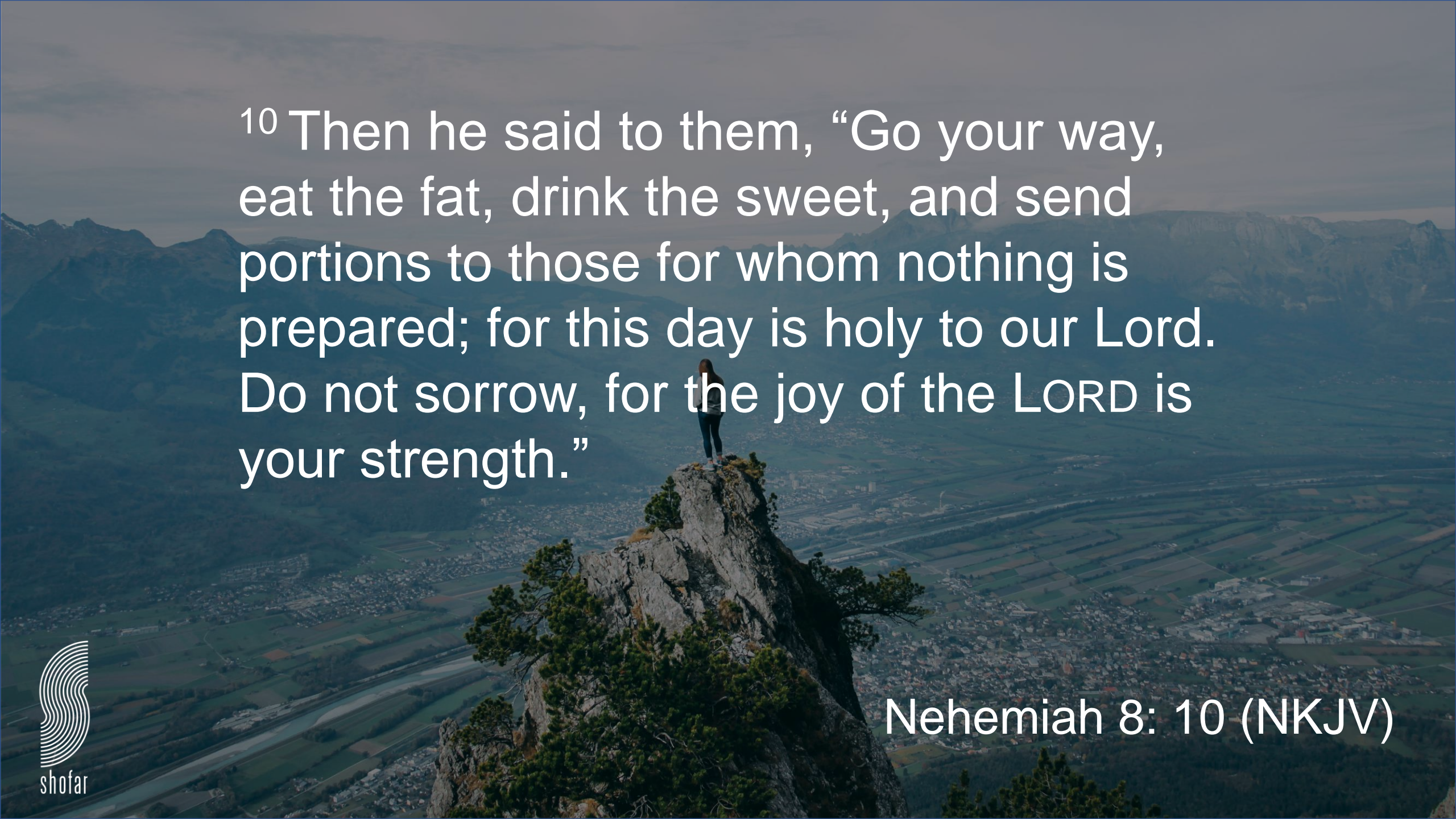


<sup>33</sup> But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put My law in their minds, and write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people.



<sup>26</sup> I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; I will take the heart of stone out of your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. <sup>27</sup> I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes, and you will keep My judgments and do them.



A person is standing on the peak of a rocky mountain, looking out over a vast valley. The valley is filled with green fields, small towns, and a river. In the background, there are more mountains under a hazy sky. The text is overlaid on the upper part of the image.

<sup>10</sup> Then he said to them, “Go your way, eat the fat, drink the sweet, and send portions to those for whom nothing is prepared; for this day is holy to our Lord. Do not sorrow, for the joy of the LORD is your strength.”



<sup>16</sup> Rejoice always, <sup>17</sup> pray without ceasing, <sup>18</sup> in everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.



1 Thessalonians 5: 16 – 24 (NKJV)



<sup>19</sup> Do not quench the Spirit. <sup>20</sup> Do not despise prophecies. <sup>21</sup> Test all things; hold fast what is good. <sup>22</sup> Abstain from every form of evil.

1 Thessalonians 5: 16 – 24 (NKJV)



<sup>23</sup> Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely; and may your whole spirit, soul, and body be preserved blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>24</sup> He who calls you is faithful, who also will do it.




1 Thessalonians 5: 16 – 24 (NKJV)



Put the three on top of each other:

- |          |                         |          |
|----------|-------------------------|----------|
| - Temple | Jerusalem               | Walls    |
| - Spirit | Soul                    | Body     |
|          | (mind, will & emotions) |          |
| - God    | Joy                     | Strength |



A person with long hair, wearing a grey hoodie and blue jeans, stands on the peak of a rocky mountain. They are looking out over a vast valley filled with green fields, small towns, and a winding river. In the background, there are more mountains under a hazy sky. The overall tone is peaceful and contemplative.

Do not sorrow, for the joy of  
the LORD is your strength.”



# MINISTRY



SEE YOU NEXT TIME!