



All I can do  
is pray

*Pastor Rudolf Orzmond*



A close-up photograph of a person's hands clasped together in a prayerful gesture, resting on an open Bible. The background is softly blurred, showing the pages of the book. The text is overlaid on a black rectangular background with a thin orange border.

**WHEN I HEARD:  
NEHEMIAH  
(NEHEMIAH 1:1 - 2:8)**

# NEHEMIAH 1:1-2A ESV

**I The words of Nehemiah the son of Hacaliah. Now it happened in the month of Chislev, in the twentieth year, as I was in Susa the citadel, 2a that Hanani, one of my brothers, came with certain men from Judah.**



# NEHEMIAH 1:2B - 3 ESV

**2b** And I asked them concerning the Jews who escaped, who had survived the exile, and concerning Jerusalem. **3** And they said to me, “The remnant there in the province who had survived the exile is in great trouble and shame. The wall of Jerusalem is broken down, and its gates are destroyed by fire.”



# NEHEMIAH 1:4 ESV

**4 As soon as I heard these words I sat down and wept and mourned for days, and I continued fasting and praying before the God of heaven.**



# NEHEMIAH 1:5 ESV

**5** And I said, “O LORD God of heaven, the great and awesome God who keeps covenant and steadfast love with those who love him and keep his commandments,



# NEHEMIAH 1:6A ESV

**6a** let your ear be attentive and your eyes open, to hear the prayer of your servant that I now pray before you day and night for the people of Israel your servants, confessing the sins of the people of Israel, which we have sinned against you.



# NEHEMIAH 1:6B-7 ESV

**6b** Even I and my father's house have sinned.  
**7** We have acted very corruptly against you  
and have not kept the commandments, the  
statutes, and the rules that you commanded  
your servant Moses.



# NEHEMIAH 1:8 ESV

**8 Remember the word that you commanded your servant Moses, saying, 'If you are unfaithful, I will scatter you among the peoples,**

# NEHEMIAH 1:9 ESV

**9 but if you return to me and keep my commandments and do them, though your outcasts are in the uttermost parts of heaven, from there I will gather them and bring them to the place that I have chosen, to make my name dwell there.'**



# NEHEMIAH 1:10-11A ESV

**10** They are your servants and your people, whom you have redeemed by your great power and by your strong hand. **11a** O Lord, let your ear be attentive to the prayer of your servant, and to the prayer of your servants who delight to fear your name, and give success to your servant today, and grant him mercy in the sight of this man.”

# NEHEMIAH 1:11B - 2:1 ESV

**11b** Now I was cupbearer to the king. **2:1** In the month of Nisan, in the twentieth year of King Artaxerxes, when wine was before him, I took up the wine and gave it to the king. Now I had not been sad in his presence.



# NEHEMIAH 2:2 ESV

**2** And the king said to me, “Why is your face sad, seeing you are not sick? This is nothing but sadness of the heart.” Then I was very much afraid.

# NEHEMIAH 2:3 ESV

**3** I said to the king, “Let the king live forever! Why should not my face be sad, when the city, the place of my fathers’ graves, lies in ruins, and its gates have been destroyed by fire?”



# NEHEMIAH 2:4-5 ESV

**4** Then the king said to me, “What are you requesting?” So I prayed to the God of heaven.

**5** And I said to the king, “If it pleases the king, and if your servant has found favor in your sight, that you send me to Judah, to the city of my fathers’ graves, that I may rebuild it.”

# NEHEMIAH 2:6 ESV

**6 And the king said to me (the queen sitting beside him), “How long will you be gone, and when will you return?” So it pleased the king to send me when I had given him a time.**



# NEHEMIAH 2:7 ESV

**7** And I said to the king, “If it pleases the king, let letters be given me to the governors of the province Beyond the River, that they may let me pass through until I come to Judah,

# NEHEMIAH 2:8 ESV

**8** and a letter to Asaph, the keeper of the king's forest, that he may give me timber to make beams for the gates of the fortress of the temple, and for the wall of the city, and for the house that I shall occupy." And the king granted me what I asked, for the good hand of my God was upon me.



A close-up photograph of a person's hands clasped in prayer, resting on an open Bible. The hands are positioned at the top right of the frame, with fingers interlaced. The Bible is open, showing its pages, which are slightly blurred. The background is a soft, out-of-focus light brown or beige color. A semi-transparent black rectangular box with a thin light brown border is centered in the middle of the image, containing white text.

**WHEN I HEARD:  
NEHEMIAH  
(NEHEMIAH 1:1 - 2:8)**

# NEHEMIAH 4:4-5 ESV

**4** Hear, O our God, for we are despised. Turn back their taunt on their own heads and give them up to be plundered in a land where they are captives. **5** Do not cover their guilt, and let not their sin be blotted out from your sight, for they have provoked you to anger in the presence of the builders.



A close-up photograph of a person's hands clasped together in a prayerful gesture, resting on an open Bible. The hands are positioned at the top right of the frame. The Bible is open, showing its pages, which are slightly blurred. The background is a soft, out-of-focus light color. A semi-transparent black rectangular box with a thin light-colored border is centered over the image, containing white text.

**WHEN I HEARD:  
NEHEMIAH  
(NEHEMIAH 1:1 - 2:8)**

# NEHEMIAH 6:9 ESV

**9 For they all wanted to frighten us, thinking, “Their hands will drop from the work, and it will not be done.” But now, O God, strengthen my hands.**



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**WHEN I HEARD:  
NEHEMIAH  
(NEHEMIAH 1:1 - 2:8)**

**Nehemiah 13:14** Remember me, O my God, concerning this, and do not wipe out my good deeds that I have done for the house of my God and for his service.

**Nehemiah 13:22b** Remember this also in my favor, O my God, and spare me according to the greatness of your steadfast love.

**Nehemiah 13:29** Remember them, O my God, because they have desecrated the priesthood and the covenant of the priesthood and the Levites.

**Nehemiah 13:31b** Remember me, O my God, for good.



# PSALM 136:1-4 ESV

*Pastor: Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good,*

*Audience: for his steadfast love endures forever.*

*Pastor: Give thanks to the God of gods,*

*Audience: his steadfast love endures forever.*

*Pastor: Give thanks to the Lord of lords,*

*Audience: his steadfast love endures forever;*

*Pastor: to him who alone does great wonders,*

*Audience: his steadfast love endures forever;*

# PSALM 136:1-4 ESV

*Pastor: to him who by understanding made the heavens,*

*Audience: for his steadfast love endures forever;*

*Pastor: to him who spread out the earth above the waters,*

*Audience: for his steadfast love endures forever ...*

*Pastor: It is he who remembered us in our low estate,*

*Audience: for his steadfast love endures forever;*

*Pastor: and rescued us from our foes,*

*Audience: for his steadfast love endures forever;*



# PSALM 136:1-4 ESV

*Pastor: Give thanks to the God of heaven,  
Audience: for his steadfast love endures forever.*