

# HOW CHANGE HAPPENS

## “The Change Within”

<sup>1</sup> *In late autumn, in the month of Kislev, in the twentieth year of King Artaxerxes' reign, I was at the fortress of Susa.*

<sup>2</sup> *Hanani, one of my brothers, came to visit me with some other men who had just arrived from Judah. I asked them about the Jews who had returned there from captivity and about how things were going in Jerusalem.* <sup>3</sup> *They said to me, “Things are not going well for those who returned to the province of Judah. They are in great trouble and disgrace. The wall of Jerusalem has been torn down, and the gates have been destroyed by fire.”* <sup>4</sup> *When I heard this, I sat down and wept. In fact, **for days I mourned, fasted, and prayed to the God of heaven.** Nehemiah 1:1-4 (NLT)*

**Whenever God wants to do a work THROUGH us, it starts with a work IN us!**

### HEARTBURN

<sup>5</sup> *Then I said, “O Lord, God of heaven, the great and awesome God who keeps his covenant of unfailing love with those who love him and obey his commands,* <sup>6</sup> ***listen to my prayer! Look down and see me praying night and day for your people Israel.*** Nehemiah 1:5-6b (NLT)

### KNEES BENT

<sup>6</sup> *I confess that **we** have sinned against you. Yes, even my own family **and I** have sinned!* <sup>7</sup> *We have sinned terribly by not obeying the commands, decrees, and regulations that you gave us through your servant Moses.*

**Nehemiah 1:6c-7 (NLT)**

<sup>11</sup> *O Lord, please hear my prayer! Listen to the prayers of those of us who delight in honoring you. Please grant me success today by making the king favorable to me. Put it into his heart to be kind to me.” In those days I was the king's cup-bearer. **Nehemiah 1:11 (NLT)***

## INSIDE OUT

<sup>45</sup> *A good person produces good things from the treasury of a good heart, and an evil person produces evil things from the treasury of an evil heart. **What you say flows from what is in your heart. Luke 6:45 (NLT)***