

Transformed by Grace

Amazing Grace

(My Chains Are Gone)

Amazing grace how sweet the sound

That saved a wretch like me

I once was lost but now I'm found

Was blind but now I see

My chains are gone I've been set free

My God my Savior has ransomed me

And like a flood His mercy reigns

Unending love amazing grace

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear

And grace my fears relieved

How precious did that grace appear

The hour I first believed

My chains are gone I've been set free

My God my Savior has ransomed me

And like a flood His mercy reigns

Unending love amazing grace

The Lord has promised good to me

His word my hope secures

He will my shield and portion be

As long as life endures

My chains are gone I've been set free

My God my Savior has ransomed me

And like a flood His mercy reigns

Unending love amazing grace

My chains are gone I've been set free

My God my Savior has ransomed me

And like a flood His mercy reigns

Unending love amazing grace

Graves Into Gardens

CCLI Song # 7138219
Brandon Lake | Chris Brown | Steven Furtick | Tiffany Hudson
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I searched the world but it couldn't fill me

Man's empty praise and treasures that fade

Are never enough

Then You came along and put me back together

And every desire is now satisfied here in Your love

Oh there's nothing better than You

There's nothing better than You

Lord there's nothing

Nothing is better than You

I'm not afraid to show You my weakness

My failures and flaws

Lord You've seen them all

And You still call me friend

'Cause the God of the mountain

Is the God of the valley

There's not a place

Your mercy and grace won't find me again

Oh there's nothing better than You

There's nothing better than You

Lord there's nothing

Nothing is better than You

You turn mourning to dancing

You give beauty for ashes

You turn shame into glory

You turn graves into gardens

You turn bones into armies

You turn seas into highways

Oh there's nothing better than You

There's nothing better than You

Lord there's nothing

Nothing is better than You

(1 of 2)

Oh there's nothing better than You

There's nothing better than You

Lord there's nothing

Nothing is better than You

(2 of 2)

You turn graves into gardens

You turn bones into armies

You turn seas into highways

You're the only one who can

You're the only one who can

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Gratitude

All my words fall short

I got nothing new

How could I express

All my gratitude

I could sing these songs

As I often do

But every song must end

And You never do

So I throw up my hands

And praise You again and again

'Cause all that I have is a hallelujah hallelujah

And I know it's not much

But I've nothing else fit for a king

Except for a heart singing hallelujah hallelujah

I've got one response

I've got just one move

With my arms stretched wide

I will worship You

So I throw up my hands

And praise You again and again

'Cause all that I have is a hallelujah hallelujah

And I know it's not much

But I've nothing else fit for a king

Except for a heart singing hallelujah hallelujah

So come on my soul

Oh don't you get shy on me

Lift up your song

'Cause you've got a lion inside of those lungs

Get up and praise the Lord

So come on my soul

Oh don't you get shy on me

Lift up your song

'Cause you've got a lion inside of those lungs

Get up and praise the Lord

So I throw up my hands

And praise You again and again

'Cause all that I have is a hallelujah hallelujah

Chorus

And I know it's not much

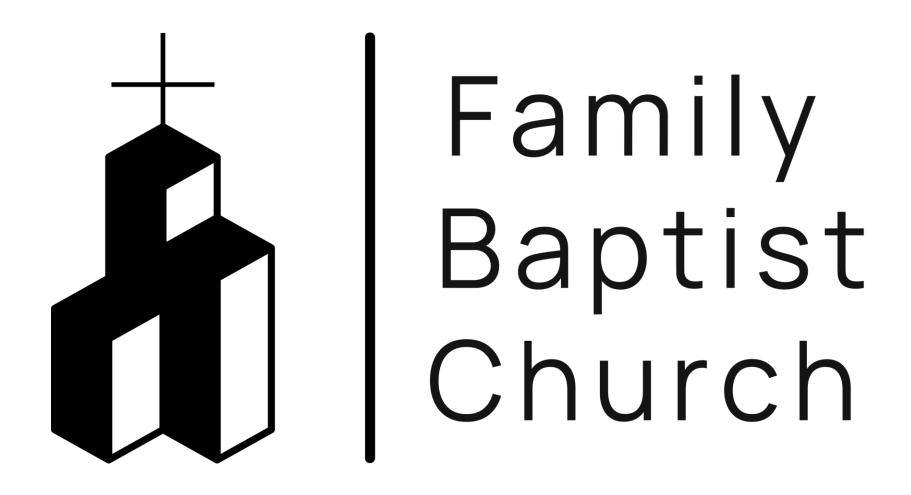
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Chorus

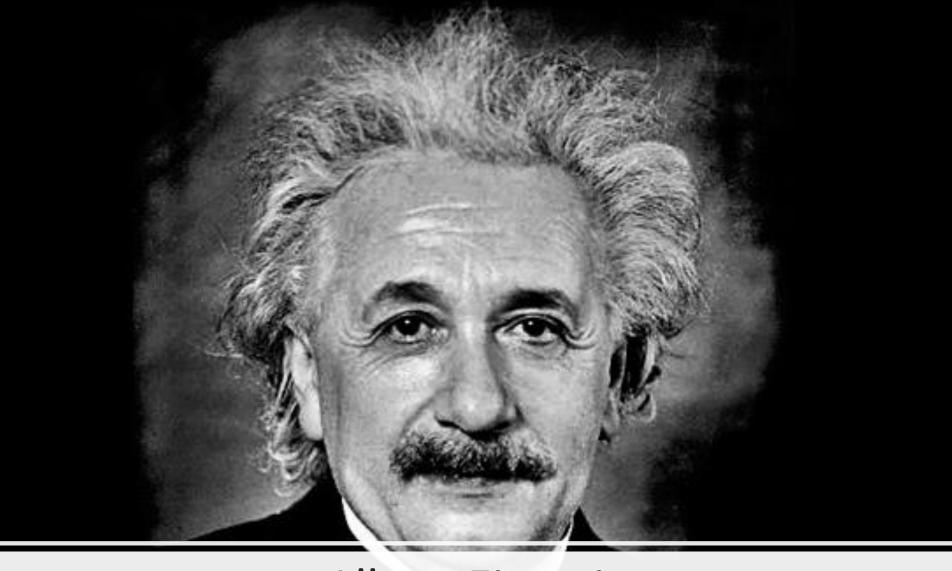
Hallelujah

Hallelujah

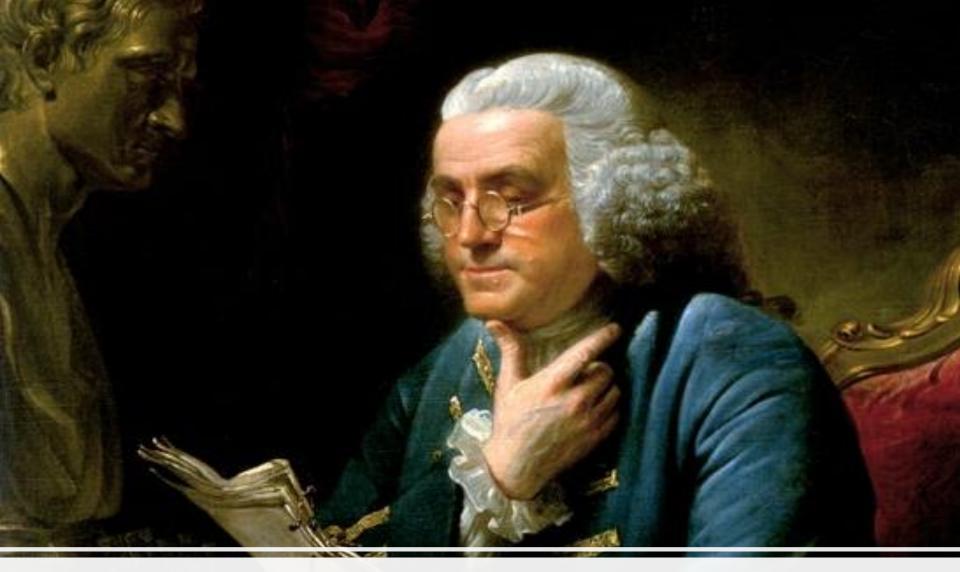


Bible Teaching: Pastor Jason





Albert Einstein



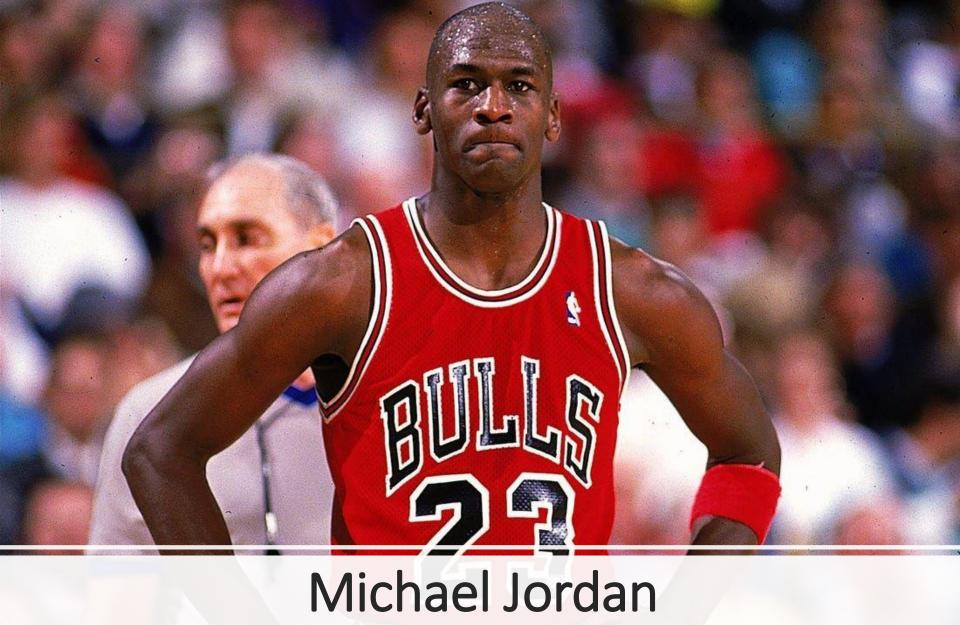
Benjamin Franklin



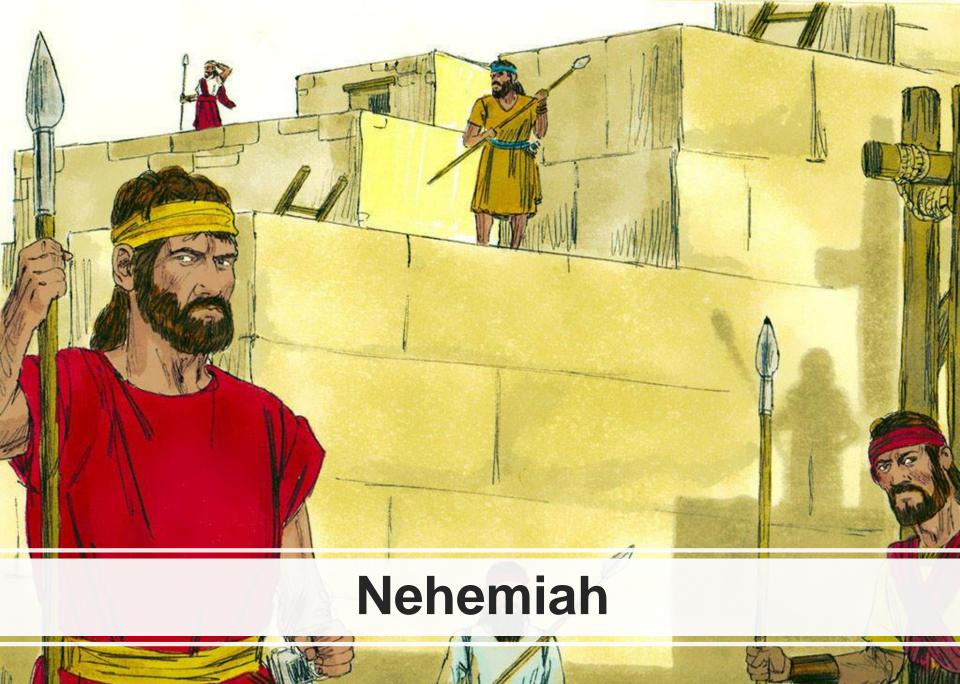
Thomas Edison



Oprah Winfrey







Characteristics of the opposition.

The opposition was legitimate.

Nehemiah 4:1-5

Now when Sanballat heard that we were building the wall, he was angry and greatly enraged, and he jeered at the Jews.

² And he said in the presence of his brothers and of the army of Samaria, "What are these feeble Jews doing? Will they restore it for themselves? Will they sacrifice? Will they finish up in a day? Will they revive the stones out of the heaps of rubbish, and burned ones at that?"

³ Tobiah the Ammonite was beside him, and he said, "Yes, what they are building—if a fox goes up on it he will break down their stone wall!"

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.

The opposition was inconvenient.

Nehemiah 4:6

⁶ So we built the wall. And all the wall was joined together to half its height, for the people had a mind to work.

The opposition was full of resentment.

Nehemiah 4:7-8

⁷ But when Sanballat and Tobiah and the Arabs and the Ammonites and the Ashdodites heard that the repairing of the walls of Jerusalem was going forward and that the breaches were beginning to be closed, they were very angry. 8 And they all plotted together to come and fight against Jerusalem and to cause confusion in it.

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The opposition involved harassment.

From the outside (Nehemiah 4:7-8)

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Nehemiah 4:7-7 North

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North

East

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North

East

South when Sanballat and Tobiah and the Arabs and the Ammonites and the Ashdodites heard that the repairing of the walls of Jerusalem was going forward and that the breaches were beginning to be closed, they were very angry. 8 And they all plotted together to come and fight against Jerusalem and to cause confusion in it.

Nehemiah 4:7-7 North

East

South when Sanballat and Tobiah and the Arabs and the Ammonites and the Ashdodites heard that the tha walls of Jerusalem repairing of was going West and that the inning to be breaches v closed, they were very angry. 8 And they all plotted together to come and fight against Jerusalem and to cause confusion in it.

The opposition involved harassment.

From the inside (Nehemiah 4:10-12)

¹⁰ In Judah it was said, "The strength of those who bear the burdens is failing. There is too much rubble. By ourselves we will not be able to rebuild the wall." 11 And our enemies said, "They will not know or see till we come among them and kill them and stop the work." 12 At that time the Jews who lived near them came from all directions and said to us ten times, "You must return to us."

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Characteristics of those who overcome opposition.

The overcomers prayed.

Nehemiah 4:9



Private Prayer

- Shut the door
- Pray about every thought that comes to mind.
- Let your focus shift to God Himself.
- Thank God.
- Surrender to God.
- Listen to God.

The overcomers worked.

Nehemiah 4:9b & 13-14

Characteristics of Overcomers

Prayer

Action

Characteristics of Overcomers

Problem

- Walls broken and gates burned (1:2-3)
- King Artaxerxes does not permit sadness in his presence the king followed by a question from the king (2:1-3)
- Ridicule of the workers (4:1-3)
- Plot developed to fight against Jerusalem & cause confusion (4:8)

Response

- Prayer & fasting (1:4)
- Prayer and explanation (2:4-8)
- Prayer & construction (4:5-6)
- Prayer & protection (4:9)

Nehemiah 4:13-14

¹³ So in the lowest parts of the space behind the wall, in open places, I stationed the people by their clans, with their swords, their spears, and their bows.

Nehemiah 4:13-14

14 And I looked and arose and said to the nobles and to the officials and to the rest of the people, "Do not be afraid of them. Remember the Lord, who is great and awesome, and fight for your brothers, your sons, your daughters, your wives, and your homes."

The overcomers worked. (4:9b, 13-14)

Nehemiah analyzed his situation.

Strengths

Weaknesses

Opportunities

Threats

The overcomers worked. (4:13)

Nehemiah implemented necessary adjustments.

He started with low hanging fruit.

He understood the power of community.

He made the most with what he had.

The overcomers worked. (4:14)

Nehemiah communicated a plan to achieve success...

with respect to the leaders (14a)

with concern for the people (14b)

with confidence in God (14c)

with an appeal to family loyalty (14d).

Application:

Expect opposition to come.

Sin?

Suffering?

Application:

Face the opposition with prayer.

Create a prayer closet.

Application:

Follow up your prayer with action. Verbalize Analyze Improvise