



The Joy of the Lord  
is Your Strength

Nehemiah 8:1-10

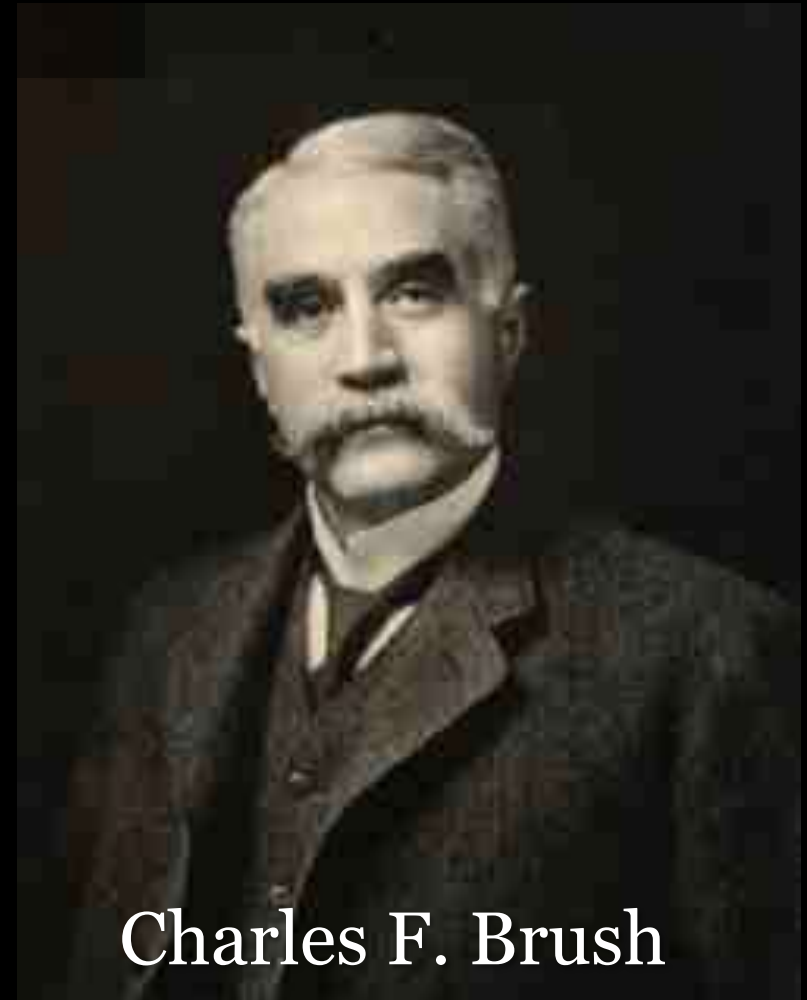
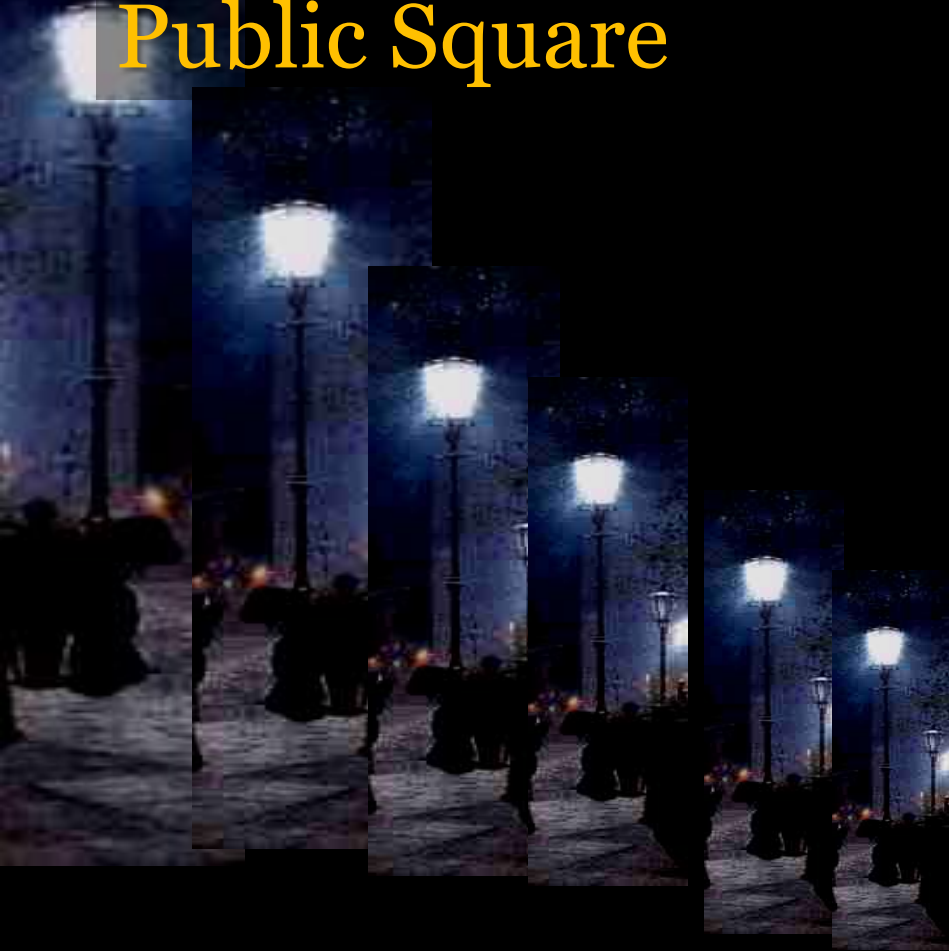


The blessing of night lighting

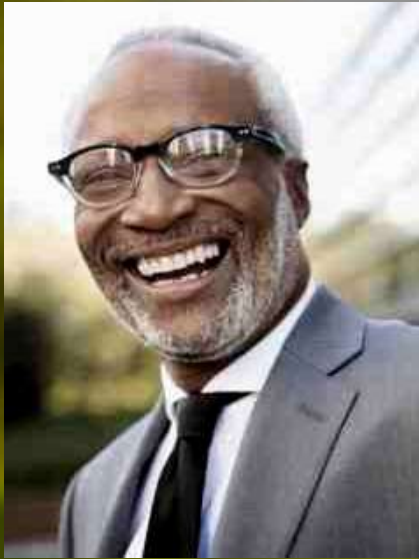


Brush Magneto-Electric Machine  
Cleveland, Ohio 1879

# April 29, 1979 Cleveland Public Square



Charles F. Brush



**Nehemiah 8:10** Then Nehemiah 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."**

# Joy from knowing God

- **John 15:11** "These things I have spoken to you, that My joy may remain in you, and that your joy may be full.
- **Galatians 5:22-23** the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law.
- **Philippians 4:4** Rejoice in the Lord always. Again I will say, rejoice!
- **1 John 1:4** And these things we write to you that your joy may be full.



God desires for us to stay encouraged..

# Nehemiah..

NEHEMIAH

- God's manual on leadership.. “greatest leadership book ever written!”



# Nehemiah.. strength

- Ch 1 Nehemiah serving King of Persia..
  - Delegation of friends from Jerusalem
  - Nehemiah feels burden to act
  - **Nehemiah 1:10** these are Your servants and Your people, whom You have redeemed by Your great power, and by Your strong hand.

**GOD'S STRENGTH IS GREAT**



**GO and DO SOMETHING in the  
STRENGTH of the LORD!**

# Nehemiah.. strength

- Ch 2-4 Nehemiah begins his work..
  - Goes out at night to inspect the city
  - Gathers leaders and organizes the work
  - Trouble begins and discouragement sets in
  - **Nehemiah 4:10** Then Judah said, "The strength of the laborers is failing, and there is so much rubbish that we are not able to build the wall."

**OUR STRENGTH IS SMALL**

# Nehemiah.. strength

- Ch 6 – Nehemiah seeks the help of God
  - Enemies ask Nehemiah to meet with them
  - Nehemiah refuses to stop work for them
  - Nehemiah prays
  - **Nehemiah 6:8-9** For they all were trying to make us afraid, saying, "Their hands will be weakened in the work, and it will not be done." **Now therefore, O God, strengthen my hands.**
  - 6:15-16 The wall was completed in 52 days!

**WE PLEAD FOR GOD'S STRENGTH**

# Nehemiah.. strength

- Ch 8 – Spiritual rededication of the people
  - The people gather as one in the water gate
  - Ezra reads the law for all to hear
  - The people understand and are convicted
  - **Nehemiah 8:10** Nehemiah 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."

**GOD IMPARTS HIS STRENGTH  
THROUGH JOY**

# Nehemiah's pattern ...

**GOD'S STRENGTH IS VERY GREAT**

(He calls us to join Him in fulfilling His will)

**OUR STRENGTH IS SMALL**

(We do our best but our strength gives out)

**WE PLEAD FOR GOD'S STRENGTH**

(When we cry out to God He gives us His word)

**HE IMPARTS HIS STRENGTH THROUGH JOY**

(Clear understanding of His will brings a surge of joy  
which imparts the strength needed to finish the job)



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