

A Renewed Remnant

Lesson 12

The Work On Jerusalem's Walls Continues (Neh. 4)

Introduction

Under Nehemiah's godly leadership, the remnant had been convinced of the much-needed city walls being put back together (2:18). Except for a select few, he had broad-based support (3:1-32). However, it wouldn't all be "smooth sailing." When those involved in the Lord's work enjoy success, Satan will see to it they are opposed (Eph. 2:2; 1 Jn. 5:19). Nehemiah would now be confronted with enemies intent on stopping the remnant's work in rebuilding Jerusalem's walls.

- 1) Who is mentioned again in v. 1a? (cp. 2:10) What was his reaction to the news of Nehemiah's work on the walls? (vv. 1b-2)

- 2) Who else joined in with him? (v. 3) What made their words so discouraging? (v. 2a)

- 3) How does the Scripture portray this as a tactic used against God's people? (1 Pet. 3:13-16; 4:3-4; 2 Pet. 3:3-4; Jude 17-23)

- 4) How did Nehemiah respond? (vv. 4-5) (cp. 1:5-11a; 2:4) *Thought question:* how did Paul speak about this type of spiritual resolve? (Phil. 4:6-7)

- 5) What resulted from the enemies' slander? (v. 6) What practical benefit can we gain today from this verse?

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- 6) Since slander & mocking did not work, what did Sanballat & Tobiah try next? (vv. 7-8) Again, what was Nehemiah's response? (v. 9a)

- 7) Besides prayer, what else did Nehemiah do? (v. 9b) What does this suggest about the link between prayer and human responsibility?

- 8) What was the saying circulating in Judah? (v. 10) How was this different than Sanballat's & Tobiah's words from vv. 2-3?

- 9) What was the enemies' plan? (v. 11) Was all this opposition effective? (v. 12)

- 10) How did Nehemiah respond? (vv. 13-14) How did the remnant's actions affect their enemies? (v. 15)

- 11) What further actions did Nehemiah & the remnant take? (vv. 16-23)