



Don't Fall
For it



June 11, 2023
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Redeemer Christian Church
Marshfield, WI



NEHEMIAH 2:11-20

So I came to Jerusalem and was there three days. ¹² And I arose in the night, I and a few men with me. I did not tell anyone what my God was putting into my mind to do for Jerusalem and there was no animal with me except the animal on which I was riding.

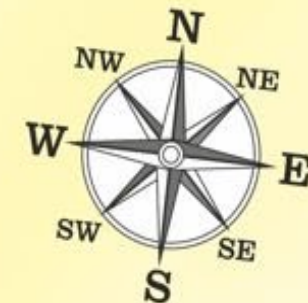
NEHEMIAH 2:11-20

¹³ So I went out at night by the Valley Gate in the direction of the Dragon's Well and on to the Refuse Gate, inspecting the walls of Jerusalem which were broken down and its gates which were consumed by fire. ¹⁴ Then I passed on to the Fountain Gate and the King's Pool, but there was no place for my mount to pass.

NEHEMIAH 2:11-20

¹⁵ So I went up at night by the ravine and inspected the wall. Then I entered the Valley Gate again and returned. ¹⁶ The officials did not know where I had gone or what I had done; nor had I as yet told the Jews, the priests, the nobles, the officials or the rest who did the work.

The gates and walls of Jerusalem at the time of Nehemiah



THOUGHT

*The work of the Lord
doesn't go unopposed.*

NEHEMIAH 2:11-20

¹⁷ Then I said to them, “You see the bad situation we are in, that Jerusalem is desolate and its gates burned by fire. Come, let us rebuild the wall of Jerusalem so that we will no longer be a reproach.”

NEHEMIAH 2:11-20

¹⁸ I told them how the hand of my God had been favorable to me and also about the king's words which he had spoken to me. Then they said, "Let us arise and build." So they put their hands to the good work.

NEHEMIAH 2:11-20

¹⁹ But when Sanballat the Horonite and Tobiah the Ammonite official, and Geshem the Arab heard it, they mocked us and despised us and said, “What is this thing you are doing? Are you rebelling against the king?”

NEHEMIAH 2:11-20

²⁰ So I answered them and said to them, “The God of heaven will give us success; therefore we His servants will arise and build, but you have no portion, right or memorial in Jerusalem.”

SOME BACKGROUND

- Nehemiah demonstrates administrative prowess as he establishes a plan, delegates to leaders, and executes the plan to build the wall.
- Families were commissioned to work on the wall, and also charged with securing it.

NEHEMIAH 4:1-3

Now it came about that when Sanballat heard that we were rebuilding the wall, he became furious and very angry and mocked the Jews. ² He spoke in the presence of his brothers and the wealthy men of Samaria and said, “What are these feeble Jews doing?”

NEHEMIAH 4:1-3

Are they going to restore it for themselves? Can they offer sacrifices? Can they finish in a day? Can they revive the stones from the dusty rubble even the burned ones?"³ Now Tobiah the Ammonite was near him and he said, "Even what they are building—if a fox should jump on it, he would break their stone wall down!"

NEHEMIAH 4:7-8

Now when Sanballat, Tobiah, the Arabs, the Ammonites and the Ashdodites heard that the repair of the walls of Jerusalem went on, and that the breaches began to be closed, they were very angry.⁸ All of them conspired together to come and fight against Jerusalem and to cause a disturbance in it.

DEALING WITH ISSUES

- Amid the work, Nehemiah learned of usury going on and it upset him deeply, so he formed an assembly to deal with it and it was so abolished.

NEHEMIAH SETS A STANDARD

- Nehemiah is appointed Governor of Judah and serves for 12 years
- Nehemiah doesn't create additional burdens on the people as the prior governors did; by requiring them to give food as a tax of sorts. Instead, he feeds his leaders and himself.

NEHEMIAH 6:1-3

Now when it was reported to Sanballat, Tobiah, to Geshem the Arab and to the rest of our enemies that I had rebuilt the wall, and that no breach remained in it, although at that time I had not set up the doors in the gates, ² then Sanballat and Geshem sent a message to me, saying, "Come, let us meet together at Chephirim in the plain of Ono." But they were planning to harm me.

THOUGHT

Some people will lie and concoct cunning falsehoods to detract you from the work, even in the eleventh hour!

NEHEMIAH 6:3-4

So I sent messengers to them, saying, “I am doing a great work and I cannot come down. Why should the work stop while I leave it and come down to you?”

⁴ They sent messages to me four times in this manner, and I answered them in the same way.

DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT (FUGGETABOUTIT)

- So often we panic when we hear false things about us, how will we defend ourselves.
- Nehemiah is not duped by the trickery of his enemies
- Nehemiah doesn't let their lies about his character stop him from finishing.

NEHEMIAH 6:15-16

So the wall was completed on the twenty-fifth of the month Elul, in fifty-two days. ¹⁶ When all our enemies heard of it, and all the nations surrounding us saw it, they lost their confidence; for they recognized that this work had been accomplished with the help of our God.

KEEP GOING

Nehemiah moves past discouragement, overcomes his enemies, ignores their lies, and doesn't fall for their tricks; therefore, Nehemiah and the people together are part of a great miracle, the walls of Jerusalem are repaired in 52 days!

IF YOU DON'T GIVE UP:

*You'll witness the glory of God
and see Him work mightily.*

MATTHEW 6:33-34

But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you. ³⁴ “So do not worry about tomorrow; for tomorrow will care for itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.

NEHEMIAH 8:9-12

Then Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, "This day is holy to the LORD your God; do not mourn or weep." For all the people were weeping when they heard the words of the law.

ISAIAH 66:2

“For My hand made all these things,
Thus all these things came into being,”
declares the LORD. “But to this one I will
look, To him who is humble and contrite
of spirit, and who trembles at My word.

NEHEMIAH 8:9-12

¹⁰ Then he said to them, “Go, eat of the fat, drink of the sweet, and send portions to him who has nothing prepared; for this day is holy to our Lord. Do not be grieved, for the joy of the LORD is your strength.”

NEHEMIAH 8:9-12

¹¹ So the Levites calmed all the people, saying, “Be still, for the day is holy; do not be grieved.” ¹² All the people went away to eat, to drink, to send portions and to celebrate a great festival, because they understood the words which had been made known to them.

A RETURN TO HOLINESS

The law was read, and the feast of booths was restored. The people originally grieved when hearing the law read, now celebrate what God has done in their midst.