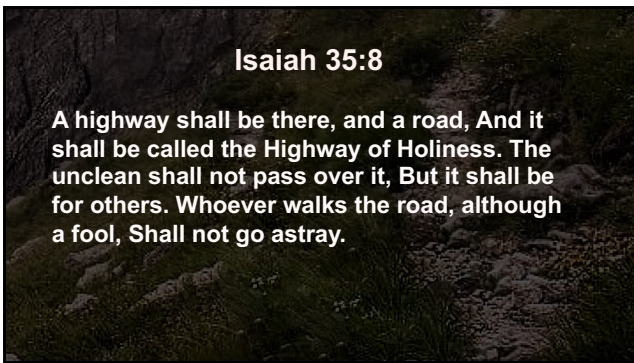
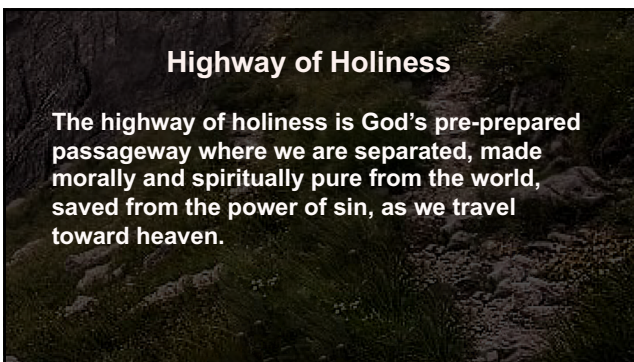




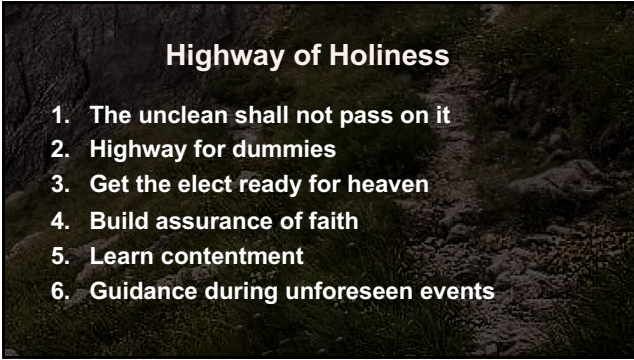
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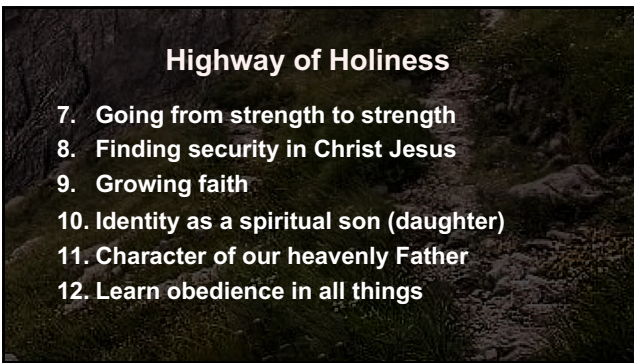
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Highway of Holiness

1. The unclean shall not pass on it
2. Highway for dummies
3. Get the elect ready for heaven
4. Build assurance of faith
5. Learn contentment
6. Guidance during unforeseen events

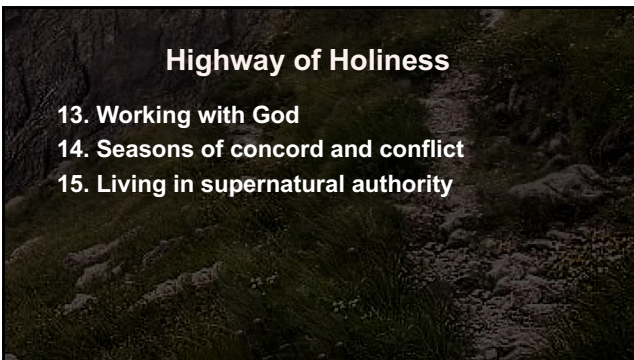
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Highway of Holiness

7. Going from strength to strength
8. Finding security in Christ Jesus
9. Growing faith
10. Identity as a spiritual son (daughter)
11. Character of our heavenly Father
12. Learn obedience in all things

6



Highway of Holiness

13. Working with God
14. Seasons of concord and conflict
15. Living in supernatural authority

7

Authority

Authority (Greek exousia) means ability to choose, the right to govern.

Power

Power (Greek dynamis, dunamis,) means the ability or strength to act.

8

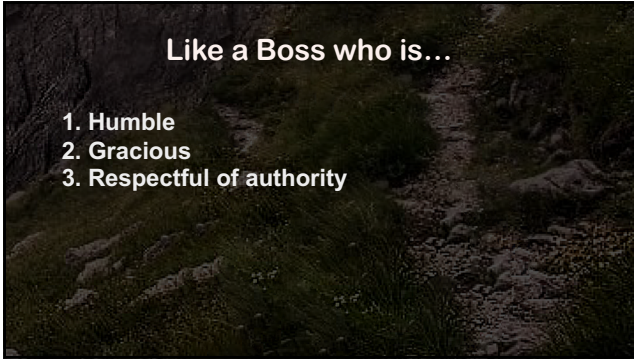
Power
Flows
From
Authority

God
↓
Jesus Christ
↓
The Church
↓
Individual Elect
↓
Opposition

9

“Like a Boss”

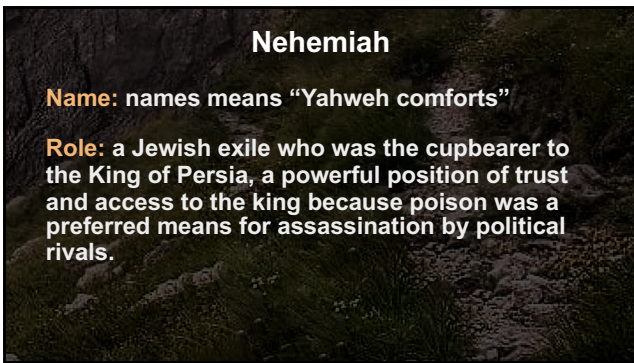
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Like a Boss who is...

1. Humble
2. Gracious
3. Respectful of authority

11

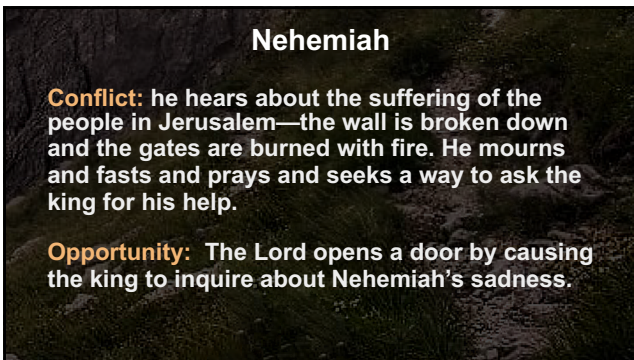


Nehemiah

Name: names means “Yahweh comforts”

Role: a Jewish exile who was the cupbearer to the King of Persia, a powerful position of trust and access to the king because poison was a preferred means for assassination by political rivals.

12



Nehemiah

Conflict: he hears about the suffering of the people in Jerusalem—the wall is broken down and the gates are burned with fire. He mourns and fasts and prays and seeks a way to ask the king for his help.

Opportunity: The Lord opens a door by causing the king to inquire about Nehemiah’s sadness.

13

Nehemiah 2

And it came to pass in the month of Nisan, in the twentieth year of King Artaxerxes, when wine was before him, that I took the wine and gave it to the king. Now I had never been sad in his presence before. 2 Therefore the king said to me, "Why is your face sad, since you are not sick? This is nothing but sorrow of heart."

14

Authority over Opposition

1. "Where God guides, He provides."

15

"God's work done in God's way will never lack God's supply."

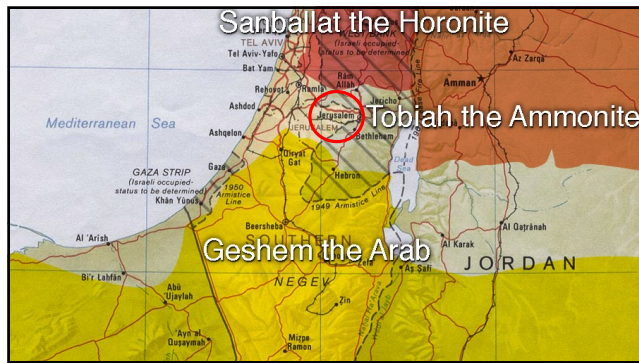
- Hudson Taylor
China Inland Mission

16

Nehemiah 2

19 But when Sanballat the Horonite, Tobiah the Ammonite official, and Geshem the Arab heard of it, they laughed at us and despised us, and said, "What is this thing that you are doing? Will you rebel against the king?" 20 So I answered them, and said to them, "The God of heaven Himself will prosper us; therefore we His servants will arise and build, but you have no heritage or right or memorial in Jerusalem."

17



18

Sanballat the Horonite

Name: Babylonian origin, meaning "Sin has given life," with "Sin" referring to the moon god.
Identity: Sanballat was a Samarian official and a prominent antagonist in Nehemiah's narrative.
Role: He opposed Nehemiah's efforts to restore Jerusalem, viewing the rebuilding as a threat to his authority.
Represents: The world

19

Sanballat the Horonite

Methods of Opposition:

Mockery: Sanballat ridiculed the Jewish efforts, questioning their ability to succeed.

Intimidation: He attempted to intimidate Nehemiah through threats and false accusations of rebellion against the king.

Deceit: Sanballat sent invitations to Nehemiah to meet, which were actually traps to harm him.

20

Tobiah the Ammonite

Name: Hebrew Yahweh Is Good, Yah Is My Good

Identity: governor of Ammon to the east of Jerusalem with connections with Jewish leaders through marriage alliances. Ally of Sanballat.

Role: Like Sanballat, he sought to undermine Nehemiah's work and maintain his influence in the region.

Represents: cultural Christians, make-believers

21

Tobiah the Amonite

Tobiah the Ammonite was likely of mixed heritage, as he had familial ties to the Jewish community through marriage. He married a daughter of a Judahite leader and his son also married into a Jewish family, suggesting some level of integration with the Jewish people.

22

Tobiah the Ammonite

Methods of Opposition:

Mockery: Tobiah joined Sanballat in deriding the rebuilding efforts, suggesting that even a fox could topple the wall.

Deception: He spread lies and attempted to create division among the Jewish people.

Political Maneuvering: Tobiah had connections within Jerusalem, including a relationship with Eliashib, the high priest, which he used to his advantage.

23

Geshem the Arabian

Name: Hebrew means rain, fig, abundance, fertility

Identity: Arabian ruler of Kedar who joined Sanballat and Tobiah in opposing Nehemiah's efforts to rebuild the wall of Jerusalem

Role: He sought to undermine Nehemiah's work and maintain his influence in the region.

Represents: The devil

24

Geshem from History

Geshem's name appears on a silver vessel dedicated by his son Qainu to the goddess Han-lat at tell el-Maskhuta in Lower Egypt. An inscription found in Dedan also appears to describe extensive territories Geshem controlled. He was a vassal of Persia but he apparently wielded great personal power with tribes in the Syrian desert, southern Palestine, the delta of Egypt, and northern Arabia.

25

Three Types of Opposition

Sanballat: World - mockery and criticism

Tobiah: deceit and sabotage

Geshem: threats and intimidation,

all aimed at discouraging the Elect from fulfilling their divine purpose.

26

Authority over Opposition

1. Where God guides, He provides.

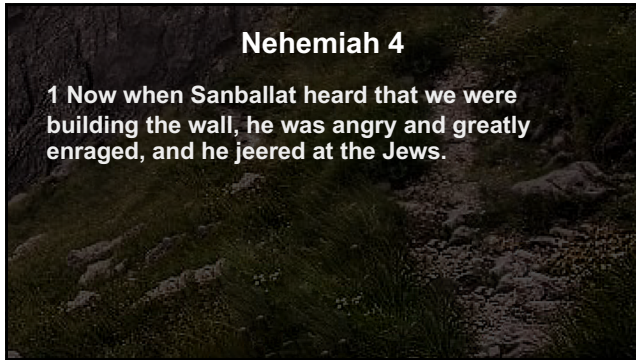
2. Unholy opposition requires a Holy tactician

27

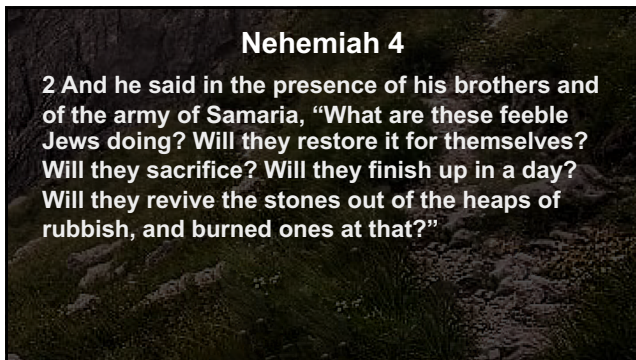
Tactician

One who is skilled in the planning and execution of military tactics.

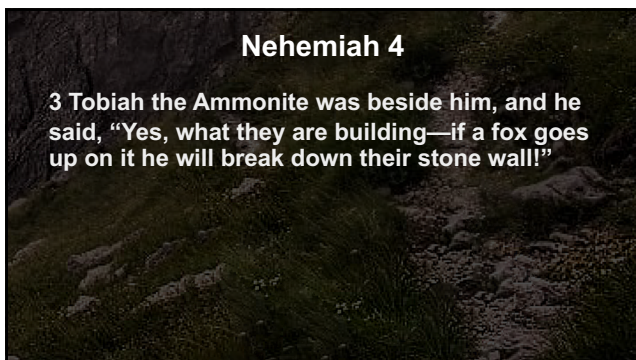
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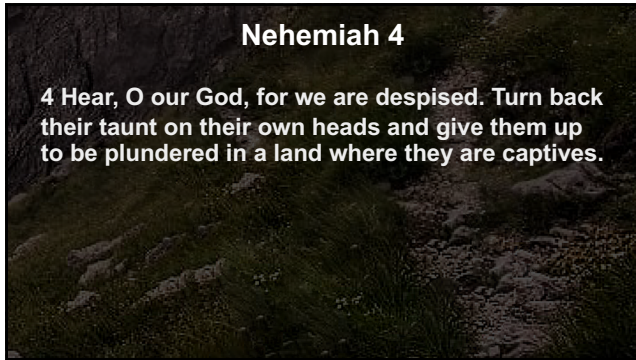
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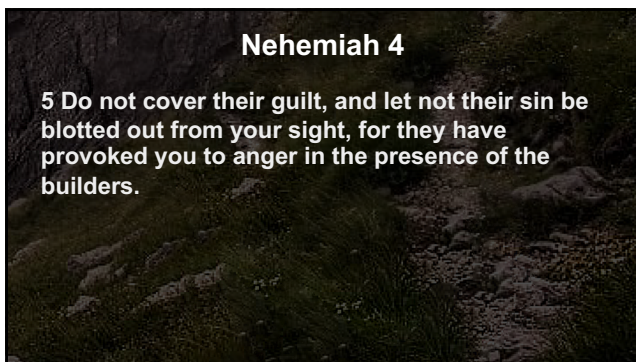
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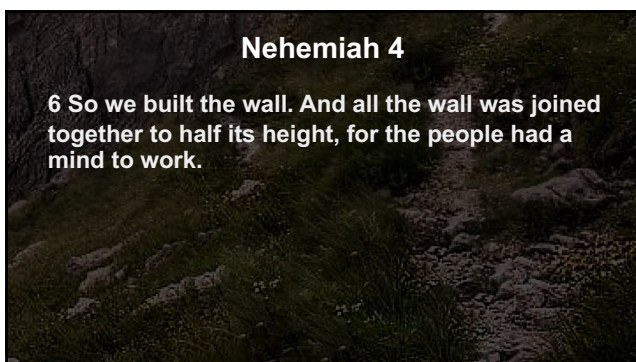
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32



33



34

Nehemiah 4

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.

35

Nehemiah 4

8 And they all plotted together to come and fight against Jerusalem and to cause confusion in it.
9 And we prayed to our God and set a guard as a protection against them day and night.

36

Which is it?

Pray to God [for safety] or
Set a Guard

Human Reasoning: If God is really protecting you, you don't have to set a guard?

Biblical Reasoning: God often uses human agency to accomplish His will

37

Sovereignty and the Agency of Man

God's acts of sovereignty are often accomplished through the agency of man, both righteous and unrighteous. The righteous to their eternal reward and unrighteous to their eternal punishment.

38

Authority over Opposition

1. Where God guides, He provides.
2. Unholy opposition requires a Holy tactician
3. Don't cast your pearls before swine

39

Matthew 7:6

"Do not give what is holy to the dogs; nor cast your pearls before swine, lest they trample them under their feet, and turn and tear you in pieces.

40

Nehemiah 6:1-4

1 Now it happened when Sanballat, Tobiah, Geshem the Arab, and the rest of our enemies heard that I had rebuilt the wall, and that there were no breaks left in it (though at that time I had not hung the doors in the gates),

41

Nehemiah 6:1-4

2 that Sanballat and Geshem sent to me, saying, "Come, let us meet together among the villages in the plain of Ono." But they thought to do me harm. 3 So I sent messengers to them, saying, "I am doing a great work, so that I cannot come down. Why should the work cease while I leave it and go down to you?" 4 But they sent me this message four times, and I answered them in the same manner.

42

Isaiah 35:8

A highway shall be there, and a road, And it shall be called the Highway of Holiness. The unclean shall not pass over it, But it shall be for others. Whoever walks the road, although a fool, Shall not go astray.

43



44
