

***Nehemiah, part 8:***  
***“We Will Not Be Afraid”***  
**Nehemiah 6:1-19**

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*The enemy of our souls ever seeks to incite us to fear.  
But we will not be afraid, for Christ will triumph over all of His and our enemies!*

### 1. The Attacks of the Enemy

– Four Avenues of Attack – all designed to instill fear and thus discourage the work

#### (1) A Plot to Assassinate! vv. 1-4

- Perpetrators: Sanballat and Geshem
- They seek to draw Nehemiah out to a place of vulnerability

- The motive and goal: *“But they thought to do me harm.”*

#### (2) Slander! vv. 5-9

- Sanballat’s Open Letter
- An Accusation of Rebellion

- The motive and goal: *“For they were all trying to make us afraid, saying,  
‘Their hands will be weakened in the work, and it will not be done.’”*

#### (3) Plots to Discredit! vv. 10-14

- Shemiah’s false prophecy
- Various other false prophets (14)

- The motive and goal: *“For this reason he was hired that I should be afraid and act that  
way and sin, so that they might have cause for an evil report,  
that they might reproach me.”*  
*“My God, remember (all of these) who would have made me afraid.”*

#### (4) A Campaign of Propaganda and False Accusations vv. 17-19

- Tobiah and his network of loyalists
- Loyal, not to God, but to one another!

### 2. The Path of Peace and Safety for God’s Servant

#### (1) Be devoted to the work of God – spiritual priorities – service to Him

- cf. Nehemiah’s answer *“I am doing a great work, so that I cannot come down. v. 3  
Why should the work cease while I leave it and go down to you?”*

- Where is the place of spiritual vulnerability?

Anywhere *away from* the work of God – where God is doing His primary work.  
Anywhere *away from* spiritual priorities.

- Where is the place of greatest peace and safety?

The place of focus upon spiritual priorities and service to Him.

#### (2) Clearly call out the Lies of the Enemy

- cf. Nehemiah’s answer v. 8 *“Then I sent to him saying,  
‘No such things as you say are being done,  
but you invent them in your own heart.’”*

#### (3) Pray continually for strength to serve!

- cf. Nehemiah’s prayer v. 9 *“Now therefore, O God, strengthen my hands.”*

- Strength to attend to God’s priorities!
- God will always answer this prayer!

#### (4) Ever bear in mind that the work of the Church is the work of God! vv. 15-16

- We are involved in a great work! A work which cannot fail!

- 52 days! An amazing accomplishment!

- God will wonderfully show Himself amidst this work!
- His enemies will be put to shame!

### Further Application: