

COMPLETION DESPITE MORE OPPOSITION  
(Nehemiah 6:1-19)

- I. Attack with FAKE NEWS (Neh. 6:1-9)
  - A. Offered BIPARTISAN dialogue (6:1-4)
    - 1. Prompted by news of Nehemiah's PROGRESS
    - 2. REJECTED by Nehemiah as a transparent TRAP
    - 3. PERSISTED in an attempt to WEAKEN his RESOLVE
  - B. Sent an OPEN LETTER accusing Nehemiah of planning a REBELION (6:5-7)
    - 1. Said he intended to make HIMSELF KING in Judah
    - 2. WARNED that this "news" would reach King Artaxerxes
    - 3. Offered to SILENCE the report if he'd CONFER with them
  - C. SCORNEED by Nehemiah as mere INVENTIONS (6:8-9)
- II. Attack with FEAR-MONGERING (Neh. 6:10-14)
  - A. Recruited an INSIDER to FRIGHTEN Nehemiah (6:10)
    - 1. Told him of a THREAT to his SAFETY
    - 2. Suggested they both take REFUGE in the TEMPLE
  - B. Recognized by Nehemiah as an attempt to COMPROMISE him (6:11-14)
    - 1. The project might FALTER if he demonstrated FEAR
    - 2. He would provoke God's WRATH by entering the HOLY PLACE

3. Prayed God's JUDGMENT on enemies both FOREIGN and DOMESTIC

III. Attack by FOREIGN ENTANGLEMENT (Neh. 6:17-19)

- A. FAMILY connection with TOBIAH created conflicting LOYALTIES (cf. 2:10; 3:4; 7:10; 13:4; Ezra 2:5)

1. They PRAISED Tobiah publicly
2. They REPORTED Nehemiah's PLANS to Tobiah

- B. Tobiah used this to FRIGHTEN Nehemiah

IV. Accomplishing the MISSION (Neh. 6:15-16)

- A. The wall was COMPLETED in 52 DAYS
- B. Their enemies were DISCOURAGED, having recognized GOD'S help

V. Lessons

- A. Never TRUST one who counsels you to DISOBEY God's Word (cf. Deut. 18:20; Isa. 8:19-20)
- B. Professing CHRISTIANS can DAMAGE God's work
- C. The work of GOD will ALWAYS face OPPOSITION
  1. People are DESPERATE to DENY the power of God
  2. His enemies are DISCOURAGED when His power is DISPLAYED
  3. Witnessing His power can lead to CONVERSION