

Nehemiah 6

King James Version (KJV)

6 Now it came to pass when Sanballat, and Tobiah, and Geshem the Arabian, and the rest of our enemies, heard that I had builded the wall, and that there was no breach left therein; (though at that time I had not set up the doors upon the gates;) **(The walls were built, but the gates were not put up yet)**

²That Sanballat and Geshem sent unto me, saying, Come, let us meet together in some one of the villages in the plain of Ono. But they thought to do me mischief. **(Nehemiah smells a rat. These guys were setting him up. They probably wanted to kill him, before the gates of the wall could go up)**

³And I sent messengers unto them, saying, I am doing a great work, so that I cannot come down: why should the work cease, whilst I leave it, and come down to you? **(Nehemiah was smarter than the enemy. Serve God, regardless of what the enemy says)**

⁴Yet they sent unto me four times after this sort; and I answered them after the same manner. **(Satan and his minions are persistent)**

⁵Then sent Sanballat his servant unto me in like manner the fifth time with an open letter in his hand;

⁶Wherein was written, It is reported among the heathen, and Gashmu saith it, that thou and the Jews think to rebel: for which cause thou buildest the wall, that thou mayest be their king, according to these words. **(An open letter would ensure that anyone could have read it. That helps spread the rumors and any false accusations – this is the devil's MO) (Gashmu = Geshem the Arabian)**

⁷And thou hast also appointed prophets to preach of thee at Jerusalem, saying, There is a king in Judah: and now shall it be reported to the king according to these words. Come now therefore, and let us take counsel together. **(Setting up Nehemiah with threats that they will report him to the king; they really want to destroy him and stop the wall. With a growing false rumor, Sanballat hopes that he has forced Nehemiah's hand into meeting with him to stop the rumors)**

⁸Then I sent unto him, saying, There are no such things done as thou sayest, but thou feignest them out of thine own heart. **(He is**

pretending to defend Nehemiah against Geshem the Arabian. He is two faced and truly evil)

⁹For they all made us afraid, saying, Their hands shall be weakened from the work, that it be not done. Now therefore, O God, strengthen my hands. (Nehemiah asking God for help. The heathen know that if they kill Nehemiah, the work on the wall will cease)

¹⁰Afterward I came unto the house of Shemaiah the son of Delaiah the son of Mehetabeel, who was shut up; and he said, Let us meet together in the house of God, within the temple, and let us shut the doors of the temple: for they will come to slay thee; yea, in the night will they come to slay thee. (Shemaiah was a false prophet, locked up in prison. If he can get Nehemiah and himself locked in the temple, he might have a chance to kill him. If he were a real prophet, he would have known that Nehemiah, not being a priest, could not go lock himself in the temple)

¹¹And I said, Should such a man as I flee? and who is there, that, being as I am, would go into the temple to save his life? I will not go in. (Nehemiah didn't fall for it)

¹²And, lo, I perceived that God had not sent him; but that he pronounced this prophecy against me: for Tobiah and Sanballat had hired him. (There are always traitors in the group. They must have offered Shemaiah money or power)

¹³Therefore was he hired, that I should be afraid, and do so, and sin, and that they might have matter for an evil report, that they might reproach me. (Hiding in the temple would have ruined Nehemiah's character among the people, and sinned against God) Numbers-18:7

¹⁴My God, think thou upon Tobiah and Sanballat according to these their works, and on the prophetess Noadiah, and the rest of the prophets, that would have put me in fear. (Judge their evil deeds and give them what they deserve)

¹⁵So the wall was finished in the twenty and fifth day of the month Elul, in fifty and two days.

¹⁶And it came to pass, that when all our enemies heard thereof, and all the heathen that were about us saw these things, they were much cast down in their own eyes: for they perceived that this work was wrought of our God.

¹⁷ Moreover in those days the nobles of Judah sent many letters unto Tobiah, and the letters of Tobiah came unto them. (Typical – the nobles of Jerusalem had made a back room deal with Tobiah, the enemy. In earlier chapters, the nobles of Tekoah had refused to work on the wall)

¹⁸ For there were many in Judah sworn unto him, because he was the son in law of Shechaniah the son of Arah; and his son Johanan had taken the daughter of Meshullam the son of Berechiah. (Money craves power, no matter the source. The same is true today. They will make a deal with the devil to get more money and power)

¹⁹ Also they reported his good deeds before me, and uttered my words to him. And Tobiah sent letters to put me in fear. (Tobiah wants to work his way into Jerusalem, pretending to be fearful, because he supported Nehemiah. – all lies. Tobiah was working with Sanballat to destroy Jerusalem)