

# Nehemiah: Servant to The King

“When Opposition Gets Us Down: Restarting with Courage” (Nehemiah 4:15-23)

Pastor Stephen Schultze

Sunday, March 14, 2010

## Introduction

We can **expect** opposition. We can **expect** discouragement. **But we must** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ **about opposition and discouragement.**

*Scripture: Matthew 5:10-12; John 15:18-20*

How did Nehemiah and the Jews manage to overcome fear and discouragement to courageously restart their work?



## I. They Were Confident in the \_\_\_\_\_. (4:14, 15, 20)

God’s character gave the Israelites confidence:

- **God is** \_\_\_\_\_; He knows our needs. (v. 4; Psalms 127:1; 1 Peter 5:7)
- **God is** \_\_\_\_\_; He will defend His name & His people. (v.4; Nahum 1:2)
- **God is** \_\_\_\_\_; He will overcome any opposition. (v. 14; Psalms 124:8)
- **God is** \_\_\_\_\_; He is unbelievably beyond all opposition. (v. 14)
- **God is** \_\_\_\_\_. He is completely in control. (v. 15)
- **God is** \_\_\_\_\_; He is involved in our situation. (v. 20; Psalms 57:10)

Correct theology leads to correct \_\_\_\_\_.

Correct thinking leads to correct \_\_\_\_\_.

*Scripture: 2 Corinthians 4:7*

## II. They Were Unified In Their \_\_\_\_\_. (4:15)

The wall was the mission of “all”. The work was “each” individual’s part.

*Scripture: Ephesians 4:15-16*

### III. They Protected Their \_\_\_\_\_.(4:16-20)

- Nehemiah and the Israelites exhibited the right balance of \_\_\_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_\_.
- Since we ARE \_\_\_\_\_ by the enemy, we must \_\_\_\_\_ with God's people.

*Scripture: John 15:17-20*

- We must not be so busy in \_\_\_\_\_ that do not care for \_\_\_\_\_.

**The \_\_\_\_\_ is not over until the \_\_\_\_\_ is ended!**

### IV. They Made the Essential \_\_\_\_\_.(4:21-23)

- To carry out God's work with God's people demands \_\_\_\_\_.
- Godly sacrifice is \_\_\_\_\_ by God and \_\_\_\_\_ towards others.

*Scripture: Hosea 6:6*

**"Persons of true godly character are neither optimists nor pessimists,  
but realists who have confidence in God."**

*(Warren Wiersbe)*

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We can **expect** opposition. We can **expect** discouragement. **But we must think Biblically about opposition and discouragement.**

*Scripture: Matthew 5:10-12; John 15:18-20*

How did Nehemiah and the Jews manage to overcome fear and discouragement to courageously restart their work?



## V. They Were Confident in the **Outcome.** (4:14, 15, 20)

God's character gave the Israelites confidence:

- God is **attentive**; He knows our needs. (v. 4; Psalms 127:1; 1 Peter 5:7)
- God is **righteous**; He will defend His name & His people. (v.4; Nahum 1:2)
- God is **powerful**; He will overcome any opposition. (v. 14; Psalms 124:8)
- God is **holy**; He is unbelievably beyond all opposition. (v. 14)
- God is **sovereign**. He is completely in control. (v. 15)
- God is **unfailing**; He is involved in our situation. (v. 20; Psalms 57:10)

Correct theology leads to correct **thinking.**  
Correct thinking leads to correct **living.**

*Scripture: 2 Corinthians 4:7*

## VI. They Were Unified In Their **Mission.** (4:15)

The wall was the mission of “all”. The work was “each” individual's part.

*Scripture: Ephesians 4:15-16*

## VII. They Protected Their Vulnerabilities.(4:16-20)

- Nehemiah and the Israelites exhibited the right balance of **building and battle.**
- Since we ARE **surrounded** by the enemy, we must **stand** with God's people.

*Scripture: John 15:17-20*

- We must not be so busy in **GOD'S WORK** that do not care for **GOD'S PEOPLE.**

The **warfare** is not over until the **work** is ended!

## VIII. They Made the Essential Sacrifices.(4:21-23)

- To carry out God's work with God's people demands **selfless sacrifice.**
- Godly sacrifice is **motivated** by God and **oriented** towards others.

*Scripture: Hosea 6:6*

**"Persons of true godly character are neither optimists nor pessimists,  
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