

Recap of 2/24/19 (Nehemiah 6:1-19):

1. "We have seen that Nehemiah encountered just about every form of opposition imaginable in rebuilding the walls of Jerusalem. Satan has thrown in his pathway many things from his bag of tricks to cause him to stumble and fall and fail in his endeavor. Satan does the same thing to us today..." (McGee) Satan, the enemy of God's work seeks to discourage, dishearten, and depress God's servants. Discouragement is one of his biggest tools.
2. If we are serious about our relationship with God and our desire to live out His Word in our lives, opposition will come both predictably and unexpectedly. To answer opposition:
 - we must do the work God has given us to do and not be deterred by the enemy. We must keep up our routine, doing what we should be doing, being where we should be.
 - we must do the work God and given us and not be distracted by the lies of the enemy, but trust God to reveal their motives.
 - we must not be tempted to trust our wits, instead of God. We must not be persuaded to do a wrong to bring about a right.
 - we must beware of the enemy's infiltration, Satan comes as an angel of light (2 Corinthians 11;13,14)
3. "Has someone deliberately tried to discredit you? Gone out of his way to tear you down? Persuaded others to believe something untrue about you? Remember that, like Nehemiah, you have a heavenly Father to whom you can always turn. As hard as Nehemiah's enemies tried to attack him, through prayer he found the power to continue his work without fear. You can too. When you trust God for protection, he will fill you with strength to complete the unique tasks he gives you and the courage you need to withstand character assassination attempts." (New Men's Devotional Bible)
4. Nehemiah's confidence in God and in His Word were rewarded (and vindicated) when, in just 52 days, the wall was completed; with the result that it was the enemies of God who lost their self-confidence. They were the discouraged ones.