

#### IV. THE RESPONSE TO SPIRITUAL WARFARE

A. Go immediately to \_\_\_\_\_.

1. \_\_\_\_\_ prayer  
See Nehemiah 1:4-11 and 2:4

*Don't fret or worry. Instead of worrying, pray. Let petitions and praises shape your worries into prayers, letting God know your concerns. Before you know it, a sense of God's wholeness, everything coming together for good, will come and settle you down. It's wonderful what happens when Christ displaces worry at the center of your life.*  
Philippians 4:6-7 (MES)

2. \_\_\_\_\_ prayer  
*"Hear us, O our God, for we are despised. Turn their insults back on their own heads. Give them over as plunder in a land of captivity. Do not cover up their guilt or blot out their sins from your sight, for they have thrown insults in the face of the builders." Nehemiah 4:4b-5 (NIV)*

*Do not take revenge, my friends, but leave room for God's wrath, for it is mine to avenge; I will repay," says the Lord. Romans 12:19 (NIV)*

B. Get \_\_\_\_\_ for battle.

C. Remember the \_\_\_\_\_.

D. Forget about \_\_\_\_\_.

#### V. THE RELIEF IN SPIRITUAL WARFARE



### MESSAGE NOTES

March 29, 2009



### LESSONS FROM THE BOOK OF NEHEMIAH

This week's message:

*Building and Battling: The Struggle of  
Spiritual Warfare—Part 3*

(Nehemiah 4:1-23)

# *Building and Battling: The Struggle of Spiritual Warfare—Part 3*

(Nehemiah 4:1-23)

---

**CENTRAL TRUTH OF THIS CHAPTER:** Any time that you start to rebuild something that is broken, you will find yourself in the middle of **REAL** and **RECURRING** spiritual warfare.

**CRITICAL FACT:** The Christian life is not a **PLAYGROUND**; it is a **BATTLEGROUND**.

## I. THE REALITY OF SPIRITUAL WARFARE

**Truth:** The more **SERIOUS** you are about fixing something that is broken, the more **INTENSE** the opposition will become in its efforts to **STOP** you.

### The Progression

- A. **Phase 1: The enemy gets stirred up.**  
See Nehemiah 2:10
- B. **Phase 2: Organized and vocal opposition**  
See Nehemiah 2:19
- C. **Phase 3: Open warfare that has as its aim the destruction of the work of rebuilding.**  
See Nehemiah 4:7, 11

## II. THE RANGE OF SPIRITUAL WARFARE

- A. **How does the enemy work?**
  - 1. **Through PEOPLE**  
See Matthew 16:23
  - 2. **Through CIRCUMSTANCES**  
See 2 Corinthians 12:7
  - 3. **Through your MIND**  
See Romans 12:2; Philipians 2:5; 2 Corinthians 10:5

## B. What are the enemy's tactics?

- 1. **The enemy will belittle your ABILITY.**  
*"What are these feeble Jews doing?"* Nehemiah 4:2
- 2. **The enemy will attack your MOTIVES.**  
*"What is this you are doing," they asked. "Are you rebelling against the king?"* Nehemiah 2:19
- 3. **The enemy will mock your OPTIMISM.**  
*"Will they restore their wall?"* Nehemiah 4:2
- 4. **The enemy will ridicule your ENTHUSIASM.**  
*"Will they offer sacrifices?"* Nehemiah 4:2
- 5. **The enemy will question your INTELLIGENCE.**  
*"Will they finish in a day?"* Nehemiah 4:2
- 6. **The enemy will magnify your PROBLEM.**  
*"Can they bring the stones back to life from those heaps of rubble—burned as they are?"* Nehemiah 4:2
- 7. **The enemy will use CRITICISM to DISCOURAGE you.**  
*"What they are building—if even a fox climbed up on it, he would break down their wall of stones."* Nehemiah 4:3

## III. THE RESULTS OF SPIRITUAL WARFARE

- A. **Loss of \_\_\_\_\_**  
*Meanwhile, the people of Judah said, "The strength of the laborers is giving out . . ."* Nehemiah 4:10a (NIV)
- B. **Loss of \_\_\_\_\_**  
*". . . and there is so much rubble . . ."* Nehemiah 4:10b (NIV)
- C. **Loss of \_\_\_\_\_**  
*". . . that we cannot rebuild the wall."* Nehemiah 4:10c (NIV)
- D. **Loss of \_\_\_\_\_**  
*Also our enemies said, "Before they know it or see us, we will be right there among them and will kill them and put an end to the work."* Nehemiah 4:11 (NIV)