"On the Way" 365 Bible Reading Plan

NEHEMIAH 6

Nehemiah 6

Nehemiah six finds the great governor of God's people amid a plot to distract and take him away from the work to which God has called him. It is always the enemy's way! First Nehemiah was in the palace and did not know what needed to be done in the city of God. Once he discovered how desperate the city needed rebuilding he prayed and by the grace of God, developed a plan of action. Once the plan was executed opposition arose, it always does. The opposition was not just from without, but from within, it always is. The enemy sought to ridicule, mock and to discourage the work and the workers by accusing them of evil motives and bad intentions. This is a ploy the enemies of God always use. They pretend to know more than God or those who are doing the work, even to the reading of the heart and knowing the thoughts of another. This is the case with Nehemiah and his fellow workers.

When the enemies like Sanballat, Tobiah, Geshem the Arab and the rest of the enemies heard that the work was successful they wanted to destroy and harm Nehemiah and his followers. A plot was hatched in opposition by the three in order to distract Nehemiah from his work and lure

Date

him into a trap that would destroy him and eventually take his life. Nehemiah had his discernment exercised through prayer and the encouragement of others and he refused to give in to the lies of the enemy, rather he prayed and sought the face of God and asked for more strength to face the challenge. He met the enemy with this statement, "So I sent messengers to them, saying, 'I am doing a great work, so that I cannot come down. Why should the work cease while I leave it and go down to you?" Nehemiah 6:2. The result was "And it happened, when all our enemies heard of it, and all the nations around us saw these things, that they were very disheartened in their own eyes; for they perceived that this work was done by our God." Nehemiah 6:16. Notice the last phrase of v.16! When we do the work of God, God's way, He gets the glory!

Prayer and Action Steps

Pause this moment and thank God He heard and answered Nehemiah's prayers. Now pray, God hears you when you pray.

Scripture

- Read the chapter. If you have time, read it again.
- Highlight, underline or circle the Key Verse or Verses of the chapter.
- Ask yourself these questions as you read through the chapter.

Is this historical narrative, analogy, metaphor, allegory, or some other element of speech or communicating truth?

What is the Context? Old Testament? New Testament? What is the writer speaking or writing about? To whom is he writing?

Is this a clear passage of Scripture (can only be interpreted one way)? Or could the passage be interpreted legitimately, in two or more ways, according to grammar and context? Does the passage teach a Biblical Precept; that is, tells you something to be, do or act?

Are there principles in this chapter that if followed, would require me to change my attitudes or actions?

Does the passage give a Biblical Pattern that is followed here and other places in the Bible?