

# **REBUILDING THE BROKEN PLACES IN YOUR LIFE**

## **A STUDY OF NEHEMIAH**

### **#4: OVERCOMING OPPOSITION AND INTIMIDATION**

**NEHEMIAH 4:1-23**

**JIM HINTON**

## **I. WHY I FACE OPPOSITION AND INTIMIDATION**

**As long as I am in this world I am in the middle of a spiritual war between God and His forces of good and Satan and his forces of evil.**

Stay alert! Watch out for your great enemy, the devil. He prowls around like a roaring lion, looking for someone to devour.

1 Peter 5:8 (NLT)

A final word: Be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. Put on all of God's armor so that you will be able to stand firm against all strategies of the devil. For we are not fighting against flesh-and-blood enemies, but against evil rulers and authorities of the unseen world, against mighty powers in this dark world, and against evil spirits in the heavenly places.

Ephesians 6:10-12 (NLT)

## **III. HOW A TEAM CAN HELP ME REBUILD – NEHEMIAH 3:1-32**

- 1. Decide that I will do my part (v.1-5; See also 2:18)**
- 2. Resolve to do what needs to be done – even if it's outside my "comfort zone" (v.1,8,17)**
- 3. Remember that the goal is more important than our differences (v.2,5,8,14,17)**
- 4. Teach my children the importance of helping others (v.3, 12)**

### **III. HOW TO OVERCOME OPPOSITION AND INTIMIDATION – NEHEMIAH 4:1-23**

#### **1. Accept that I will face opposition in my life (v.1-3)**

#### **2. Pray trusting that God is greater than my obstacles (v.4-9)**

**We tend to use prayer as a last resort, but God wants it to be our first line of defense. We pray when there's nothing else we can do, but God wants us to pray before we do anything at all.**

**Oswald Chambers**

#### **3. Refuse to let fear stop me from fulfilling my calling (v.10-14)**

#### **4. Remember that what I am fighting for is about more than me (v.14)**

#### **5. Always be armed and ready with my weapons (v.15-18)**

Therefore, put on every piece of God's armor so you will be able to resist the enemy in the time of evil. Then after the battle you will still be standing firm. Stand your ground, putting on the belt of truth and the body armor of God's righteousness. For shoes, put on the peace that comes from the Good News so that you will be fully prepared. In addition to all of these, hold up the shield of faith to stop the fiery arrows of the devil. Put on salvation as your helmet, and take the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. Pray in the Spirit at all times and on every occasion. Stay alert and be persistent in your prayers for all believers everywhere.

Ephesians 6:13-18 (NLT)

#### **6. Stay close to my support system (v.19-20)**

#### **7. Decide that I will never give up (v.21-23)**