



Under Attack
Series: Nehemiah, #4
Nehemiah 4:1-23; 6:1-19
Pastor Lyle L. Wahl
September 19, 2021

Theme: **Defeating opposition to God's work requires active faith.**

Facing opposition which can discourage you.

1. Some of the strategy used against you.
 - a. Ridicule. (4:1-3)
 - b. Slander. (6:5, 7, 9)
2. Some of God's strategy for defeating discouragement.
 - a. Prayer. (4:4-5; 6:9)
 - b. Keep working. (4:6)
 - c. Clearly, calmly expose persistent lies and set the record straight. (6:8)

Facing opposition which can overpower you.

1. Some of the strategy used against you.
 - a. Guerilla warfare. (4:7-8, 11)
 - b. Depose the leader. (6:1-4)
 - c. Discredit the leader. (6:10-14)
2. Some of God's strategy to prevent being overpowered.
 - a. Add watchful readiness to prayer. (4:9-23)
 - b. Keep working on top priorities. (6:3-4)
 - c. Obey God's Word at all times. (6:10-14)

In My Life This Week

As you use this daily guide, write out your observations and responses on a separate piece of paper and save them with this sheet for reference.

Monday. Nehemiah stepped out in faith to do God's work of rebuilding the walls and was met with opposition. Read 4:1-3 and 6:5-9 to review the ridicule and slander hurled at him, all intended to discourage him and the people. We experience the same thing. Don't be surprised (see also John 15:18-19, 1 Peter 4:12-14, 1 John 3:13), and don't be paranoid. Be prepared.

Tuesday. Nehemiah's response to the attempts to discourage him included prayer and keeping at the task (check the outline and references). This is part of God's strategy to defeat discouragement. Even if it's been a while since you have been opposed for doing the right thing, remember and live this strategy.

Wednesday. Nehemiah's opponents moved beyond trying to intimidate and discourage him to trying to overpower him. Check the outline and references for their strategy. Sadly, this strategy is sometimes used by Christians against other Christians. For some it is a part of their *approach*, while others slip into it without realizing what they are doing. Don't be surprised when you experience it and make sure you never fall into this sinful pattern.

Thursday. God's strategy to defeat attempts to overpower us includes adding watchful readiness to prayer (review the references). Make sure you live this principles out always, not just when under attack.

Friday – Saturday. On Sunday we plan to consider chapter 5 where we find Nehemiah and those with him understanding and responding to the fragility of life as well as fragile situations. They show us some of how God wants us to handle life with care in these times. Read Nehemiah 5:1-13 and 6:15-19 in preparation for our time together.

