

WHEN
RESISTANCE
COMES

ONE HOPE

STELLENBOSCH

NEHEMIAH 4:1-3

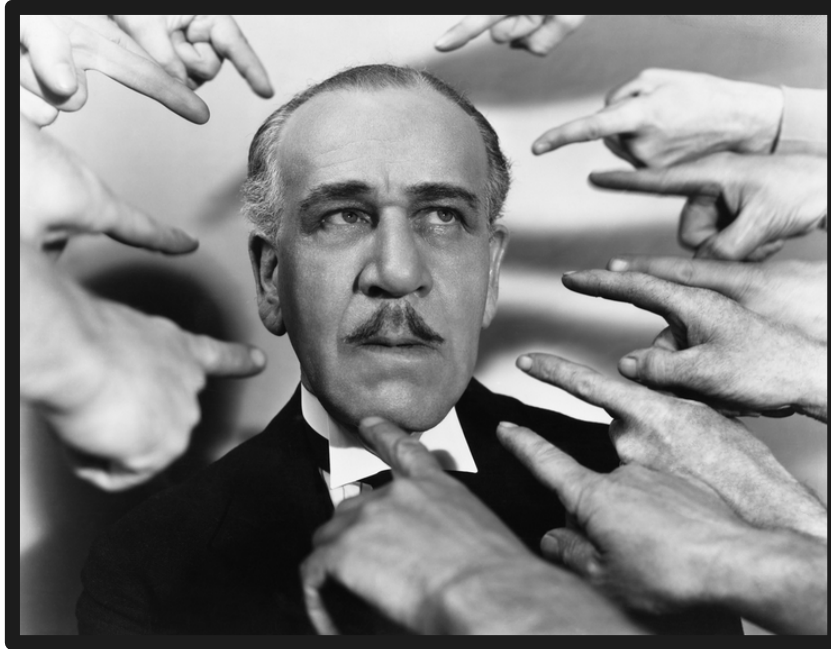
Opposition to the Rebuilding

¹When Sanballat heard that we were rebuilding the wall, he became angry and was greatly incensed. He ridiculed the Jews, ²and in the presence of his associates and the army of Samaria, he said, “What are those feeble Jews doing? Will they restore their wall? Will they offer sacrifices? Will they finish in a day? Can they bring the stones back to life from those heaps of rubble—burned as they are?”

³Tobiah the Ammonite, who was at his side, said, “What they are building—even a fox climbing up on it would break down their wall of stones!”

1

CRITICISM



ONE HOPE

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2

INTIMIDATION



ONE HOPE

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NEHEMIAH 4:6-8,11

⁶So we rebuilt the wall till all of it reached half its height, for the people worked with all their heart.

⁷But when Sanballat, Tobiah, the Arabs, the Ammonites and the people of Ashdod heard that the repairs to Jerusalem's walls had gone ahead and that the gaps were being closed, they were very angry. ⁸They all plotted together to come and fight against Jerusalem and stir up trouble against it.

...

¹¹Also 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."

3

WEARINESS



ONE HOPE

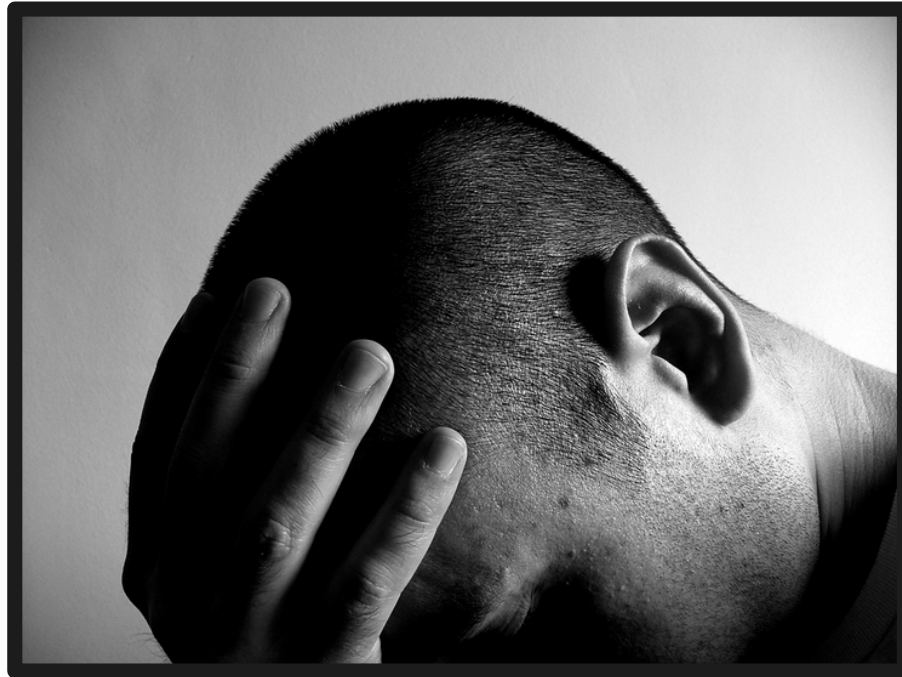
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NEHEMIAH 4:10

Meanwhile, the people in Judah said, “The strength of the laborers is giving out, and there is so much rubble that we cannot rebuild the wall.”

4

NEGATIVITY



ONE HOPE

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NEHEMIAH 4:12

Then the Jews who lived near them came and told us ten times over, “Wherever you turn, they will attack us.”

NEHEMIAH 4:10

Meanwhile, the people in Judah said, “The strength of the laborers is giving out, and there is so much rubble that we cannot rebuild the wall.”

HOW DO WE

OVERCOME RESISTANCE?

1

PRAYER



ONE HOPE

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NEHEMIAH 4:4-5

⁴Hear us, our God, for we are despised. Turn their insults back on their own heads. Give them over as plunder in a land of captivity. ⁵Do not cover up their guilt or blot out their sins from your sight, for they have thrown insults in the face of the builders.

2

AWE



ONE HOPE

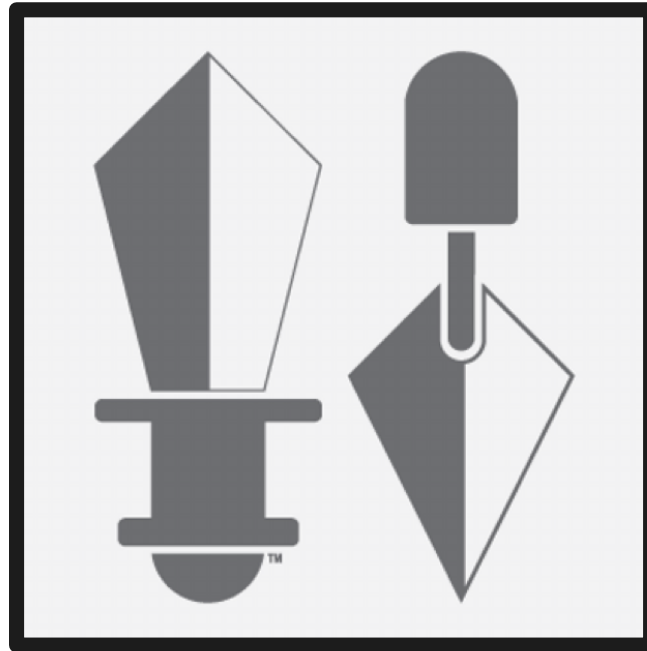
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NEHEMIAH 4:14

After I looked things over, I stood up and said to the nobles, the officials and the rest of the people, “Don’t be afraid of them. Remember the Lord, who is great and awesome, ...

3

VIGILANCE



ONE HOPE

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NEHEMIAH 4:13

Therefore I stationed some of the people behind the lowest points of the wall at the exposed places, posting them by families, with their swords, spears and bows.

NEHEMIAH 4:17-18

¹⁷... Those who carried materials did their work with one hand and held a weapon in the other, ¹⁸and each of the builders wore his sword at his side as he worked. ...

4

VULNERABILITY



ONE HOPE

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NEHEMIAH 4:19-20

¹⁹Then I said to the nobles, the officials and the rest of the people, “The work is extensive and spread out, and we are widely separated from each other along the wall. ²⁰Wherever you hear the sound of the trumpet, join us there. Our God will fight for us!”

5

GRIT



ONE HOPE

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NEHEMIAH 4:15

When our enemies heard that we were aware of their plot and that God had frustrated it, we all returned to the wall, each to our own work.

NEHEMIAH 4:19-20

¹⁹Then I said to the nobles, the officials and the rest of the people, “The work is extensive and spread out, and we are widely separated from each other along the wall. ²⁰Wherever you hear the sound of the trumpet, join us there. **Our God will fight for us!”**

1 CORINTHIANS 15:57-58

⁵⁷ Thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁵⁸ Therefore, my dear brothers and sisters, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labour in the Lord is not in vain.