



DO IT AFRAID

The bottom of the slide features a series of dark brown, wavy lines that create a sense of movement and depth, resembling a stylized ocean or a series of ripples.

1. Outside Opposition

Nehemiah 2:19–20; 4:1–23

When Sanballat heard that we were rebuilding the wall, he became angry and was greatly incensed. He ridiculed the Jews, and 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?” Tobiah 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!”

Nehemiah 4:1-3

Being nice was an outdated strategy that hadn't paid off for God's people. Some opponents need to be confronted.

2. Inside Opposition

Nehemiah 5:1–19

While it is true that the probability of conflict increases depending upon the stupidity of our actions; it will nonetheless be constant because we are all imperfect and some things are important.

3. Personal Attacks

Nehemiah 6:1-14

Nehemiah 6:10-13

One day I went to the house of Shemaiah son of Delaiah, the son of Mehetabel, who was shut in at his home. He said, “Let us meet in the house of God, inside the temple, and let us close the temple doors, because men are coming to kill you—by night they are coming to kill you.” But I said, “Should a man like me run away? Or should someone like me go into the temple to save his life? I will not go!” I realized that God had not sent him, but that he had prophesied against me because Tobiah

and Sanballat had hired him. He had been hired to intimidate me so that I would commit a sin by doing this, and then they would give me a bad name to discredit me.

Nehemiah 6:10-13

1. Position Others for Greatness

Nehemiah 4:13-15

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. 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, and fight for your families,

**your sons and your daughters, your wives and your homes."
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 4:13-15

This preemptive measure would probably save them from further, more deadly opposition (Nehemiah 4:15).

**Don't be afraid of them.
Remember the Lord.
Fight for your families.**

2. Pay Diligence to the Threat

When I heard their outcry and these charges, I was very angry. I pondered them in my mind and then accused the nobles and officials.

Nehemiah 5:6-7

Too many of us respond first and ponder second.

3. Point Yourself Towards God

But we prayed to our God and posted a guard day and night to meet this threat.

Nehemiah 4:9

I also shook out the folds of my robe and said, “In this way may God shake out of their house and possessions anyone who does not keep this promise. So may such a person be shaken out and emptied!”

Nehemiah 5:13

**This prayer was neither a prayer for direction nor
a prayer of affirmation, but a prayer of petition.**

Do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather, be afraid of the One who can destroy both soul and body in hell.

Matthew 10:28

Fear of man will prove to be a snare, but whoever trusts in the Lord is kept safe.

Proverbs 29:25