

CHARITY MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH BIBLE STUDY ASSIGNMENT
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2022
CHAPTER 6 – A POLITICAL TRAP

Sanballat's plot to hinder Nehemiah (verses 1-9)

- 1. Three main enemies (contenders) tried to attempt Nehemiah. What are their names?**

ANSWER: Sanballat, Tobiah and Geshem (vs. 1)

- 2. What was the purpose of the enemy sending for Nehemiah?**

ANSWER: To harm Nehemiah (vs. 2)

- 3. What was Nehemiah's response?**

ANSWER: "I am doing a great work, so that I cannot come down: why should the work cease, whilst I leave it, and come down to you?" (vs. 3)

- 4. There were several requests to get Nehemiah to stop the work and meet. What verse(s) can you share that speak to this issue?**

ANSWER: Four times directly to Nehemiah (vs. 4) and the fifth time, an open letter to the public (vs. 5)

- 5. Numerous attempts were made to make Nehemiah and the workers afraid. What verse speaks to Nehemiah praying to God to strengthen his hands?**

ANSWER: Verse 9 “*Now therefore, O God strengthen my hands*”

False prophets try to frighten Nehemiah (vs. 10–14)

6. What was the name of the false prophet?

ANSWER: Shemiah, son of Delaiah, the son of Mehetabeel (vs. 10). Shemiah was a false prophet, a secret informant, hired by Tobiah & Sanballat.

7. Tobiah and Sanballat hired a false prophet to lure Nehemiah into the temple area. How did Nehemiah discern that the prophet gave false counsel?

ANSWER: Nehemiah realized that God would not give a message that was contradictory to what he had already commanded (vs. 12).

- Only Priests were to enter the temple. II Chronicles 23:6 *No one is to enter the temple of the LORD except the priests and Levites on duty; they may enter because they are consecrated, but all the others are to observe the LORD’s command not to enter.*
- King Uzziah entered the temple and the Lord afflicted him with leprosy. He had leprosy until the day he died (Read II Chronicles 26:16-21).

8. How is discernment developed?

ANSWER: Discernment comes from our personal exposure to the Word of God. We must familiarize ourselves with the Word of God: 1) Develop spiritual maturity (Proverbs 27:6), 2) Discernment is a gift from the Holy Spirit (I Corinthians 12:10), and 3) Seek God for discernment (Hebrews 5:12-14).

- Heb 5:13-14 *Anyone who lives on milk, being still an infant, is not acquainted with the teaching about righteousness. ¹⁴ But solid food is for the mature, who by constant use have trained themselves to distinguish good from evil.*

The wall finished (vs. 15-19)

9. The wall is finished despite opposition. What amazing fact is in verse 15?

ANSWER: The wall is finished in fifty-two (52) days. Nehemiah prayed for four months for direction and it took less than two months to build the wall. Much prayer, much power.

10. They perceived that this work was done by God. Who makes this statement?

ANSWER: The enemy / surrounding nations (vs. 16).

Bonus Question

11. How is Tobiah family connected with the Jewish people?

ANSWER: Tobiah had family connection with the Jews. Tobiah married Shechaniah's daughter, the son of Arah (vs. 17). Arah was the man that returned with Zerubbablel from exile (Ezra 2:5).

Tobiah's son (Johanan) married the daughter of Meshullam, the son of Berechiah. The son worked on the wall at Jerusalem (vs. 18-19). Intermarriage took place between the nations.