

Discouragement – Part 2

March 23, 2022

Doubt leads to discouragement which leads to despair.

- I. Powerful feelings
 - A. Jonah – Anger
 - B. Asaph – Covetousness, jealousy, discontent
- II. Worldly culture and satanic suggestions

Nehemiah returns to rebuild the wall of Jerusalem.

- I. The project _____ – chapter 1
 - A. Source - the _____ report 1-3
 - B. Solution - the _____ filled response 4-11
 - 1. Acknowledgement of God 4-5
 - 2. Confession of sin 6-7
 - 3. Plea for help 8-10
 - 4. Request for opportunity 11

Application – oftentimes we look at the size of the “project” rather than the size of our God.

- II. The project _____ – chapter 2
 - A. Open door 1-10
 - B. Source – _____ project 11-17
 - 1. Examining the work 11-16
 - 2. Calling to action 17
 - C. Solution - _____ the leaders 18
 - D. Source - _____ part 1 – 2:19
 - 1. The scorn of the wicked 19a
 - 2. False accusations – 19b
 - E. Solution - The _____ 20
 - 1. The LORD would help the builders, give them success and prosper their efforts.
 - 2. The workers were totally committed to the project
 - 3. The opponents had no claim—no share, no authority, no rights—in Jerusalem

Application – When we take a step of faith, often those in the world (and sometimes fellow believers) around us will not understand and will take the opportunity to ridicule us.

III. The project _____ – chapter 3

In verse 5 that the “nobles” of Tekoa refused to do any work. This did nothing to hinder the work going forward but they have a legacy that they cannot escape.

Application – Keep at the work, don’t worry about what others around you are doing. It is God’s job to handle the outcome.

IV. The project _____ – chapter 4

A. Source 1 – _____ part 2 – 4:1-6

1. The anger of Sanballat: Ridiculed the Jews before the officials & army. 1-2
2. The ridicule by Tobiah the Ammonite: Mocked the weakness of the wall. 3

* The same “strategy” that Goliath used with the children of Israel and David many years before – 1 Sam. 17: 42-44

B. Solution 1 – prayer and perseverance 4-6, 1 Sam. 17:45-47

1. _____ - Nehemiah prayed to God 4-5
 - Shared the insults
 - Requested that the enemy reap what they had sown
 - Requested that true justice be executed
2. _____ - Nehemiah & the people continued the work 6

Application: When we are attacked, take it to God in prayer and keep doing the work.

C. Source 2 – _____ neighbors 7-9

1. The response of the surrounding enemies to the building of the wall: A growing anger, fury 7-8
 - The enemies listed 7
 - (a) in the north were Sanballat and the Samaritans
 - (b) in the east were Tobiah and the Ammonites
 - (c) in the south were Geshem (2:19) and the Arabs
 - (d) in the west were the Ashdodites, who were the Philistines
 - The plot: They formed an alliance & laid plans to attack Jerusalem 8

D. Solution 2 – _____ and _____ 9

Application: We need to be aware of the way that the flesh and the devil will seek to destroy the work of God in our lives. We need to pray that God will protect us from the “fiery darts of the wicked one”.