

A Worship Study Guide for Individuals, Groups and Families for the week of July 12, 2020

So The Wall Was Finished

This week, Pastor Joe Brown preached from [Nehemiah 6:15-7:4](#)

^{6:15} So the wall was finished on the twenty-fifth day of the month Elul, in fifty-two days. ¹⁶ And when all our enemies heard of it, all the nations around us were afraid and fell greatly in their own esteem, for they perceived that this work had been accomplished with the help of our God. ¹⁷ Moreover, in those days the nobles of Judah sent many letters to Tobiah, and Tobiah's letters came to them. ¹⁸ For many in Judah were bound by oath to him, because he was the son-in-law of Shecaniah the son of Arah: and his son Jehohanan had taken the daughter of Meshullam the son of Berechiah as his wife. ¹⁹ Also they spoke of his good deeds in my presence and reported my words to him. And Tobiah sent letters to make me afraid.

^{7:1} Now when the wall had been built and I had set up the doors, and the gatekeepers, the singers, and the Levites had been appointed, ² I gave my brother Hanani and Hananiah the governor of the castle charge over Jerusalem, for he was a more faithful and God-fearing man than many. ³ And I said to them, "Let not the gates of Jerusalem be opened until the sun is hot. And while they are still standing guard, let them shut and bar the doors. Appoint guards from among the inhabitants of Jerusalem, some at their guard posts and some in front of their own homes." ⁴ The city was wide and large, but the people within it were few, and no houses had been rebuilt.

With order restored among the Hebrews, Nehemiah's attention turns once again to the completion of the wall. The wall is virtually complete, but there will be a final effort on the opposition's part to halt it by harming, intimidating and discrediting Nehemiah. Nehemiah's faith & character is tested to its utmost on the eve of this great accomplishment for God – not once, but three times. Opposition to our character is often a test far greater than any physical or academic challenge, especially when our enemies attempt to deceive and derail us by intrigue and seemingly good proposals. But Nehemiah's singleness of purpose and trust in God serve as a shield.

- **Read Nehemiah 6:15-19.** Jerusalem's walls lay in neglect for over a century and a half. Amazingly, the wall is finished in just two months (6:15). Why is it apparent to the surrounding nations that this wall has been accomplished "with the help of our God" (16)?
- **What effect** does the completion of the wall have on Jerusalem's enemies (16)?
- Describe the **political pressure** Nehemiah faces (17-19). How does Nehemiah **address these threats**?
- **Read Nehemiah 7:1-4.** Now that the wall is completed, Nehemiah begins turns his energy to the people once again. What is Nehemiah **looking for as he appoints leaders** for Jerusalem (1-2)?
- **What priorities** does Nehemiah have in this phase as he organizes the people (3)?
- **What challenges** lie ahead for Jerusalem (4)?
- Nehemiah and God's people have just enjoyed an enormous accomplishment, and they are given grace to remain focused on God and steadfast in His mission. When the Lord grants you great favor and success, **what temptations do you often face**?
- What is the Holy Spirit **teaching you about trusting Jesus** in the trials and accomplishments of life?
- Jesus knows opposition, favor, pain, and glory. Read [Philippians 2:1-11](#) to begin a season of prayer together.
 - *Wonder that God would enter into such humiliation for His people.*
 - *Rejoice that Jesus is Lord of All.*
 - *Ask God for grace to trust Christ in success & accomplishment as well as in failure & opposition.*