

Don't Vacillate--Perpetuate

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I. Introduction.

- A. Text: Nehemiah.
- B. There is help today to rebuild weak spots both personally and nationally.
- C. This life is a battle from beginning to end against invisible forces. (Ephesians 6)

II. The devil has two main ways of working.

- A. He comes as a roaring lion trying to devour with terror and difficulty.
- B. He can come as an angel of light with smiling accommodation and pleasantries.

III. The enemies could not bring down the wall, so they switched their tactics.

- A. Nehemiah resists temptation to stop the project because he knew God called him to a great task.
- B. The task of the Christian is to model a great lifestyle to give hope.

IV. Nehemiah responds to the lies of his enemies through an absolute denial and prayer.

V. Nehemiah's enemies try to trap him and slander him.

- A. We are to not to take everyone's advice merely because they sound nice.
- B. We must depend upon the Word of God and rely on a sense of our identity as a believer.
- C. Nothing will help us more through the pilgrimage of life than to realize that the Spirit of God and the Word of God are here to guide us.

VI. God was in these people's lives and this accounted for their success.

VII. The devil never quits.

VIII. We cannot ever let down our guard morally.

IX. We need to know that we really belong to God.

X. The factors that enable us to stand: an awareness of the greatness of one's task, remembering one's identity in God, freedom from the influence of others, a willingness through things in a practical manner and prayer. (Proverbs 3:4-5)

Application questions:

1. How does the devil work? Why is this important to know?

2. What is the importance of knowing God has called you to a task? How does Nehemiah model this?

3. Why is it important that we know we really belong to God? How do you think can we know this? Explain.
