

**OPPOSITION TO THE WORK**

Nehemiah 4:1-23

**Introduction**

- When things are going well, get ready for trouble, because the enemy doesn't want to see the work of the Lord make progress.
- Opposition is not only an evidence that God is blessing, but it is also an opportunity for us to grow.

**I. Ridicule (4:1-6)****A. Verbal Assault of Sanballat (vv. 1-2)****1. Ridiculed the Workers****2. Ridiculed the Work****3. Ridiculed the Materials****B. Verbal Assault of Tobiah (v. 3)****1. Ridicules the finished product****C. Nehemiah's Response (vv. 4-6)****1. He prayed asking God to fight for him. (vv. 4-5)****2. They all got to work (v. 6)****II. Intimidating Plots (4:7-9)****A. Gathering of the enemy****B. Plotting of the enemy****C. Plan against the enemy****1. Prayer****2. Set a guard****III. Discouragement (4:10)****A. Pressures from without often create problems from within.****B. Discouragement is a key weapon in Satan's arsenal.****C. Nehemiah didn't pay much attention to these complainers.****IV. Fear (4:11-23)****A. Danger of Fear (vv. 11-12)****B. Prescription for Fear (vv. 13-14)****C. Plan to Overcome the Threat (vv. 15-23)**