



“Thwart The Wart: How To Overcome Opposition”

Nehemiah 4:1-15

8/25/19

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I. Sanballat, Tobiah & Company: A symbol of the opposition that will arise whenever we attempt to better our lives

A. Why did they resist Nehemiah?

- 1. For _____ reasons.*
- 2. For _____ reasons.*
- 3. For _____ reasons.*

II. The story teaches that we usually run into 2 levels of opposition.

A. Level one is what we might call _____ - heat.

1. What did Sanballat & Tobiah do at first?

2. What are ways we experience this type of resistance?

3. How did Nehemiah deal with level-one opposition?

“In the last days, there will be scoffers...These are the men who divide you, who follow mere natural instincts and do not have the Spirit. But you, dear friends, build yourselves up in your most holy faith and pray in the Holy Spirit.” – Jude 18ff

B. Level two is what we might call _____ - heat.

1. What did Sanballat and his friends do next?

2. What might be ways we experience this?

III. So how do we fight off these warts of opposition?

A. Compound P which is _____.

1. Does this lead to the removal of Nehemiah’s enemies?

2. What then does Nehemiah gain by his praying?

B. Compound W which is _____.

1. Why did Nehemiah post a guard? Didn’t he trust God?

2. How did the Jews do their work (see vss.17-18)?

3. What’s the lesson for me here?

C. Compound E which is _____.

1. What did Nehemiah begin to hear around the camp?

2. How did he respond?

3. What needs to happen more often in churches?

D. Compound U which is _____.

1. What was Nehemiah’s concern in verse 19?

2. How is this like church work?

3. Christians should adopt the Stone Age Society’s motto, which is: