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Renewed Opposition to the Rebuilding of the Walls of Jerusalem Nehemiah 4: 1-23

445 BC During the ministry of Nehemiah (**to see link click Bt – The Third Return**).
Compiled by: The Chronicler from the Ezra and Nehemiah Memoirs (see **Ac – Ezra-Nehemiah From a Jewish Perspective: The Nehemiah Memoirs**).



It is through many persecutions that we must enter the Kingdom of God (Acts 14:22). This was how Paul informed the young believers in Lystra, Iconium, and Antioch after his initial missionary journey (see the commentary on **Acts, to see link click Bm – Paul's First Missionary Journey**). Knowing the reality of spiritual warfare beforehand, as we **run the race that is set before us (Hebrews 2:1),** will help us avoid becoming too discouraged or drawing false conclusions – thinking that opposition signals **ADONAI's** disapproval of us and that we should change course immediately. But we often, in a less-than-subtle way, draw the conclusion that lack of opposition means **YHVH's** favor, when, in fact, the opposite can be true. When the work of rebuilding began, one of **Nehemiah's** tasks was to

reassure **his brothers and sisters** that the severe opposition that **they** immediately faced, was nothing more than what **they** should expect. In reality, **they** should take comfort from it, knowing that it was evidence that what **they** were doing was a good thing – and the Adversary hates a good thing and will always try to destroy it.

Nehemiah, as we shall see, was not timid when it came to responding to the psychological intimidation hurled at **him** and **his wall-builders**; **he** was not going to be frightened into submission by bullies even if they were armed and bent on murder. This was **ADONAI's** work, and he urged **his brothers and sisters** on, even if it cost **them their** lives. **They** would not be the first to suffer loss for the sake of **the kingdom of God**. Some things are worth fighting for; building **the Kingdom** is surely one of them.[232]