

Nehemiah 6: Sermon outline and questions

Trusting in the LORD, God's servant resists the attempt of Satan to stop the building of God's city.

1. **Satan's attempt recognized.**
 2. **Satan's attempt resisted.**
- 1.) a) Jerusalem's walls were rebuilt. Discouraged the enemies. They are desperate now. They try to get Nehemiah away from the work. Separate the leader from the people. A faithful leader is a blessing from God to His people. Satan cannot stand that. A faithful leader leads his people in depending on God and on Christ. Nehemiah did not go away from his people. Rejected the attempts of his enemies.
b) The enemies tried to spread false rumours about Nehemiah. They feign concern for Nehemiah but in reality try to make the people afraid. Nehemiah recognises this and is not afraid. Dismisses the attempt.
c) Verse 10: Another attempt, a different tactic. The enemies have many allies in Jerusalem. One of them is Shemaiah. He tries to make Nehemiah sin against God and profane the worship service. Nehemiah recognises this a false prophecy and dismisses it.
 - 2) a) Nehemiah did not respond with arguing with the enemies. Vs. 3: He concentrated on the great work he was doing. He did not let himself be distracted from his task. Nehemiah makes sure he can have a free and good conscience. He depends on the LORD and prays if God will strengthen him.
b) God's servant should not be afraid of the attacks of Satan. Be faithful in your task, then your work in the LORD is not in vain. It is important to respect our leaders and surround them with our prayers. Ephesians 6:18 Satan attacks the people of God by focusing on its leaders.
c) Parents have to be leaders of their family! Especially fathers. Elders and deacons have to be strong leaders. Every member of the church must be strong and faithful in their task. 1 Cor. 15:58. Those who profess their faith and are faithful in their task will be attacked by Satan! Focus your eyes on Jesus Christ! Hebrews 12:1-2.

Questions:

1. God's people need strong leaders. What is important for the congregation to do in order to receive good leaders?
2. When you profess your faith and are faithful in your task, what can you expect from Satan? And what do you do to resist him?
3. How can parents, especially fathers, be strong leaders in their family?