

NEHEMIAH CHAPTER 4 -- OVERCOMING OPPOSITION

尼希米記 第四章 -- 克服阻力

What we find out about his character from his journal?

我們從他的日記中了解到他怎樣的性格呢?

- He had a high position with Artaxerxes, cup-bearer wine taster (1:11) 他在亞達薛西王面前擁有崇高的地位,是酒侍、品酒官(尼1:11)
- He was a sunny sort of guy, glass half full, not half empty! (2:1) 他是一個陽光型的人,總是看見杯中的半滿,而不是半空! (尼 2:1)
- He had the confidence of the King who granted him favour 他擁有王的信任,並蒙王賜予恩惠
- He motivated the people. (尼2:17-18)
 他激勵了百姓(尼2:17-18)
- He led by example, worked hard and protected the people. (尼4:21-23) 他以身作則,勤奮工作,保護百姓(尼 4:21-23)
- He was generous, led with integrity and justice, not using his position to gain unfair advantage. (Ch. 5) 他為人慷慨,領導公正,誠信行事,並未利用自己的位置來謀取不正當的利益(尼五章)

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Who were the opposition? 反對派是誰?

- Sanballat, a Horonite regional leader, who became governor of Samaria in 408 BC.
 参巴拉,和倫人,地區領袖,公元前408年成為撒瑪利亞的總督。
- **Tobiah**, the Ammonite.....Possibly a freed slave who became a regional governor east of the Jordan. (Ch. 1: 10, 2:19, Ch. 4 & 6)
 - 多比雅,亞捫人……可能是一名被釋放的奴隸,後來成為約旦東部的地區總督 (尼1:10,2:19,4章&6章)
- **Geshem**, the Arab, Leader of the Kedar Arabs, south of Judah. (Ch. 2:19-20, Ch. 4 & 6) 基善,阿拉伯人,基達阿拉伯的領袖,位於猶大以南(尼 2:19-20,4章&6章)。
- All three were regional governors under Artaxexes 1, King of Persia, to whom Nehemiah was cup-bearer (wine-taster).
 - 這三人皆是波斯王亞達薛西王一世的地區總督,而尼希米則是亞達薛西王的酒侍(品酒官)。

HOW DID THEY OPPOSE NEHEMIAH?

他們怎樣反對尼希米的?

- Opposition by Ridicule, v. 1-6
 以嘲笑來反對,第1-6 節
- 2. Opposition by Physical action, v.7-9, 11 以身體行動來反對,第7-9節、11節
- 3. Opposition through Internal discouragement, v.10, 12 透過內部阻攔來反對,第10節、12節
- 4. Opposition by Greater armed force, v.13-23. 以更強大武力的反對,第13-23節

NEHEMIAH OVERCOMES

尼希米勝過

- 1. Ridicule -- Prays, and keeps going.... FOCUS! v.4-6 諷刺 -- 禱告,並繼續前行.... 專心! 第4-6節
- 2. Physical action -- More prayer, and sets watchguards, v.7-9,11 身體力行 -- 更多的禱告,並設置守衛(第7-9,11 節)
- 3. Internal discouragement -- 內在的氣餒
- 4. Strengthens the defences at the most vulnerable spaces in the wall, and encourages the people to not be afraid and trust God. v.13-14. 在牆上最脆弱的地方加強防禦,並鼓勵百姓不要懼怕,要信靠神。 (第13-14節)

NEHEMIAH OVERCOMES...

尼希米勝過.....

Greater armed force (更大的武裝力量) —

- Strategic defence actions, half the people building, half guarding.
 策略性的防禦行動,一半的人在建造,另一半則在守衛。
- The community leaders worked at the back to defend.
 社群領袖在後方進行防禦工作。
- The brick carriers worked with one hand and held a weapon in the other.
 搬磚工人一手工作,一手持兵器。
- The builders had their swords by their sides.
 建造者把劍放在身邊。
- Nehemiah at the front with a trumpeter to sound out 尼希米在最前面,帶著喇叭手吹響號角。

THEY ALL OVERCOME TOGETHER

他們一起勝過挑戰

They worked together, worked hard, 'till the stars came out.' (4:21)

Didn't even change their clothes!

他們同心合意,努力工作,「直到星星出來」(4:21)。 甚至連衣服都沒換!

FOCUS AND COMMITMENT motivated by an encouraging leader who worked alongside them.

專心和委身的動力,是沿自於一位充滿鼓勵性的領袖,與他們並肩作戰。

TAKEAWAY QUESTIONS

1. What is the difference between motivating someone and just issuing orders?

問題……激勵別人和純粹發號施令有什麼分別?

2. What is spiritual authority?

甚麼是屬靈權柄?

