

Introduction

1. In the process of besieging Jerusalem, the Babylonians had broken down the walls of Jerusalem ([2 Kgs. 25:8-10](#))
2. As the book of Nehemiah opens, Nehemiah is informed of the status of Jerusalem ([Neh. 1:1-3](#))
 - a. The king who reigned then was Artaxerxes I Longimanus who reigned from 464-424 B.C. ([Neh. 2:1](#))
 - b. There was work to be done to restore the walls of Jerusalem

I. Plan the Work

1. Nehemiah inquired of the work to be done ([Neh. 1:1-3](#))
 - a. The wall of Jerusalem was broken down and the gates burned with fire ([Neh. 1:3](#))
2. Nehemiah went to the king for specific requests ([Neh. 2:1-5](#))
 - a. Nehemiah had a definite time in mind ([Neh. 2:6](#))
 - b. Nehemiah planned for safe passage ([Neh. 2:7](#))
 - c. Nehemiah requested needed building supplies ([Neh. 2:8](#))
3. Nehemiah laid eyes on the work to be done ([Neh. 2:11-16](#))
 - a. It is one thing to hear about something, another to see it for yourself
4. Nehemiah encouraged the people to work the plan ([Neh. 2:17-18](#))
 - a. There will always be naysayers ([Neh. 2:19-20](#))

II. Work the Plan

1. Nehemiah and the people began rebuilding the wall ([Neh. 3](#))
 - a. The high priest and priests worked ([Neh. 3:1](#))
 - b. Some refused to work ([Neh. 3:5](#))
 - c. Goldsmiths, perfumers, and merchants worked ([Neh. 3:8](#), [31-32](#))
 - d. Leaders worked ([Neh. 3:9](#), [16](#), [18-19](#))
 - e. Some did the dirty work ([Neh. 3:14](#))
 - f. Levites worked ([Neh. 3:17](#))
 - g. Temple servants worked ([Neh. 3:26](#))
2. Everyone is needed in the church to work ([Eph. 4:16](#))

III. Overcoming Challenges

1. Mockery and reproach ([Neh. 4:1-3](#))
 - a. Solution: prayer ([Neh. 4:4-5](#))
 - b. Solution: keep working ([Neh. 4:6](#))
2. Conspiracy and confusion ([Neh. 4:7-8](#))
 - a. Solution: prayer ([Neh. 4:9](#))
 - b. Solution: set a watch ([Neh. 4:9-23](#))
 - c. Solution: keep working ([Neh. 4:15](#))
3. Internal issues ([Neh. 5:1-5](#))
 - a. Solution: serious thought ([Neh. 5:7](#))
 - b. Solution: rebuke ([Neh. 5:7-11](#))
 - c. Solution: repentance ([Neh. 5:12-13](#))
4. Compromise ([Neh. 6:1-2](#))
 - a. Solution: keep working ([Neh. 6:3-4](#))
5. Falsehood and fear ([Neh. 6:5-14](#))
 - a. Solution: no fear ([Neh. 6:8-9](#), [11](#))
 - b. Solution: prayer ([Neh. 6:9](#), [14](#))

Conclusion

1. Nehemiah navigated a great many challenges in executing the plan
 - a. His reverence toward God enabled him and the people to overcome each one
 - b. In only fifty-two days the wall was completed ([Neh. 6:15](#))
2. What can we get done in fifty-two days with the fear of the LORD?