

ARISE AND BUILD

Neh. 2:20

Neh. 2:20 Then answered I them, and said unto them, The God of heaven, he will prosper us; therefore **we his servants will arise and build:** but ye have no portion, nor right, nor memorial, in Jerusalem.

We have observed the background of Nehemiah, the man the Lord used in Jerusalem to fulfill a divinely directed mission.

I. THE INQUIRY OF THE SITUATION, 1:1-3

II. THE INTERCESSION OF THE SERVANT, 1:4-11

III. THE INVOLVEMENTS OF THE SOVEREIGNS, 2:1-20

IV. THE INDIVIDUAL SPECIFICATIONS, 3:1-31

A. The Participants – they built and repaired.

B. The Progress – what and where was built and repaired.

In the first three chapters, most of the material is regarding the beginning of the work in Jerusalem. Besides the men and supplies listed, incidents revealed the opposition to the work. In chapter four, we saw the “Enemy Without.”

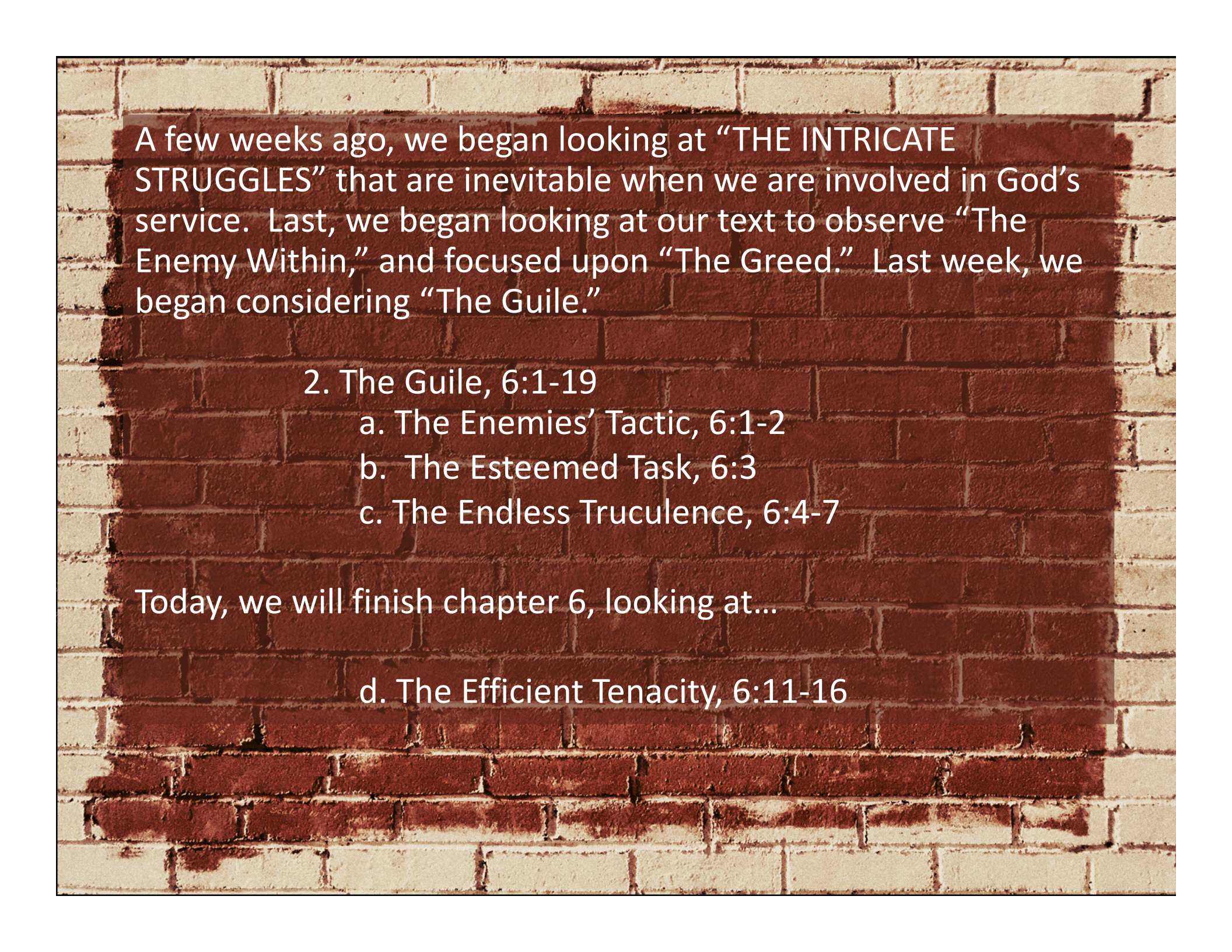


V. THE INTRICATE STRUGGLES, 4:1-6:19

A. The Enemy Without, 4:1-23

B. The Enemy Within, 5:1-6:19

1. The Greed, 5:1-19



A few weeks ago, we began looking at “THE INTRICATE STRUGGLES” that are inevitable when we are involved in God’s service. Last, we began looking at our text to observe “The Enemy Within,” and focused upon “The Greed.” Last week, we began considering “The Guile.”

2. The Guile, 6:1-19

- a. The Enemies’ Tactic, 6:1-2
- b. The Esteemed Task, 6:3
- c. The Endless Truculence, 6:4-7

Today, we will finish chapter 6, looking at...

- d. The Efficient Tenacity, 6:11-16

Neh. 6:11 And I said, **Should such a man as I flee?** and who *is there*, that, *being as I am*, would go into the temple to save his life? I will not go in.

12 And, lo, **I perceived that God had not sent him**; but that he pronounced this prophecy against me: for **Tobiah and Sanballat had hired him**.

13 Therefore *was* he hired, **that I should be afraid, and do so, and sin**, and *that* they might have *matter* for an evil report, that they might reproach me.

14 My God, think thou upon Tobiah and Sanballat according to these their works, and on the prophetess Noadiah, and the rest of the prophets, **that would have put me in fear**.

15 **So the wall was finished in the twenty and fifth day of the month Elul, in fifty and two days**.

16 And it came to pass, that when all our enemies heard *thereof*, and all the heathen that *were* about us saw *these things*, **they were much cast down in their own eyes: for they perceived that this work was wrought of our God**.

❖ Nehemiah stood with conviction, v. 11 “...Should such a man as I flee...*being* as I *am*...”

Prov. 28:1 **The wicked flee** when no man pursueth: but **the righteous are bold as a lion.**

Prov. 29:25 **The fear of man bringeth a snare:** but whoso **putteth his trust in the LORD** shall be safe.

Psa. 118:6 **The LORD is on my side;** I will not fear: **what can man do unto me?**

Heb. 13:6 So that we may boldly say, **The Lord is my helper, and I will not fear what man shall do unto me.**

- Modern society is attacking “toxic masculinity,” thereby emasculating this generation, producing weak, effeminate males.

...The ad also blurs the line between fighting and roughhousing, implicitly condemning the physical play styles more common among boys...The guidelines have also been assailed for claiming that “traditional masculinity — marked by stoicism, competitiveness, dominance and aggression — is, on the whole, harmful.”.

<https://www.latimes.com/opinion/op-ed/la-oe-young-masculinity-20190124-story.html>

- The Scriptures encourage men to be strong:

Deut. 31:6 **Be strong and of a good courage**, fear not, nor be afraid of them: for the LORD thy God, he *it is* that doth go with thee; he will not fail thee, nor forsake thee.

Josh. 10:25 And Joshua said unto them, Fear not, nor be dismayed, **be strong and of good courage**: for thus shall the LORD do to all your enemies against whom ye fight.

1 Chron. 28:20 And David said to Solomon his son, **Be strong and of good courage**, and **do it**: fear not, nor be dismayed: for the LORD God, *even my God, will be with thee*; he will not fail thee, nor forsake thee, **until thou hast finished all the work for the service of the house of the LORD.**

1 Cor. 16:13 Watch ye, stand fast in the faith, **quit you like men**, be strong.

- Four areas for men to develop Spiritual masculinity are as follows:

- **Learn like men;**

Deut. 17:19 And it shall be with him, and **he shall read therein all the days of his life: that he may learn** to fear the LORD his God, to keep all the words of this law and these statutes, to do them:

Mt. 11:29 Take my yoke upon you, and **learn of me**; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls.

- Love like men;

Eph. 5:25 **Husbands, love your wives**, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it;

Col. 3:19 **Husbands, love your wives, and be not bitter against them.**

- Lead like men;

Josh. 24:15 And if it seem evil unto you to serve the LORD, **choose you this day whom ye will serve**; whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the flood, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell: **but as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD.**

- Live like men;

Jn. 10:10 "...I am come that they **might have life, and that they might have *it* more abundantly.**"

Phil. 1:21 For **to me to live *is* Christ**, and to die *is* gain.

Col. 3:4 When **Christ, *who is our life***, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with him in glory.

❖ Nehemiah sensed the circumvention, vs. 12-13 "And, lo, **I perceived that God had not sent him...**"

Neh. 6:13 Therefore *was* he hired, **that I should be afraid, and do so, and sin**, and *that* they might have *matter* for an evil report, that they might reproach me.

❖ Nehemiah saw the conclusion, vs.14-16

Neh. 6:14 My God, think thou upon Tobiah and Sanballat according to these their works, and on the prophetess Noadiah, and the rest of the prophets, that would have put me in fear.

15 **So the wall was finished in the twenty and fifth day of the month Elul, in fifty and two days.**

16 And it came to pass, that when all our enemies heard *thereof*, and all the heathen that *were* about us saw *these things*, they were much cast down in their own eyes: for **they perceived that this work was wrought of our God.**

Heb. 6:10 For **God is not unrighteous to forget your work and labour of love**, which ye have shewed toward his name, in that **ye have ministered** to the saints, **and do minister.**

e. The Empty Triviality, 6:17-19

Neh. 6:17 Moreover in those days the nobles of Judah sent many letters unto Tobiah, and *the letters* of Tobiah came unto them.

18 For *there were* many in Judah sworn unto him, because he *was* the son in law of Shechaniah the son of Arah; and his son Johanan had taken the daughter of Meshullam the son of Berechiah.

19 Also they reported his good deeds before me, and uttered my words to him. And **Tobiah sent letters to put me in fear.**

Amos 3:3 Can two walk together, **except they be agreed?**

Summary: The Tactics of the Enemy

1. The tactic of deception, vs. 1-2; = *Intrigue*
2. The tactic of persistence, vs. 4-5; = *Intimidation*
3. The tactic of slander and gossip, vs. 6-7; = *Innuendo*
4. The tactic of psychological warfare, vs. 10-13; = *Intuitive*
5. The tactic of assault AFTER a victory, vs. 16-17; = *Incursion*
6. The tactic of infiltration via false teaching, vs. 17-18; = *Invasion*
7. The tactic of compromise, v. 19 = *Imperil*

Conclusion

2 Cor. 6:14 **Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers:** for what **fellowship** hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what **communion** hath light with darkness?

15 And what **concord** hath Christ with Belial? or **what part hath he that believeth with an infidel?**

16 And what agreement hath the temple of God with idols? for ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in *them*; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people.

17 **Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord,** and touch not the unclean *thing*; **and I will receive you,**

18 And will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, **saith the Lord Almighty.**