

THE SECRET OF SUCCESS,  
"THE PEOPLE HAD A MIND TO WORK", NEHEMIAH 4:6

INTRODUCTION: OFTEN WHERE THERE IS NO PHYSICAL NECESSITY FOR ACTION  
THERE IS A MORAL NECESSITY. THERE WAS NO PHYSICAL NECESSITY  
FOR NEHEMIAH TO MAKE THAT 800 MILE TREK TO JERUSALEM TO THROW  
IN HIS LOT WITH HIS STRUGGLING COUNTRYMEN.

IN HIS LOT WITH HIS STRUGGLING COUNTRYMEN.  
NEHEMIAH'S BREAD WAS WELL BUTTERED IN THE PERSIAN PALACE.  
BUT IF HE WAS GOING TO BE TRUE TO HIS OWN CONVICTIONS,  
HE HAD TO GO REBUILD THE BROKEN DOWN WALLS.

1. THE FIRST THING WE FIND NEHEMIAH DOING IN JERUSALEM WAS MAKING A MOONLIGHT SURVEY OF THE SITUATION, 2:11-16.

A. HE AROSE IN THE NIGHT AND MADE AN ESTIMATE OF THE SITUATION AS HE VIEWED THE WALLS OF JERUSALEM, WHICH WERE BROKEN DOWN, AND THE GATES THEREOF WHICH WERE CONSUMED WITH FIRE. HE SURVEYED THE TASK TO BE DONE.

B. WE, TOO, TODAY, HAVE A GREAT AND IMPORTANT JOB FACING US  
THAT NEEDS TO BE DONE FOR THE GLORY OF GOD.

## 1. ITS MAGNITUDE IS ALMOST INDESCRIPTABLE —

TO SEEK THE PRESENT AND ETERNAL SALVATION OF A GUILTY,  
RUINED, AND PERISHING WORLD —

TO PREACH THE GOSPEL UNTO EVERY CREATURE,  
TO WIN AND TEACH CHRISTIAN WITNESSES

TO WIN AND TEACH CHRISTIAN WITNESSES,  
TO APPLY IN OUR PERSONAL LIFE AND SOCIAL CULTURE ALL  
THE THINGS THAT JESUS TAUGHT.

THE THINGS THAT JESUS TAUGHT,  
AND TO RAISE THE WORLD FROM THE RUINS OF THE FALL,  
AND RESTORE IT TO SOMETHING OF ITS FORMER ORDER AND BEAUTY,  
THAT THE LORD MAY DWELL AMONG US.

## 2. THIS TASK MUST BEGIN IN OUR OWN HEARTS.

3. WE MUST NOT LOSE SIGHT OF THE FACT THAT GOD'S WORK IN THE WORLD IS TO BE DONE.

BY THE FEEBLE, AND OF ITSELF POWERLESS,  
INSTRUMENTALITY OF CHRISTIAN PEOPLE, AS ACCOMPANIED BY  
THE SAVING AND SANETIFYING INFLUENCES OF THE HOLY SPIRIT.

## 11. THAT "THE PEOPLE HAD A MIND TO WORK" IS SHOWN BY THE WAY THEY FACED OPPRESSION.

1. ONE IMPORTANT WAY NEHEMIAH FACED THE OPPOSITION OF SANBALLAT, TOBIAH, AND GESHEM, WAS BY LARGELY IGNORING THEM. 6:3  
WHEN THEY WOULD GRUMBLE, GROAN, CRITICIZE, AND COMPLAIN, NEHEMIAH WOULD KEEP RIGHT ON WORKING AND SAY ONLY, "I AM TOO BUSY TO COME DOWN OFF THE WALL AND ARGUE WITH YOU!"  
SMALLNESS MUST NEVER BE MET WITH SMALLNESS.

~~SHAMELESSLY NEVER BE MET WITH SHAMELESSLY.~~  
~~IT TAKES TWO TO MAKE A QUARREL, AND IF ONE OF THE TWO IS~~  
~~TOO BUSY DOING SOMETHING REALLY IMPORTANT TO LISTEN OR DISCUSS~~  
~~ANY GUTTER GOSSIP, THE ISSUE OFTEN PETERS OUT.~~

2. ANOTHER WAY NEHEMIAH AND HIS FELLOW WALL-BUILDERS FACED THEIR  
OPPOSITION WAS BY PRAYER.

THEY MET OPPPOSITION FIRST DOWN ON THEIR KNEES, VS. 4-5,9  
3, BY COOPERATION AND UNION.

NOTHING CEMENTS A GROUP LIKE OPPOSITION.

WHEN SANBALLOT ENLISTED TOBIAH, AND TOBIAH VISITED GESHEN AND WON HIM OVER TO THEIR SIDE, AND THE SAMARITANS BROUGHT IN THE AMMONITES AND THE AMMONITES THE ARABIANS, THEN THE JEWS UNDER THE LEADERSHIP OF NEHEMIAH DREW THEIR FORCES EVEN CLOSER TOGETHER THAN EVER BEFORE.

4. THE FINAL WAY THEY FACED THE OPPPOSITION WAS BY BEING PREPARED FOR ANY EVENTUALITY.

THEY HAD A TWO-EDGED POLICY:

THEY ORGANIZED THEMSELVES AT ONE AND THE SAME TIME INTO

WATCHERS AND WORKERS

IT IS TOO BAD THAT THE SITUATION WAS SERIOUS ENOUGH TO MAKE THAT NECESSARY.

MASONS AND CARPENTERS WERE PREPARED TO DROP THEIR TOOLS AND IN A FLASH BECOME SOLDIERS.

ENEMIES OF SANBULLOT'S STRIKE KNOW ONLY ONE LANGUAGE—  
THE LANGUAGE OF COLD STEEL.

UNTIL THAT COLD STEEL IS PUSHED UNDER THEIR NOSES, THEY ARE ALL BLUFF AND BLUSTER AND COWARDS.

THERE ARE APPLICATIONS OF THIS PRINCIPLE OF PREPAREDNESS IN OUR OWN NATIONAL SCENE.

ONE HATES TO THINK OF MAINTAINING LARGE MILITARY FORCES AND CIVILIAN RESERVE COMPONENTS, OF STOCKPILING WAR MATERIALS, BUT THAT IS THE ONLY LANGUAGE SOME PEOPLE CAN UNDERSTAND.

UNLESS THE PILE IS HIGH ENOUGH, WE WHO ARE LIKE NEHEMIAH IN BELIEVING FUNDAMENTALLY IN PEACE, ARE AT THE MERCY OF SCOUNDRELS.

AND THERE ARE TIMES IN THE APPLICATION OF OUR CHRISTIAN ETHICS WHEN WE MUST NOT ONLY PROCLAIM A CONCILIATORY MESSAGE OF LOVE, MERCY, AND PEACE, BUT WE MUST BE PREPARED TO FIGHT AGAINST SATAN AND HIS SERVANTS FOR THE FAITH ONCE FOR ALL DELIVERED TO THE SAINTS AND FOR THE OPPORTUNITY TO CARRY ON THE CONSTRUCTIVE WORK OF BUILDING THE WALLS OF OUR JERUSALEM WHEREVER GOD HAS CALLED US.

### III. THE ATTITUDE THAT WINS IS TO "HAVE A MIND TO WORK"

THIS INDICATES:

1. EARNESTNESS.

A. THOROUGH PERSUASION OF THE TRUTH OF THE MESSAGE WE PROCLAIM.

B. DEEP SENSE OF THE INFINITE VALUE OF THE HUMAN PERSONALITY.

C. AN INTENSE CONVICTION THAT IT IS GOD'S WORK, AND NOT OUR OWN, THAT WE ARE DOING.

2. PERSISTENCE, "STICK-TO-IT-EDNESS"

3. COURAGE,

"SHOULD SUCH A MAN AS I FLEE?" 6:11

4. HARD WORK

A. SOME HAVE A MIND TO THINK, BUT NOT TO WORK

B. SOME HAVE A MIND TO SPEAK, BUT NOT TO WORK

(AS A RULE MOST WORK IS DONE WHEN THERE IS LEAST NOISE)

(6:18)

CONCLUSION: LOOK AT THIS MAN'S SUMMARY STATEMENT, "SO THE WALL WAS FINISHED." WHAT A SIMPLE, BABY-LIKE SENTENCE! BUT HOW MUCH WAS INCLUDED IN THAT LITTLE WORD "SO". AFTER CALMLY SURVEYING THE SITUATION THAT FACES US IN PERSONAL AND CHURCH SERVICE, WE MUST MEET EVERY KIND OF OPPPOSITION FIRST UPON OUR KNEES AND THEN SIDE BY SIDE WITH OUR BRETHREN. WITH CHRISTIAN CONVICTION LET US BE PREPARED ALWAYS FOR ANY EVENTUALITY, BUT LET EVERYONE UNDERSTAND THAT BUILDING AND NOT FIGHTING IS OUR MAIN BUSINESS.

WITH SUCH A MIND TO WORK, THE WALLS WILL BE BUILT AGAIN!

The Student Brigade Chapl, H. Benning, Ga. 15 Jun 1959, 00:44  
Norwood Bap. ch. St. Pete 9/1/82

THEY HAD A TWO-GOOG BOTTICCI  
THEY ORGANIZED THOSE SERVANTS AT THE SAME TIME INTO  
MARCHERS AND MARCHERS

AT 12 300 PM THAT SITUATION WAS SERIOUS ENOUGH  
TO MAKE THAT NECESSARY.

WORNS AND CARRIERS WERE PREPARED TO DROP THEIR LOADS  
AND IN A FLASH SOME SOLDIERS

QUICKLY TO PAVEMENTS, STRIKE THE FLOOR.

UNTIL THAT GOLD STREET IS BURNED UNDER HIS HORSE, THIS ARE  
ALL FOLKS WHO TRUSTED AND COURAGE.

THESE ARE ALLEGATIONS OF THIS BRIGADE OF SUGARBEANERS  
IN OUR OWN MARCHING SCENE.

THEY HAD TO THINK OF MARCHING LARGE MILITARY LOGISTICS  
AND CIVILIAN RESERVE COMPONENTS, OR SUCCESSION WAR MATERIALS.

BUT THAT IS THE ONLY WAY SOME PEOPLE CAN OVERCOME.

IN THESE THE DAY IS HIGH DAWN, WE WHO ARE THE KING LEARNED

IN DELIVERING INFORMATION IN LOVE, ARE AT THE MERCY OF

SECONDARY, SUGARBEANERS.

AND THESE ARE THE TIMES IN THE ADVOCATION OF OUR GUARDIAN

ELITES WHEN WE MUST NOT ONLY PROCLAIM A CONSTITUTIONAL MESSAGE

OF LOVE, MERCY, AND BEACE.

BUT THE WORD OF PROPHET TO FIGHT AGAINST SATAN AND HIS SICKNESS

FOR THE FAITH WHICH IS NOT ALL DEDICATED TO THE SICK

AND FOR THE OPPORTUNITY TO CARRY ON THE CONSTITUTIONAL WORK OF

DELIVERING THE MARCH OF OUR KINGDOM HUNGER GOD HAS CALLED US

TO THE AVAILABILITY THAT THE MARCH IS TO "HAVE A MIND TO WORK".

THIS INDICATES, I, FATHER,

A. PERSONAL DISCUSSION OF THE DEFINITE VALUE OF THE HUMAN PERSONALITY.

B. DEEP SENSE OF THE INFINITE VALUE OF THE HUMAN PERSONALITY.

C. AN INTERIOR CONVICTIION THAT IT IS GOD'S WORK AND NOT OUR OWN

THAT WE ARE DOING.

C. FATHER, "STICK-TO-IT-NESS".

3. DRAWING, "HONOR" AND A MIND TO WORK.

4. THE MARCH OF THE STAFF, BUT NOT A MIND TO WORK.

5. DRAWING, "HONOR" AND A MIND TO WORK.

6. A MIND NOT WORK TO DO, BUT NOT A MIND TO WORK.

7. DRAWING, "HONOR" AND A MIND TO WORK.

8. THE MARCH THAT WORK TO DO, BUT NOT A MIND TO WORK.

9. DRAWING, "HONOR" AND A MIND TO WORK.

10. THE MARCH THAT WORK TO DO, BUT NOT A MIND TO WORK.

11. DRAWING, "HONOR" AND A MIND TO WORK.

12. THE MARCH THAT WORK TO DO, BUT NOT A MIND TO WORK.

13. DRAWING, "HONOR" AND A MIND TO WORK.

14. THE MARCH THAT WORK TO DO, BUT NOT A MIND TO WORK.

15. DRAWING, "HONOR" AND A MIND TO WORK.