

THE ENEMY IS AT THE GATES
Blueprints Series Part 4
August 2, 2009

“Our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the powers, against the world forces of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenly places”. Ephesians 6:12

When God gives you a vision (or a passion), you must

_____.

¹When Sanballat heard that we were rebuilding the wall, he became angry and was greatly incensed. He ridiculed the Jews, ²and in the presence of his associates and the army of Samaria, he said, “What are those feeble Jews doing? Will they restore their wall? Will they offer sacrifices? Will they finish in a day? Can they bring the stones back to life from those heaps of rubble—burned as they are?” ³Tobiah the Ammonite, who was at his side, said, “What they are building—if even a fox climbed up on it, he would break down their wall of stones!” ⁴Hear us, O our God, for we are despised. Turn their insults back on their own heads. Give them over as plunder in a land of captivity. ⁵Do not cover up their guilt or blot out their sins from your sight, for they have thrown insults in the face of [a] the builders. ⁶So we rebuilt the wall till all of it reached half its height, for the people worked with all their heart. ⁷But when Sanballat, Tobiah, the Arabs, the Ammonites and the men of Ashdod heard that the repairs to Jerusalem’s walls had gone ahead and that the gaps were being closed, they were very angry. Nehemiah 4:1-7

You will be opposed by the _____ (v.1,7)

You will be opposed by _____ (v.2,3)

⁸They all plotted together to come and fight against Jerusalem and stir up trouble against it. ⁹but we prayed to our God and posted a guard day and night to meet this threat. ¹⁰Meanwhile, the people in Judah said, “The strength of the laborers is giving out, and there is so much rubble that we cannot rebuild the wall.” Nehemiah 4:8-10

You will be opposed by _____ (v.10)

¹¹Also our enemies said, “Before they know it or see us, we will be right there among them and will kill them and put an end to the work.” ¹²Then the Jews who lived near them came and told us ten times over, “Wherever you turn, they will attack us.” ¹³Therefore I stationed some of the people behind the lowest points of the wall at the exposed places, posting them by families, with their swords, spears and bows. ¹⁴After I looked things over, I stood up and said to the nobles, the officials and the rest of the people, “Don’t be afraid of them. Remember the Lord, who is great and awesome, and fight for your brothers, your sons and your daughters, your wives and your homes.” Nehemiah 4:11-14

You will be opposed by _____ (v.11)

You will be opposed by _____ (v.12)

You will be opposed by _____ (v.14)

Four Truths about doing battle

We must _____

We must _____

We must _____

We must _____

NEXT WEEK:
“Preference or Conviction”