

FATAL DISTRACTIONS
Blueprints Series Part 5

August 9, 2009

“So on October 2 the wall was finished – just fifty-two days after we had begun.”

Nehemiah 6:15

When God gives you a blueprint you must be prepared for

¹“Sanballat, Tobiah, Geshem the Arab, and the rest of our enemies found out that I had finished rebuilding the wall and that no gaps remained – though we had not yet set up the doors in the gates. ²So Sanballat and Geshem sent a message asking me to meet them at one of the villages in the plain of Ono. But I realized they were plotting to harm me, ³so I replied by sending this message to them: ‘I am engaged in a great work, so I can’t come. Why should I stop working to come and meet with you?’ ⁴Four times they sent the same message, and each time I gave the same reply.”

Nehemiah 6:1-4

Beware of _____

⁵“The fifth time, Sanballat’s servant came with an open letter in his hand, ⁶and this is what it said: ‘There is a rumor among the surrounding nations, and Geshem tells me it is true, that you and the Jews are planning to rebel and that is why you are building the wall. According to his reports, you plan to be their king. ⁷He also reports that you have appointed prophets in Jerusalem to proclaim about you, “Look! There is a king in Judah!” You can be very sure that this report will get back to the king, so I suggest that you come and talk it over with me.’ ⁸I replied, ‘There is no truth in any part of your story. You are making up the whole thing.’ ⁹They were just trying to intimidate us, imagining that they could discourage us and stop the work. So I continued the work with even greater determination.” Nehemiah 6:5-9

Beware of _____

¹⁰“Later I went to visit Shemaiah son of Delaiah and grandson of Mehetabel, who was confined to his home. He said, ‘Let us meet together inside the Temple of God and bolt the doors shut. Your enemies are coming to kill you tonight.’ ¹¹But I replied, ‘Should someone in my position run from danger? Should someone in my position enter the Temple to save his life? No, I won’t do it!’ ¹²I realized that God had not spoken to him, but that he had uttered this prophecy against me because Tobiah and Sanballat had hired him. ¹³They were hoping to intimidate me and make me sin. Then they would be able to accuse and discredit me. ¹⁴Remember, O my God, all the evil things that Tobiah and Sanballat have done. And remember Noadiah the prophet and all the prophets like her who have tried to intimidate me.” Nehemiah 6:10-14

Beware of _____

NEXT WEEK:
“God Looks Like That?”

It’s coming this

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Watch for it!