

Message Notes – Sunday August 27, 2006

“The Enemy Within”

Nehemiah 4:10-20

“And no wonder! For Satan himself transforms himself into an angel of light.” 2 Corinthians 11:14

The task was almost complete but the _____ didn't _____.

“Now it happened when Sanbalat, Tobiah, Geshem the Arab, and the rest of our enemies heard that I had rebuilt the wall, and that there were no breaks left in it (though at that time I had not hung the doors in the gates.)” Nehemiah 6:1

At this point things begin to get _____.

The Plan of Distraction

1. The more success Nehemiah had the more _____ he faced.

“Sanballat and Geshem set to me, saying, “come, let us meet together among the villages in the plain of Ono.” But they thought to do me harm.” Nehemiah 6:2

2. The plan was to _____ Nehemiah from his _____.
3. Next they tried to _____ Nehemiah from the vision of God.

“Things which matter most must never be at the mercy of things that matter least.” Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

4. The enemy still wanted Nehemiah to be _____.

“They all were trying to make us afraid, saying, ‘Their hands will be weakened in the work, and it will not be done.’ Now therefore, O God, strengthen my hands.” V.9

Speaking Christianese

“I came to the house of Shemaiah the son of Delaiah, the son of Mehetabel, who was a secret informer...”

1. When all of the external attacks had failed, the enemy turned to someone on the _____ who appeared to be a _____.
2. The enemy loves to speak with the _____ of the _____ of God.
3. Doing the _____ thing with the _____ motive is still _____.

“Should such a man as I flee? And who is there such as I who would go into the temple to save his life? I will not go in!” v. 11

Overcoming the Enemy Within

1. Form relationships with people who follow God and get to know their _____ and _____.

“A good man out of the good treasure of his heart brings fourth good things, and an evil man out of the evil treasure brings fourth evil things.” Matthew 12:35

2. Compare everything that they say by the _____ _____.

“For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.” Hebrews 4:12

3. Pray for God to _____ His will to you.

“For this reason we also, since the day we heard it, do not cease to pray for you, and to ask that you may be filled with the knowledge of His will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding.” Col. 1:9

4. Do things in the _____ and not in _____.

“Whatever I tell you in the dark, speak in the light; and what you hear in the ear, preach on the housetops.” Matthew 10:27