



## RE:BUILDING

### Confident to Stand

Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2026  
Nehemiah 2:19-20

1 Problems are nothing new. Tribulation, challenges, trips, and cancelling – you're going to get it...Jesus said so in **John 16:33**,

I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world."

When Jesus said "take heart" He was not promising a wander down Easy Street to the lights of glory. He was telling you, it's going to happen, but I have already won. That's what it means to walk in victory. And THAT's where the confidence to stand comes from.

2 Now let's look at **Nehemiah 2:19**,

But when Sanballat the Horonite and Tobiah the Ammonite servant and Geshem the Arab heard of it, they jeered at us and despised us and said, "What is this thing that you are doing? Are you rebelling against the king?"

3 We first met Sanballat and Tobiah back in **Nehemiah 2:10** where it said,

[...] it displeased them greatly that someone had come to seek the welfare of the people of Israel.

At the time they took no direct action. But then we get to verse 19 and now they have another friend (Geshem), and they've heard how things are progressing. It has gone beyond concern about Nehemiah's newfound interest in what matters to God. Team S.T.a.G. intend to bring a stop to Nehemiah's efforts to honour God.

4 Now, remind yourself, **what is it that you cannot see stay the same, for one more day?** What it is for your family? Your children? Your spouse? Your workplace? Your estate? Your town? Your country? If that has not been written down, it is time to write it down.

5 Now. How to confidently stand in the face of the rising opposition. Team S.T.a.G. throw two questions. Firstly, (**Nehemiah 2:19**),

What is this thing that you are doing?

6 They already know. **The enemy will come at you with questions which he already has an answer to.** He wants to rattle your and destabilise your faith.

7 Look at how he attacked Eve in **Genesis 3:1,**

He said to the woman, “Did God actually say, ‘You shall not eat of any tree in the garden’?”

8 Satan knows the answer. He’s trying to destabilise Eve’s certainty about God. **He wants her to have doubtful thoughts and feelings about God.**

9 When you know that God has spoken to you through His word, positioned you to take a stand for Him, or called you to rise up and rebuild the ruins around you, never use the words ‘I feel, or ‘I think’ to describe this. **Proverbs 28:26** says,

Whoever trusts in his own mind is a fool, but he who walks in wisdom will be delivered.

Trusting your feelings and your mind is one short step away from dishonouring and distancing yourself from God – which is your enemy’s goal for your life.

10 Now the second question in **Nehemiah 2:19** asks this,

“Are you rebelling against the king?”

11 Here, team S.T.a.G. are trying to induce the fear of man, by weaponizing authority. **Colossians 2:10** says this,

and you have been filled in him, who is the head of all rule and authority.

12 Paul reminds you of who **you are – filled WITH Jesus, and IN Jesus.** And Jesus is the head of every authority in this world. Yes, you should respect and honour authority. To do otherwise dishonours Jesus. But there is only one you should fear.

So we have seen how team S.T.a.G. have tried to derail God’s calling over Nehemiah’s life. Let us see what Nehemiah teaches us how to respond.

13 **Nehemiah 2:20,**

Then I replied to them, “The God of heaven will make us prosper, and we his servants will arise and build, but you have no portion or right or claim in Jerusalem.”

Confidence is not a feeling or a thought. The confidence to stand comes through submission and obedience.

14 **Nehemiah's stand is confident because he starts with humility based on certain knowledge** – 'He will prosper us' and 'we his servants'. Mary, the mother of Jesus delivers one the most profound descriptions of obedience found anywhere in the Scriptures, in **John 2:5**,

His mother said to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you."

THAT is obedience. Do whatever the Lord tells. Not what you 'think' He has told you or what you 'feel' He has told you but do whatever He tells you. Humility, then obedience, based on certain knowledge, THEN confronting enemies with truth. Oftentimes we fail in battles we face because we want to throw truth into peoples' lives first, without humility or obedience.

16 **Nothing silences truth quicker than disobedience, or absent humility.**

Now if you and I refuse to stand up to the disobedience in our owns lives (planks before specks!), we will not see the harvest we hoped for, the results will be disappointing. Paul says this in **Galatians 6:7-8**,

Do not be deceived: God is not mocked, for whatever one sows, that will he also reap. <sup>8</sup> For the one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life.

18 When you avoid confrontation, when you seek your own comfort, you will reap corruption. **Life gets messed up when you prefer your own way.**

The Holy Spirit of truth and obedience, so when we sow to Him, when we live in-line with the Spirit of God, then we will see a harvest of those things that will last forever. When your goal is quiet, ease, and comfort, the Spirit will seem oddly absent, because **He will only fill a vessel which is being used for honour.**

20 When God calls you to take a stand know this from **Psalm 1:1**,

Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked, nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of scoffers;

You must be ready to speak up when everyone else is silent; taking a stand when others want to take a seat. You will be confident to stand up to what dishonours God when this verse is the place you stand, **1 Thessalonians 5:24**, He who calls you is faithful; he will surely do it.