



RE:BUILDING

Bi-Vocational

Sunday 12th April 2026

Nehemiah 4:15-20

1

There are times and seasons when the Lord will raise up mighty workers, who with one hand serve and work in this world and with the other they serve and work as ministers of the gospel. Every part of me is certain that **a church of bi-vocational Christians would accomplish much more than one man devoted 100% to his ministry in the church**, serving Christians who are devoted to their vocations in this world.

You may ask, *why* am I so certain?

So let me answer, through the words of the book of Nehemiah, the words of Christ, and the testimony of a life raised up by God specifically for this purpose. The first two are found in the Scriptures. The last, was born from the Scriptures.

2

Let us return to **Nehemiah 4:15**,

When our enemies heard that it was known to us and that God had frustrated their plan, we all returned to the wall, each to his work.

3

We are at our weakest when we think WE have won and our enemies are on the turn. That's when pride and entitlement set in with devastating effects on the faith of believers. You see the devil wants you to buy into the idea that you have won a battle; you fought hard; you made him run back to hell. And then he whispers – “go on, put your feet up, take a break, let someone else take the strain”.

4

Nehemiah is very clear on one thing – God frustrated the plans of their enemies. Let us be clear on that same thing as it says in **Psalm 33:10**,

The Lord brings the counsel of the nations to nothing; he frustrates the plans of the peoples.

5

God did it! That's the only victory song we should be singing. Then Nehemiah moves the people into a new season in **Nehemiah 4:16-17a**,

From that day on, half of my servants worked on construction, and half held the spears, shields, bows, and coats of mail. And the leaders stood behind the whole house of Judah, ¹⁷who were building on the wall.

6 If nothing else, every Christian must learn something very clearly from early on in their walk with the Lord. It says this in **1 Peter 5:8-9**,

Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. ⁹ Resist him, firm in your faith, knowing that the same kinds of suffering are being experienced by your brotherhood throughout the world.

Lions don't stop until they have eaten something. And when they're hungry again they go hunting again. That's your enemy. When he walks away licking his lips from the Christian he has just ripped to shreds, he never forgets what that tastes like and he has an insatiable appetite.

7 And this is why Nehemiah lead them into a new season. **The Lord is leading you into a new season.** Nehemiah positioned half his servants to keep guard and the other half to work on construction.

8 Some of you have been placed to watch and pray, to guard as it were the gospel ministry of this church. You may not be in a position to do much, but hear what the Bible says through Paul in **Romans 15:30**,

I appeal to you, brothers, by our Lord Jesus Christ and by the love of the Spirit, to strive together with me in your prayers to God on my behalf,

9 Whatever the individual situation for Christian in Rome, Paul appealed with a deep sense of urgency to all of them to strive with him through prayer. To join the struggle. And that I ask of all of you now – to **join in the ministry of the gospel of Jesus Christ to which he has called me that the word would work powerfully in me and powerfully through me to others that they would hear the voice of Jesus calling them to repentance, to enter His kingdom.**

10 Now Nehemiah doesn't leave it there. Back in **Nehemiah 4:17**,

Those who carried burdens were loaded in such a way that each laboured on the work with one hand and held his weapon with the other.

That sounds like it might slow them down. Yes, your individual performance and successes may be slower to come, but a greater thing is birthed as a result.

Now every one of us is a sword carrying believer, if you have read and worked out in your own life the words of **Ephesian 6:17**,

11

and take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God

Wherever you go TAKE the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. This requires that you carry your workload in a different way to make sure you have time to be using that sword effectively.

12

Then came the builders in **Nehemiah 4:18a**,

And each of the builders had his sword strapped at his side while he built.

13

Swords must be ready to use when the attacks came. **Memorization is better than a search bar**. It's there when you need it. This is no time for fear of what man may think. Remember The Israelites when Goliath came out in **1 Samuel 17:24**,

14

All the men of Israel, when they saw the man, fled from him and were much afraid.

15

The words of **Joshua 10:8**,

And the Lord said to Joshua, "Do not fear them, for I have given them into your hands. Not a man of them shall stand before you."

That was the day in which the sun stood still for about a whole day. Does God not have every resource in heaven and earth to win the battles in which you stand? Then choose this day as **Joshua 24:14-15**,

16

"Now therefore fear the Lord and serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness. Put away the gods that your fathers served beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the Lord. ¹⁵ And if it is evil in your eyes to serve the Lord, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your fathers served in the region beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you dwell. But as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord."