

“I’m Doing a Great Work and I Cannot Come Down!”

(Nehemiah 6:1–15)

- **Enemies try to _____ us.** “Sanballat and Geshem sent me this message: ‘Come, let us meet together in one of the villages on the plain of Ono.’ But they were scheming to harm me; so I sent messengers to them with this reply: *‘I am doing a great work and I cannot come down.’* ... **Four times** they sent me the same message, and each time I gave them the same answer.” (Nehemiah 6:2–4)
- **Enemies try to _____ us.** “Then, the **fifth** time, Sanballat sent his aide to me with the same message, and in his hand was an **unsealed letter** in which was written: ‘It is reported among the nations, and Geshem says it is true, that you and the Judeans are plotting to revolt, and therefore you are building the wall. Moreover, according to these reports you are about to become their king.’” (Nehemiah 6:5–6)
- **Enemies try to _____ us.** “One day I went to the house of Shemaiah son of Delaiah, the son of Mehetabel, who was shut in at his home. He said, ‘Let us meet in the house of God, **inside the temple**, and let us close the temple doors, because men are coming to kill you; by night they are coming to kill you.’ But I said, ‘Should a man like me run away? Or should one like me go **into the temple** to save his life? I will not go!’” (Nehemiah 6:10–11)

“But only you and your sons may serve as priests in connection with everything at the altar and inside the curtain ... Anyone else who comes near the sanctuary must be put to death.” (Numbers 18:7)

The Books of Moses in Nehemiah

They are **written upon a scroll** (Nehemiah 8:1, 3, 5, 8, 18; 9:3; 13:1). They **guide** Jerusalem’s community to **direct** its ministries (Nehemiah 12:44) and **live faithfully** (Nehemiah 8:9). They bring **great joy** (Nehemiah 8:10). This is why Judahites **publicly read** and **study them** (Nehemiah 8:2–8; 13:1).

“So the wall was completed on the twenty-fifth of Elul
in fifty-two days.”