

# They Had a Mind to Work

Nehemiah 4:6

## Introduction

1. In the book of Nehemiah Israel had spent the last seventy years in captivity and have now returned to Jerusalem and were in the process of rebuilding the wall around the city.

2. This task was given them by God, led by Nehemiah and accomplished by those who returned from captivity.

***“they had a mind to work”*** (Neh. 4:6).

### 1. God Builds His Church

**Mat 16:18** And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.

### 2. Places it in the Heart of a Man

**1Ki 8:17-18** And it was in the heart of David my father to build an house for the name of the LORD God of Israel. And the LORD said unto David my father, Whereas it was in thine heart to build an house unto my name, thou didst well that it was in thine heart.

### 3. The People Follow

**Neh 4:6** So built we the wall; and all the wall was joined together unto the half thereof: for the people had a mind to work.

***“they had a mind to work”***

## I. In Spite of Mockings (Neh. 4:1)

Their enemies cursed them (Neh. 4:3).

1. Jesus promised that if we are practicing truth then men will curse us (John 15:20; Matt.5:44).

## II. In the Midst of war

A. There were threats of war all around them (Neh. 4:11-12).

B. Secret attacks were being planned (Neh. 4:8).

C. Therefore people girded themselves with armor (4:12-18).

1. What an excellent picture for God’s people today!

2. We are commanded to put on the armor of God (Eph. 6:10-17).

3. Like Israel, we are at war! Therefore, we must work to build the Lord’s house.

4. To this we are called (2 Cor. 10:4-6).

## III. While Men Did Nothing

The nobles would not put their shoulders to work (Neh. 3:5).

## IV. When Men Deceived

A. Men were sent to cause Nehemiah to stumble (Neh. 6:10-14).

## V. But God’s People DEFEATED the enemies!

The people, along with Nehemiah realized that what they were doing was a God given task.

Nehemiah refers to it as a “great work” (Neh. 6:3).