

Nehemiah 6:15 – 7:4 \ \ Know Who You Are \ \ 3-26-23 @ RCBC

[v.16], “And when all our enemies heard of it, all the nations around us were afraid and fell greatly in their own esteem, **for they perceived that this work had been accomplished with the help of our God.**”

Here’s how Nehemiah’s explained it so far:

- 2:8 – the good hand of God was upon him
- 2:12 – God put it in his heart to do this
- 2:20 – the God of heaven would make them prosper in their work
- 4:15 – God frustrated the plans of the enemy
- 4:20 – don’t fear because God would fight for them
- 6:16 – God helped them build and finish the wall

The people around Jerusalem could come to no other conclusion but that the God of the Jews made this happen.

God never abandons those who _____ in Him.

If God has *saved* you, He will continue to *keep* you going forward.

[v.15-16] are verses of victory – the wall was finished! They describe how those on the outside were affected.

[v.17-19] describe more tensions within the walls. These verses describe how those on the inside were affected.

Tobiah is a non-Jew who doesn’t want to see Jewish people prosper, but he’s well-connected in the Jewish community because of his marriage to a Jewish girl.

Remember: perseverance is necessary because the enemy is still actively working to deceive.

Nehemiah knew that God would remember, that God would judge, and that God would make things right, so he doesn’t feel compelled to do it himself.

Chapter 7 shows that Nehemiah shifts his attention from one challenging building project to another. He goes from focusing on the walls of the city to focusing on the hearts of the people.

God’s people were to be a light among the nations. People would look at the nation of Israel and see God’s power and hand, both in doing things that only He could do, but also in them behaving in a way totally different from the people around them. They were called to holiness, to be *set apart*.

In order to be set apart from the world, they would have to know _____ as a people – they are God’s.

That’s why chapter 7 matters.

Why did Nehemiah set all these people in their places? Because they were preparing to do something that hadn’t been done in decades – *have a formal worship service.*

The walls were rebuilt so they could _____ God properly and freely.

Why did Nehemiah set a guard around Jerusalem?

Why do parents set a guard around their kids?

- *Because these things are precious and belong to the Lord.*

“The LORD is good, a stronghold in the day of trouble; he knows those who take refuge in him.” (Nahum 1:7)

- Are you taking refuge in Him today?