

# Nehemiah 6

## Chapter 6

<sup>1</sup> NOW it came to pass, when Sanballat, and Tobiah, and Geshem the Arabian, and the rest of our enemies, heard that I had builded the wall, and *that* there was no breach left therein; (though at that time I had not set up the doors upon the gates;)

<sup>2</sup> That Sanballat and Geshem sent unto me, saying, Come, let us meet together in *some one of* the villages in the plain of Ono. But they thought to do me mischief.

<sup>3</sup> And I sent messengers unto them, saying, I *am* doing a great work, so that I cannot come down: why should the work cease, whilst I leave it, and come down to you?

<sup>4</sup> Yet they sent unto me four times after this sort; and I answered them after the same manner.

<sup>5</sup> Then sent Sanballat his servant unto me in like manner the fifth time with an open letter in his hand;

<sup>6</sup> Wherein *was* written, It is reported among the heathen, and Gashmu saith *it, that* thou and the Jews think to rebel: for which cause thou buildest the wall, that thou mayest be their king, according to these words.

<sup>7</sup> And thou hast also appointed prophets to preach of thee at Jerusalem, saying, *There is* a king in Judah: and now shall it be reported to the king according to these words. Come

now therefore, and let us take counsel together.

<sup>8</sup> Then I sent unto him, saying, There are no such things done as thou sayest, but thou feignest them out of thine own heart.

<sup>9</sup> For they all made us afraid, saying, Their hands shall be weakened from the work, that it be not done. Now therefore, *O God*, strengthen my hands.

<sup>10</sup> Afterward I came unto the house of Shemaiah the son of Delaiah the son of Mehetabeel, who *was* shut up; and he said, Let us meet together in the house of God, within the temple, and let us shut the doors of the temple: for they will come to slay thee; yea, in the night will they come to slay thee.

<sup>11</sup> And I said, Should such a man as I flee? and who *is there*, that, *being* as I *am*, would go into the temple to save his life? I will not go in.

<sup>12</sup> And, lo, I perceived that God had not sent him; but that he pronounced this prophecy against me: for Tobiah and Sanballat had hired him.

<sup>13</sup> Therefore *was* he hired, that I should be afraid, and do so, and sin, and *that* they might have *matter* for an evil report, that they might reproach me.

<sup>14</sup> My God, think thou upon Tobiah and Sanballat according to these their works, and on the prophetess Noadiah, and the rest of the prophets, that would have put me in fear.

<sup>15</sup> ¶ So the wall was finished in the twenty and fifth *day* of *the month* Elul, in fifty and two days.

<sup>16</sup> And it came to pass, that when all our enemies heard *thereof*, and all the heathen that *were* about us saw *these things*, they were much cast down in their own eyes: for they perceived that this work was wrought of our God.

<sup>17</sup> ¶ Moreover in those days the nobles of Judah sent many letters unto Tobiah, and *the letters* of Tobiah came unto them.

<sup>18</sup> For *there were* many in Judah sworn unto him, because he *was* the son in law of Shechaniah the son of Arah; and his son Johanan had taken the daughter of Meshullam the son of Berechiah.

<sup>19</sup> Also they reported his good deeds before me, and uttered my words to him. *And* Tobiah sent letters to put me in fear.