

October 16, 2022  
La Jolla Christian Fellowship  
**Rebuild // The Story of Nehemiah**  
**Episode 4: Know Your Enemy**  
Pastor Adam Stadtmiller

**Nehemiah 2:17-20**

*Then I said to them, "You see the trouble we are in: Jerusalem lies in ruins, and its gates have been burned with fire. Come, let us rebuild the wall of Jerusalem, and we will no longer be in disgrace."<sup>18</sup> I also told them about the gracious hand of my God on me and what the king had said to me. **They replied, "Let us start rebuilding." So they began this good work.**<sup>19</sup> **But when Sanballat the Horonite, Tobiah the Ammonite official and Geshem the Arab heard about it, they mocked and ridiculed us. "What is this you are doing?" they asked. "Are you rebelling against the king?"**<sup>20</sup> I answered them by saying, "The God of heaven will give us success. We his servants will start rebuilding, but as for you, you have no share in Jerusalem or any claim or historic right to it."*

**The enemy of your soul desires to keep the land of your promise in ruins.**

Like a city whose walls are broken through is a person who lacks self-control.  
**Proverbs 25:28**

**There are 3 types of people in the book of Nehemiah: Captives, Consorts and Conquerors**

- 1. Know your enemy.**
- 2. Start rebuilding.**

**Vs. 19** *But when Sanballat the Horonite, Tobiah the Ammonite official and Geshem the Arab heard about it, they mocked and ridiculed us. "What is this you are doing?" they asked. "Are you rebelling against the king?"*

- Sanballat, Tobiah, and Geshem were three enemies of the Jews who made several attempts to stop [Nehemiah](#) from rebuilding the walls of Jerusalem.

**"If you know the enemy and know yourself, you need not fear the result of a hundred battles. If you know yourself but not the enemy, for every victory gained you will also suffer a defeat. If you know neither the enemy nor yourself, you will succumb in every battle."** — Sun Tzu, [The Art of War](#)

**Vs. 20** *I answered them by saying, "The God of heaven will give us success. We his servants will start rebuilding, but as for you, you have no share in Jerusalem or any claim or historic right to it."*

- Satan never needs to oppose what you never begin to rebuild.
- No ground is ever taken without understanding your authority (In Christ).

**Small Group Questions:**

1. Pastor Adam said, "The enemy of your soul desires to keep the land of your promise in ruins." Do you feel you are living in the land of your promise?
2. What are the biggest walls keeping you from living in the land of your promise?
3. Satan never needs to oppose what you never begin. Is there something that you have failed to start?
4. What are you going to initiate in your life after hearing this message?
5. Give five words that the bible might use to describe your authority in Christ.