

# *Building = Battle*

Nehemiah 4-5

**Chapter 4** – External Enemies (TALK)

**Chapter 5** – Internal Enemies (GREED)

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## **Nehemiah 4:1**

Now it came about that when Sanballat heard that we were rebuilding the wall, he **fumed** and became **very angry** and **mocked** the Jews.

## How to Get Stupid ... In Three Easy Steps

1. Get angry
2. Get even more angry
3. Then start talking

1. “fumed” = **חָרָה** (*charah*) = “**heated**”
  2. “very angry” = **כַּעַס הַרְבֵּה** (*cas har'beih*)
  3. “mocked” = **לַעֲג** = “**stammer/splutter**”
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### Lies Stupid People Believe:

1. The Jews are feeble
2. They will never complete their work
3. God is not on their side
4. Their wall is trash

## ... the Bottomline

Angry people become stupid.

Stupid people tell themselves lies...

And believe them!

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### Nehemiah 4:6

So **we built the wall** and the whole wall was joined together to half its *height*, for the people had a mind to work.

### Nehemiah 6:15 – 16

So **the wall was completed** on the twenty-fifth of the month Elul, in fifty-two days. When all our enemies heard *of it*, and all the nations surrounding us saw *it*, they lost their confidence, for they recognized that this work had been accomplished with the help of our God.

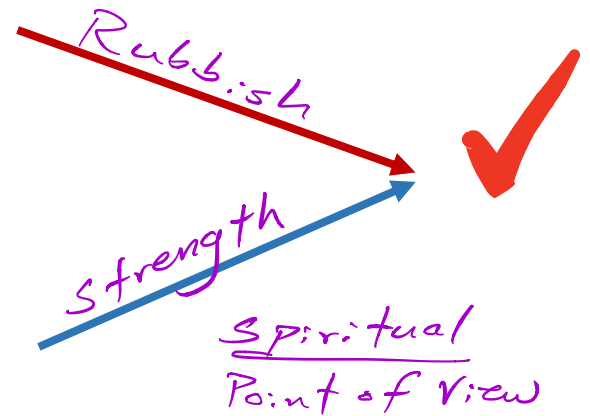
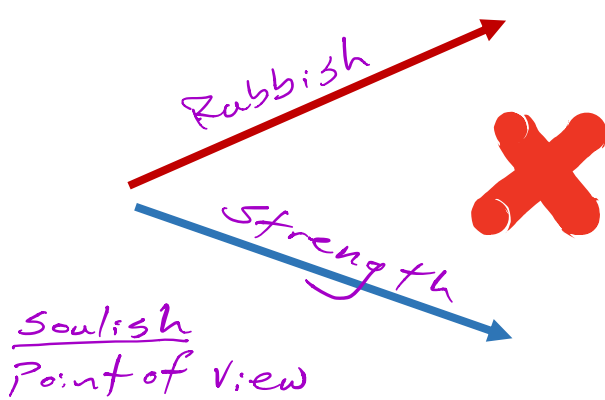
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## The first blues song (4:10):

*The strength of the hauler is failing,  
Yet there is much rubbish;  
And we ourselves are unable  
To rebuild the wall.*

## Two Opposite Attitudes:



↓  
תועה  
(to'ah)  
"confusion"  
"go astray"

or

↓  
תורה  
(Torah)

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Does **Nehemiah 4:11-23** feel familiar?

**It should!**

**It is a typical day in the life of a disciple:**

- The work seems mostly mundane
- Each is assigned his work ... near his home.
- There are threats and dangers at every turn.
- There are also helpful warnings.
- **COURAGE** is essential!
- We are part of something much bigger.
- We constantly listen for the trumpet call.

## **A Description of Our Work:**

### **Nehemiah 4:19**

“The work is large and extensive, and we are dispersed along the wall, distant from one another.”