

# Acting Upon an Invitation from God

## Nehemiah Lesson 6

*A Heart for God and God's People*

Spring 2019  
Don Godard

# Praying God's Word

**Psalm 37:5-6 Commit  
your way to the Lord;  
trust in him and he will  
do this:**

**He will make your  
righteous reward shine  
like the dawn,**

**your vindication like the  
noonday sun.**

# Review – Invitation from God Lessons 1-5

- God's people, the exiles, were in trouble
- God invited Nehemiah to help
- Nehemiah was ready to receive from God, his heart was right
- Nehemiah prayed and fasted (a lot)
- Nehemiah took the first step. Shared his heart with the king

# Seeking Support

2:4-8

- Why?
- How?
- God's role?

# Moving to Action

2:9

Was Nehemiah's action immediate or slow and deliberate? Why?

# Opposition

2:10, 19-20

Are Sanballat and Tobiah God's enemies?

What was Nehemiah's response to opposition?

# On the Scene Careful Inspection

2:11-16

- What can we learn from Nehemiah's inspection of the wall?

# The Wall After Rebuilding- Archeological Rendering



**Jerusalem**

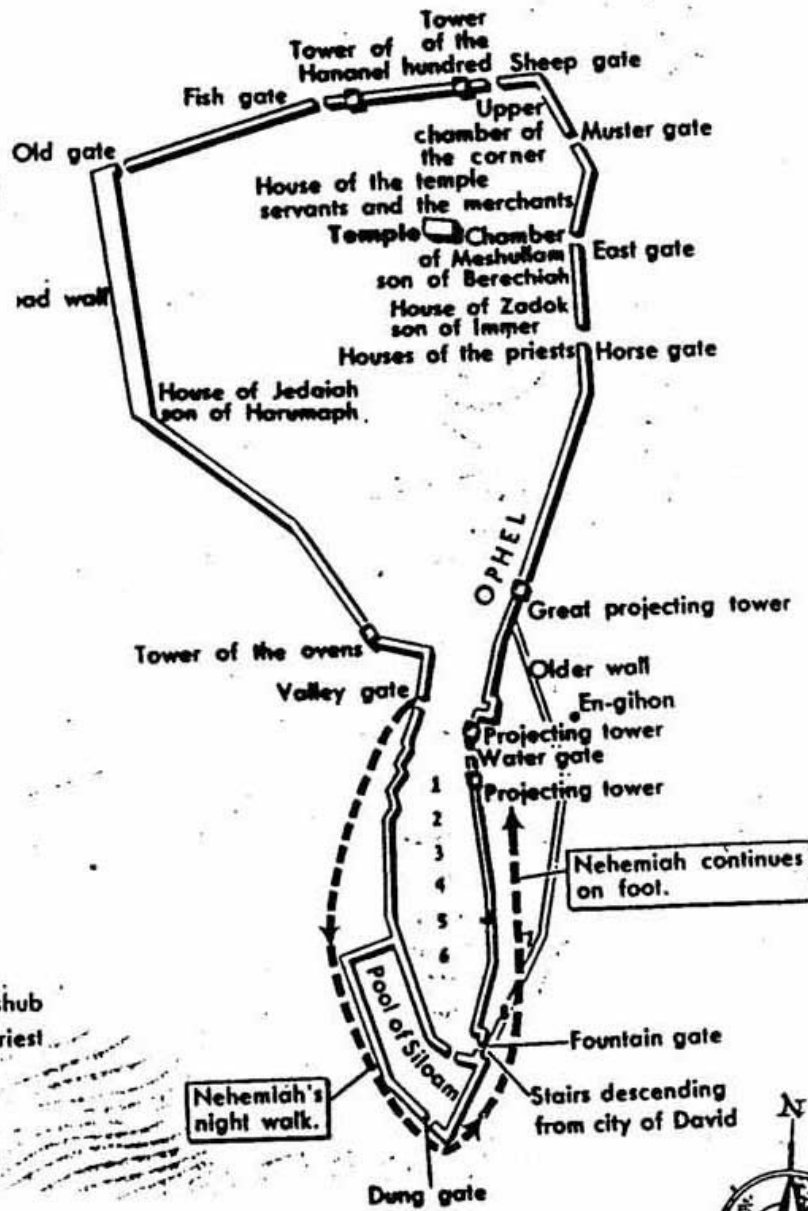
in the time of Nehemiah

© Rittmeyer Archaeological Design



# Nehemiah's Night Walk Around the Wall

**JERUSALEM IN THE DAYS  
OF THE RETURN**  
CA. 440 B.C.



- 1 Upper house of the king
- 2 House of Azariah
- 3 House of Benjamin and Hashhub
- 4 House of Eliashib the high priest
- 5 Ascent to the armory
- 6 House of the mighty men
- 7 Artificial pool
- 8 Sepulchres of David

0 50 100 150 yards



# Nehemiah's Inspection of the Wall – Night Walk



# Nehemiah's Wall – Excavated Section



# Wall Close-up – Note Different Stone Color



# Inviting Others to Come Along

2:17-18

How?

Why?

# Acting Upon God's Invitation – Testing the Waters-Summary

- Take the first step
- Seek support
- Move toward the work
- Opposition from the enemy
- On the scene careful inspection
- Inviting others to come along

# Doing God's Work (Together)

Observations from Chapter 3

# Opposition to God's Work

- External
  - 6:2 -4
  - What form of opposition is this?
  - How does Nehemiah handle it?



# Study Outline

Chapter	Topic
Intro	Backdrop
<b>1:1-3</b>	<b>Receiving an Invitation from God</b>
1&2	Praying and Acting on God's Invitation
3&4	Planning the Work God Gave us to Do
5	Leveraging Our Means to Accomplish God's Will
6&7	Persevering to Completion
8	Reviving Our Hearts Through God's Word
9&10,13	Remembering, Reflecting, Repenting, Restoring, Renewing (the Covenant)
11&12	Moving to God's Work Site, Dedicating Ourselves God