

Nehemiah's response to opposition - Principles against discouragement

1.) First level opposition(2:19)

mocking and ridiculing

Nehemiah's response(2:20)

God will give us success and we
are going to start building

====> **Confidence in God.** Nehemiah asked God for success (1:11). There is no
need for him, to be intimidated by people

2.) Second level opposition (4:1)

Sanballat was very angry, greatly
enraged he mocked the Jews

Nehemiah's response (4:4-6)

N. asks God for revenge
keeps building to half the height
focus on work not on revenge

====> **Right focus:** Instead of focusing on the problems, Nehemiah focused on the
accomplishments. Half the wall is already finished.

3.) Third level of opposition (4:7+8)

Sanballat and Tobiah were very angry
and all plotted together to come and
fight against Jerusalem

Nehemiah's response (4:9)

Prayer
set up a guard

====> **Praying and taking actions** do not contradict each other

4.) Fourth level of opposition (4:12)

The Jews believe in the threat

Nehemiah's response (4:13)

stationed people with swords,
spears, bows
N. calms the people down 'Do not
be afraid ...'

====> **Do not be afraid**

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