

NEHEMIAH 6:1-19

Growing In-Spite of Distractions



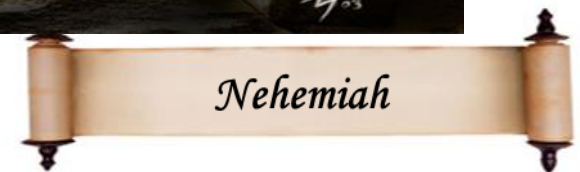
Nehemiah

NEHEMIAH 6:1-19

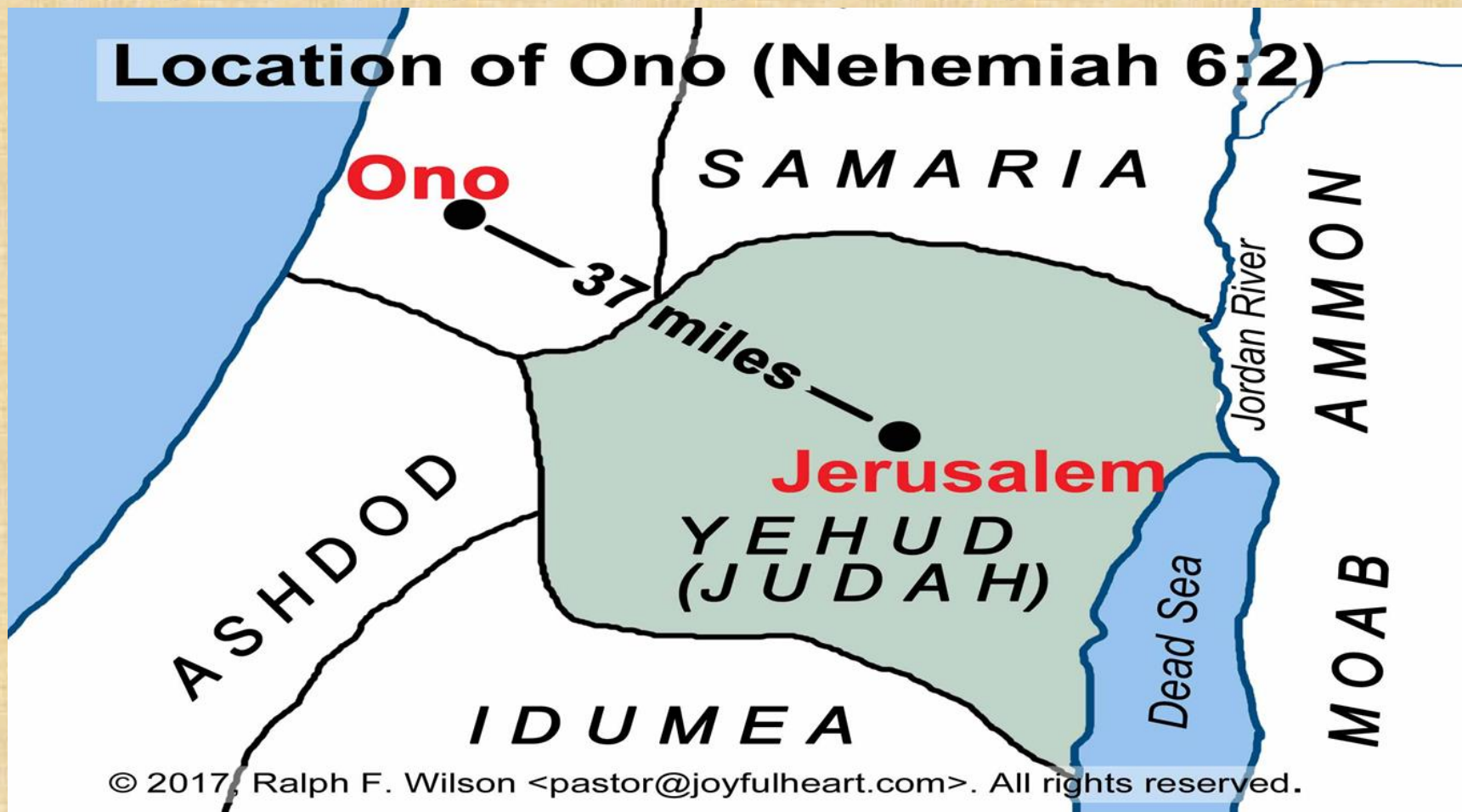
1. The plot to kidnap Nehemiah and his response (vs. 1-4)
2. The plot to malign/slander Nehemiah and his response (vs. 5-9)
3. The plot to intimidate Nehemiah and his response (vs. 10-14)
4. The plot to undermine Nehemiah and the outcome (vs. 15-19)



1. The plot to kidnap Nehemiah and his response (1-4)



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- This could delay the work giving the enemy more time to find more permanent ways to stop the work.
- This could avail an opportunity for the enemy to attack the city in the absence of the governor.
- This again was an opportunity for them to harm Nehemiah
- And one effective way was to kidnap the leader, kill him and scatter the rest.



1. The plot to kidnap Nehemiah and his response (1-4)

- Nehemiah's response was a no, no.
- If I say:
- I am doing a great job and I cannot come down.
- I cannot lower my standards and neither can I leave my guard post.

If we could say:

- Why should I leave the work and stop while I attend to useless distractions.
- First, It was discernment



2. The plot to malign Nehemiah and his response (5-9)

An Open Letter!

To the person who stole my wallet

I know you probably won't read this
And I know you may not care

We arrived in your beautiful city
on 14 July at 14:00. By boat #1
I became your next victim.

This is my last trip with my wife
I'm dying from cancer.
You left me with no money and
no credit cards. Imagine for only
a moment what this does to
me.

Nehemiah

2. The plot to malign Nehemiah and his response (5-9)

- That Nehemiah and the Jews wanted to rebel
- That he wanted to become king in Judah.
- That he had appointed prophets to proclaim about him
- The letter was to cause people to mistrust Nehemiah
- It was to lure Nehemiah out to execute, the kidnapping.
- Nehemiah was prayerful.



2. The plot to malign Nehemiah and his response (5-9)

- He had a conviction which led him to be consistency in his responses.
- Nehemiah had consistency.
- Nehemiah had conviction
- Nehemiah was prayerful.
- Jesus was consistent in his responses to the devil (Matt 4:1-11)



3. The plot to intimidate Nehemiah and his response (10-14)



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- **But he was courageous to say no even if it meant that the enemy could attack**
- **So, Nehemiah's forth secret was courage**
- **Jesus said, '....love your enemy...' (Matt 5:44)**



4. The plot to undermine Nehemiah and his response (15-19)

- **Letters were going back and forth, from the enemy to the nobles and vice versa gossiping about Nehemiah.**
- **Some commented positively about the enemy in the ears of Nehemiah**
- **Others among them would sell information on strategy to the enemy.**
- **Discernment, conviction, consistency, prayer and courage helped him to finish his mission**



4. The plot to undermine Nehemiah and his response (15-19)

- Nehemiah responded with discernment.
- Nehemiah responded with consistency.
- Nehemiah responded with conviction.
- Nehemiah responded with prayer.
- Nehemiah responded with courage.



4. The plot to undermine Nehemiah and his response (15-19)



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The Ruins!



Nehemiah

4. The plot to undermine Nehemiah and his response (15-19)

- For CBC to grow, it needs members full of discernment.
- For CBC to grow, it needs members full of consistency.
- For CBC to grow, it needs members full of conviction
- For CBC to grow, it needs members who pray without ceasing.
- For CBC to grow, it needs members who are courageous.
- Ephesian 4:11-16



4. The plot to undermine Nehemiah and his response (15-19)

- A discerning, consistent, convicted, prayerful and courageous follower of Christ will grow inspite of distractions**
- A discerning, consistent , convicted, prayerful and courageous church will grow inspite of distractions**

