

## Lesson X.

## NEHEMIAH REBUILDS THE WALL OF JERUSALEM December 3, 1911

Nehemiah 4 : 6-18. Study Nehemiah, ch. 4—Memory Verses, 16, 17.

**Golden Text**—Watch ye, stand fast in the faith, quit you like men, be strong.—1 Corinthians 16 : 13.

6 So built we the wall; and all the wall was joined together unto the half thereof : for the people had a mind to work.

7 But it came to pass, *that* when Sanbal'lat, and Tobi'ah, and the Ara'bians, and the Am'monites, and the Ash'dodites, heard that the walls of Jeru'salem were made up, *and* that the breaches began to be stopped, then they were very wroth,

8 And conspired all of them together to come *and* to fight against Jeru'salem, and to hinder it.

9 Nevertheless we made our prayer unto our God, and set a watch against them day and night, because of them.

10 And Ju'dah said, The strength of the bearers of burdens is decayed, and *there is* much rubbish ; so that we are not able to build the wall.

11 And our adversaries said, They shall not know, neither see, till we come in the midst among them, and slay them, and cause the work to cease.

12 And it came to pass, that when the Jews which dwelt by them came, they said unto us ten times, From all places whence ye shall

return unto us *they will be upon you*. 13 Therefore set I in the lower places behind the wall, *and* on the higher places, I even set the people after their families with their swords, their spears, and their bows. 14 And I looked, and rose up, and said unto the nobles, and to the rulers, and to the rest of the people, Be not ye afraid of them : remember the Lord, *which is* great and terrible, and fight for your brethren, your sons, and your daughters, your wives, and your houses. 15 And it came to pass, when our enemies heard that it was known unto us, and God had brought their counsel to nought, that we returned all of us to the wall, every one unto his work. 16 And it came to pass from that time forth, *that* the half of my servants wrought in the work, and the other half of them held both the spears, the shields, and the bows, and the habergeons ; and the rulers *were* behind all the house of Ju'dah. 17 They which builded on the wall, and they that bare burdens, with those that laded, *every one* with one of his hands wrought in the work, and with the other *hand* held a weapon. 18 For the builders, every one had his sword girded by his side, and *so* builded. And he that sounded the trumpet *was* by me.

## THE LESSON RETOLD

King Artaxerxes very willingly allowed Nehemiah to go back to Jerusalem, as he asked, to build up the walls of the city. So Nehemiah came to Jerusalem, where he was so strengthened by God's promise to help him, that he put new life and spirit into the people, and immediately they began to repair their ruined walls ; every one helped,—the priests, the Levites, and all the people, women, as well as men.

Now there were two wicked men who were enemies of the Jews. Their names were Sanballat and Tobiah. These men were

angry when they saw what the people of Judah were doing, and they planned together to go along with other enemies, and fight against them suddenly, and so hinder their work. But the Jews were told of their coming, and made ready for them.

And when their enemies heard that the Jews had thus made ready for them, they did not come up against the city. After that, half of Nehemiah's servants worked on the building of the wall, while the other half watched, well armed ; and all those who were building carried their swords, some in