

approach of the enemy. **Remember the Lord . . . and fight.** He appeals to their love of God, of home and of country.

16-18. **My servants**; either a band of

trusty slaves, or his body-guard (2. 23). **Habergeons**; coats of mail. **Rulers**; the loyal nobles. **Were behind**; stationed near to command the defending forces.

ASK YOURSELF

Juniors

7, 8. What was Nehemiah's errand to Jerusalem? Who opposed?

9-12. To whom did Nehemiah and his friends pray? What else did they do?

10. Who objected? (v. 10). Why? What was their objection? What did their adversaries say? What did outside Jews suggest? (See Revised Version.) How often?

13, 14. How did he arrange the people? For what purpose? To whom did Nehemiah then speak? What did he say? How is God described? Does God fight for His people? (Ex. 14: 26-30.)

15, 16. What had God done? What did the people do? How were the men divided? How did Nehemiah's servants work?

17, 18. How did those who carried burdens manage their weapons? Those who build? In what respects should we imitate them? (Phil. 1: 28; 1 Cor. 16: 13.)

PRACTICAL

1. When we are doing what is right, opposition should only make us more determined.

2. Anger is a sign of weakness, not of strength. (v. 7.)

3. "Trust in God and keep your powder dry" is a good fighting maxim.

7-12. Describe Nehemiah's plan, Chap. 3 and Chap. 4-6. Why was prayer made? What accompanied it? (Luke 21, 36.) In character building what rubbish should be cleared away? What are some motives to watchfulness? (1 Pet. 5: 8.) How should we watch? (Eph. 6: 18; Col. 4: 2.)

13, 14. What characteristic of God here mentioned? To what should the knowledge of God's anger lead? (Jer. 4: 8; Matt. 3: 8-10.) How does God defend His people? (Job 22: 25; Psa. 5: 11; Ps. 89: 18.)

15, 16. What had stopped the work? What were the "habergeons"? Name some other ancient armor. What were the rulers doing?

17, 18. How was the opposition overcome? What treacherous act done by Sanballat? (Chap. 3: 1-9.) What did he do next? Why so base? What was Nehemiah's noble reply? (Chap. 4: 10-13.)

4. Friends so often unite with foes to discourage Christian workers. (v. 12.)

5. Man proposes, but God disposes.

6. The Christian must always go armed; his foes are persistent and strong,—the world, the flesh and the devil.

FOR WRITTEN ANSWERS

1. Who opposed the rebuilding of the walls?

2. What were Nehemiah's plans for carrying on the work?

3. Describe a fully armed Christian (Eph. 6: 13-17).