

# Sermon Notes

## REFORMING THE CHURCH

Spiritual opposition from the world

*Nehemiah 4; Ephesians 6.10-20*

### Message of Nehemiah

In response to God's gracious deliverance and trusting his promises and in his providence, God's people are to prayerfully submit to God's Word and work strategically and with vision for spiritual reformation.

#### Chapters 4.1-7.4

|             |                                                                                                      |
|-------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Overall -   | God's people face spiritual opposition in the work of spiritual reformation, but the work gets done. |
| Ch.4        | God's people face spiritual opposition from the world.                                               |
| Ch.5        | God's people face spiritual opposition, division and problems from within.                           |
| Ch.6.1-14   | The leaders of God's people face spiritual opposition from the world.                                |
| Ch.6.15-7.4 | <u>The work gets done.</u>                                                                           |

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- (1) Spiritual opposition is inevitable (vv1-3; 7-8)
- (2) Prayer is crucial (vv4, 9)
- (3) Exhaustion, discouragement and fear are understandable (vv10-12)
- (4) Inspirational, decisive and compassionate leadership is instrumental (vv13-14)
- (5) Unity, hard work, vigilance and fighting are essential (vv15-20)
- (6) Sacrificial service is inescapable (vv21-23)
- (7) The Lord Jesus is invincible (vv4, 9, 14, 15, 20; 6.15-16)