

## Nehemiah 6:1-19 **Attempts to draw Nehemiah from Jerusalem**

### Conspiracy Against Nehemiah

1 Now it happened when Sanballat, Tobiah, Geshem the Arab, and the rest of our enemies heard that I had rebuilt the wall, and that there were no breaks left in it (though at that time I had not hung the doors in the gates),

2 that Sanballat and Geshem sent to me, saying, "Come, let us meet together among the villages in the plain of Ono." But they thought to do me harm.

3 So I sent messengers to them, saying, "I am doing a great work, so that I cannot come down. Why should the work cease while I leave it and go down to you?"

4 But they sent me this message four times, and I answered them in the same manner.

5 Then Sanballat sent his servant to me as before, the fifth time, with an open letter in his hand.

6 In it was written:

It is reported among the nations, and Geshem says, that you and the Jews plan to rebel; therefore, according to these rumors, you are rebuilding the wall, that you may be their king.

7 And you have also appointed prophets to proclaim concerning you at Jerusalem, saying, "There is a king in Judah!" Now these matters will be reported to the king. So come, therefore, and let us consult together.

8 Then I sent to him, saying, "No such things as you say are being done, but you invent them in your own heart."

9 For they all were trying to make us afraid, saying, "Their hands will be weakened in the work, and it will not be done."

Now therefore, O Elohiym (God), strengthen my hands.

10 Afterward I came to the house of Shemaiah the son of Delaiah, the son of Mehetabel, who was a secret informer; and he said, "Let us meet together in Beit Elohiym (the house of God), within the temple, and let us close the doors of the temple, for they are coming to kill you; indeed, at night they will come to kill you."

11 And I said, "Should such a man as I flee? And who is there such as I who would go into the temple to save his life? I will not go in!"

12 Then I perceived that Elohiym (God) had not sent him at all, but that he pronounced this prophecy against me because Tobiah and Sanballat had hired him.

13 For this reason he was hired, that I should be afraid and act that way and sin, so that they might have cause for an evil report, that they might reproach me.

14 Elohay (My God), remember Tobiah and Sanballat, according to these their works, and the prophetess Noadiah and the rest of the prophets who would have made me afraid.

### The Wall Completed

15 So the wall was finished on the twenty-fifth day of Elul, in fifty-two days.

16 And it happened, when all our enemies heard of it, and all the nations around us saw these things, that they were very disheartened in their own eyes; for they perceived that this work was done by

Eloheynu (our God).

17 Also in those days the nobles of Judah sent many letters to Tobiah, and the letters of Tobiah came to them.

18 For many in Judah were pledged to him, because he was the son-in-law of Shechaniah the son of Arah, and his son Jehohanan had married the daughter of Meshullam the son of Berechiah.

19 Also they reported his good deeds before me, and reported my words to him. Tobiah sent letters to frighten me.

NKJV

Facts Revealed:

### Conspiracy Against Nehemiah [\[Nehemiah 6:1-14\]](#)

- ☞ Sanballat the Horonite, Tobiah the Ammonite official, and Geshem the Arab were governors of the region beyond the River in the kingdom of Persia. [\[Nehemiah 2:19\]](#)
- ☞ Artaxerxes king of Persia made Nehemiah governor of Judah. [\[Nehemiah 5:14\]](#)
- ☞ Seeking to kill Nehemiah quietly, Sanballat, Tobiah, and Geshem attempted to lure Nehemiah away from Jerusalem by sending him letters and messengers inviting him to meet them in villages in the plain of Ono and threatening to charge him by reporting his rebellion to the king. [\[Nehemiah 6:1-7\]](#)
- ✧ Nehemiah saw through their deceit and refused to meet them secretly and prayed to Elohiym for strength. [\[Nehemiah 6:3, 8-9\]](#)
- ✧ Shemaiah was a secret informer who Tobiah and Sanballat hired to suggest he and Nehemiah should seek protection in Beit Elohiym (the Temple). [\[Nehemiah 6:10\]](#)
- ✧ Nehemiah refused to seek refuge in the Temple to save his life. [\[Nehemiah 6:11-13\]](#)
- ✧ Nehemiah prayed for Elohay to repay Tobiah, Sanballat, and Noadiah and the rest of the prophets according to their works. [\[Nehemiah 6:14\]](#)

### The Wall Completed [\[Nehemiah 6:15-19\]](#)

- ✧ The wall was finished on the twenty-fifth day of Elul, in fifty-two days. [\[Nehemiah 6:15\]](#)
- ✧ The completion of the wall disheartened the enemies because they perceived that the work was done by Eloheynu. [\[Nehemiah 6:16\]](#)
- ✧ The nobles of Judah exchanged many letters with Tobiah because he was son-in-law of Shechaniah the keeper of the East Gate. They reported his good deeds to Nehemiah and reported the words of Nehemiah to him. [\[Nehemiah 6:17-18, 3:29\]](#)
- ✧ Tobiah sent letters to frighten Nehemiah. [\[Nehemiah 6:19\]](#)