

Beware of the Persistence of Evil

The book of Nehemiah not only tells the story of a wall that was built, but an enemy that pursued Israel's _____ before, during, and after it was built.

Tobiah, and the others are a picture of Satan and his demons, in their attack on us today.

How close is evil to you?

... *But if you do not do what is right, sin is crouching at your door; it desires to have you, but you must rule over it.* Genesis 4:7

Observation: The enemy didn't make much noise until God's people were making _____.

Truth: The enemy's first wave of attack was *D*eception, *D*iscouragement and *D*_____.
[2:10 & 19; 4:3, 7-8; 6:1-2, 10, 12]

Observation: The enemy wasn't _____.
Even after the success of the wall being built,
he didn't go away!

Nehemiah 13:4-9

Observation: The enemy, for a time, seemed _____,
yet targeted leadership.

Truth: The enemy moves in and takes what should _____ to God.

His House 13: 9

Nehemiah 13:10-12, 15, 23-25

His Gifts 13: 10

We assume the responsibility for carrying out the commands to give a third of a shekel^a each year for the service of the house of our God: Neh. 10:32

His Day 13: 15

When the neighboring peoples bring merchandise or grain to sell on the Sabbath, we will not buy from them on the Sabbath or on any holy day. . . . Neh 10:31

His People 13: 23

We promise not to give our daughters in marriage to the peoples around us or take their daughters for our sons. Neh. 10:30

Observation: Those who stand up to the enemy may end up looking like the _____ guy.
[5: 19; 13:14, 22, 29, 31]

*Therefore rejoice, you heavens and you who dwell in them!
But woe to the earth and the sea,
because the devil has gone down to you!
He is filled with fury, because he knows that his time is short.*
Revelation 12:12

Optional Readings:

Notice the battle with evil and a tendency to wickedness.

Psalm 37 & 97 **Prov.** 6, 15, 17, 21 **Jer.** 17
Matt. 15 **John** 3 **Rom.** 12 **Gal.** 5 **Eph.** 2 & 6 **Col.** 1