HOW TO AVOID DEFEAT AFTER SPIRITUAL SUCCESS LEARNING FROM NEHEMIAH'S EXAMPLE Nehemiah 6:15-19

I. REMEMBER THE LORD BROUGHT ABOUT YOUR SUCCESS AND GIVE HIM ALL THE GLORY (15-16)

A. The Victory (15-16a)

- 1. The Wall is successfully completed in 52 days! (15)
- 2. All their outright enemies were greatly disheartened by what the Lord did (16a)
- B. Don't forget Who gave you success and give Him all the glory (16b, Misc. passages)

II. REALIZE THIS BATTLE MAY BE OVER, BUT WE WILL CONTINUE TO BE OPPOSED and attacks may come from where you do not expect (17-19)

- A. Tobiah the Ammonite official infiltrated Judah through marriage, and through their family loyalty they were willingly used to undermine and attack Nehemiah (17-19a)
- B. The goal was to frighten Nehemiah (19b)

C. Principles we must be instructed by and not forget...

- 1. Understand with spiritual success comes more temporal opposition
- 2. Realize leaders will be attacked
- 3. Be on guard, opposition might come in a manner we do not expect
- 4. We can become part of the opposition if we choose loyalty to family over Christ