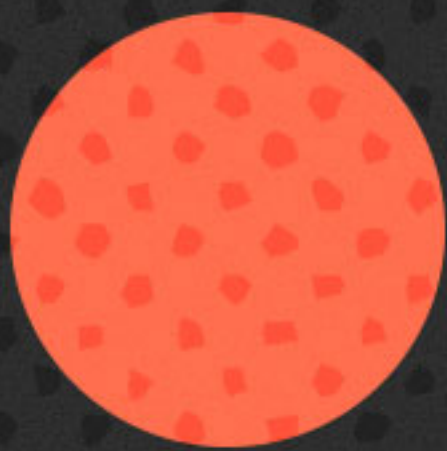
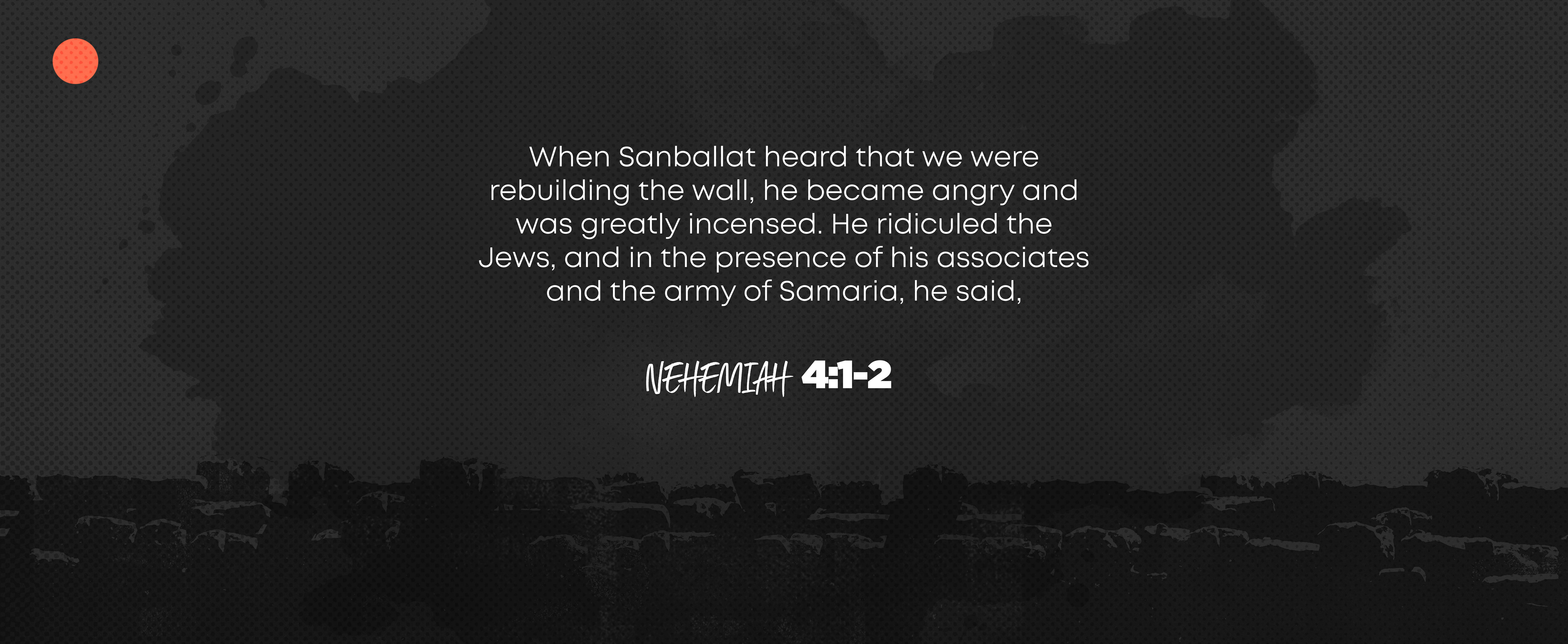


TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READING
NEHEMIAH 4:1-6



When Sanballat heard that we were
rebuilding the wall, he became angry and
was greatly incensed. He ridiculed the
Jews, and in the presence of his associates
and the army of Samaria, he said,

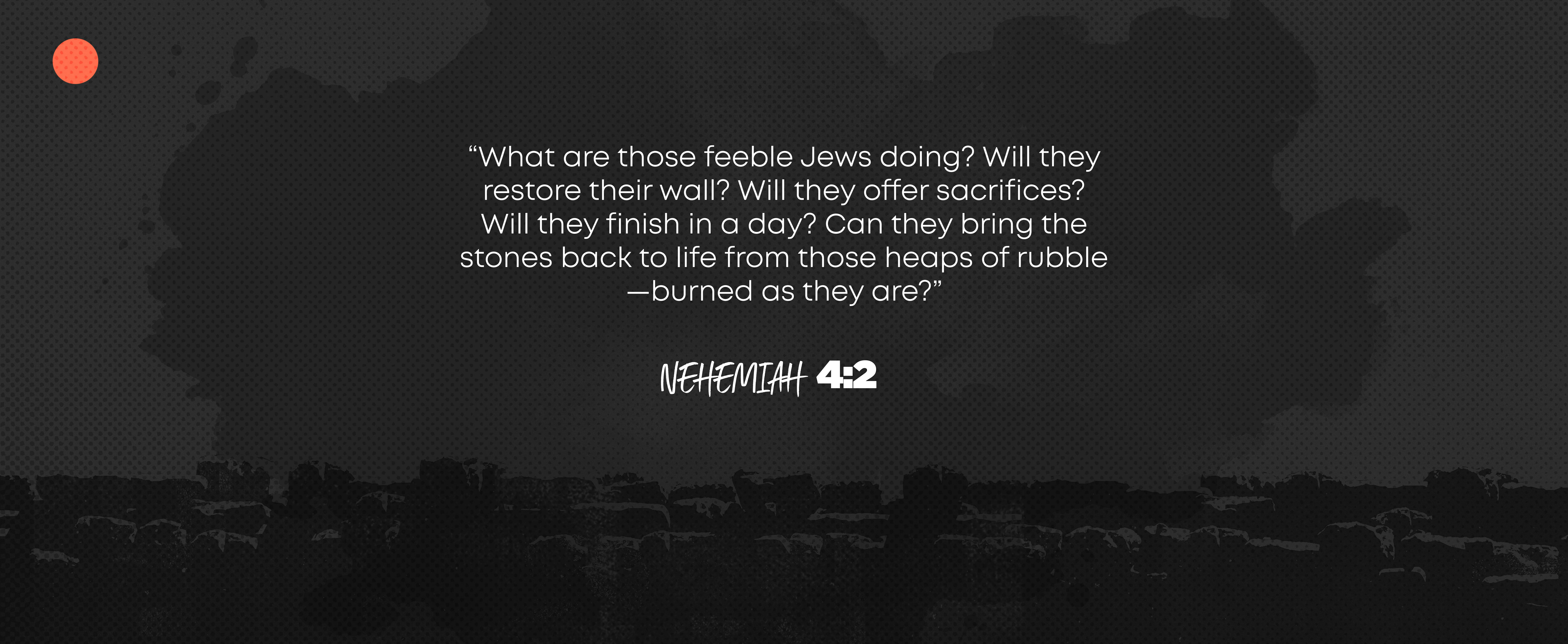
NEHEMIAH **4:1-2**

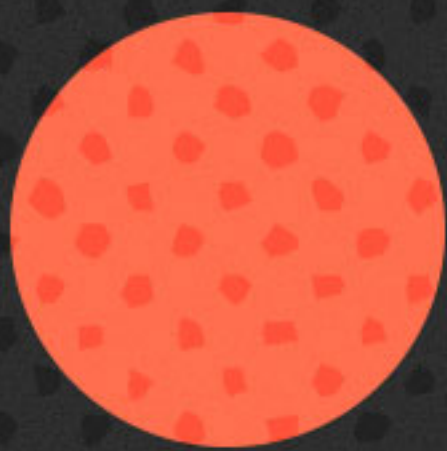




“What are those feeble Jews doing? Will they
restore their wall? Will they offer sacrifices?
Will they finish in a day? Can they bring the
stones back to life from those heaps of rubble
—burned as they are?”

NEHEMIAH **4:2**

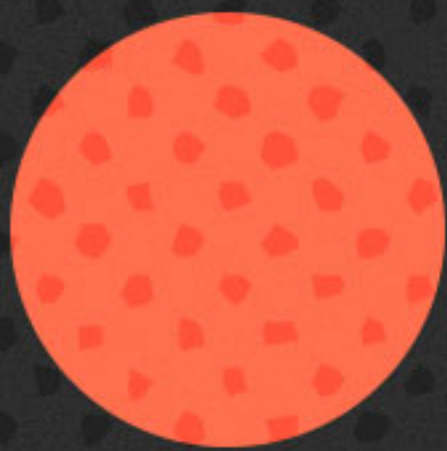




Hear us, our God, for we are despised. Turn
their insults back on their own heads. Give
them over as plunder in a land of captivity.

NEHEMIAH **4:4**





Do not cover up their guilt or blot out their
sins from your sight, for they have thrown
insults in the face of the builders.

NEHEMIAH **4:5**



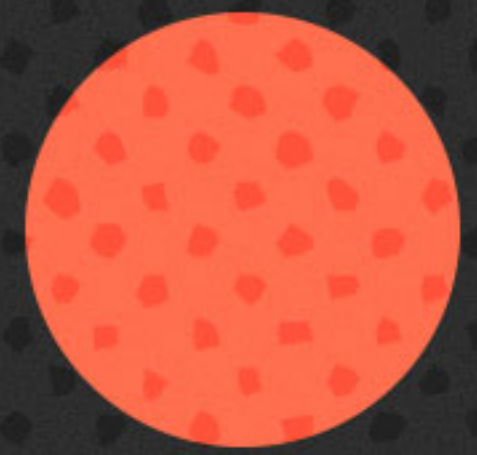


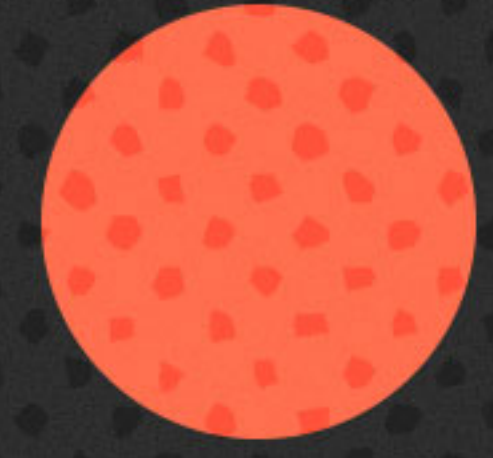
So we rebuilt the wall till all of it
reached half its height, for the
people worked with all their heart.

NEHEMIAH **4:6**



DOWN
RISE UP
BUILD





**“DON’T LET *SATAN*
GET IN YOUR WAY.”**

RYE *CUTSHALL*

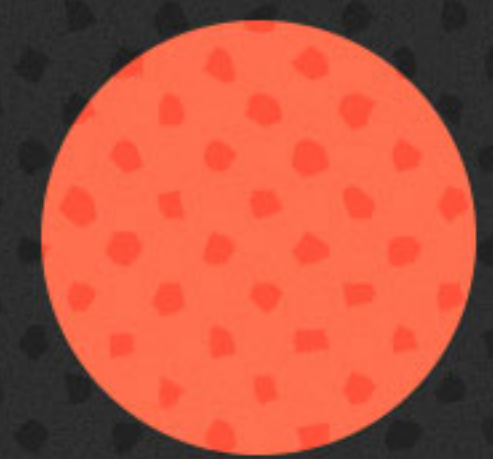


3 WAYS THAT NEHEMIAH RESPONDS TO OPPOSITION:

01. NEHEMIAH **PRAYS**
02. NEHEMIAH **PERCEIVES**
03. NEHEMIAH **PROTECTS**
& **PRESSES** FORWARD



WHEN FACED WITH OPPOSITION,
NEHEMIAH'S
FIRST LINE OF
DEFENSE IS PRAYER.



Hear us, our God, for we are despised...
But we **prayed to our God** and posted a
guard day and night to meet this threat.

NEHEMIAH **4:4,9**

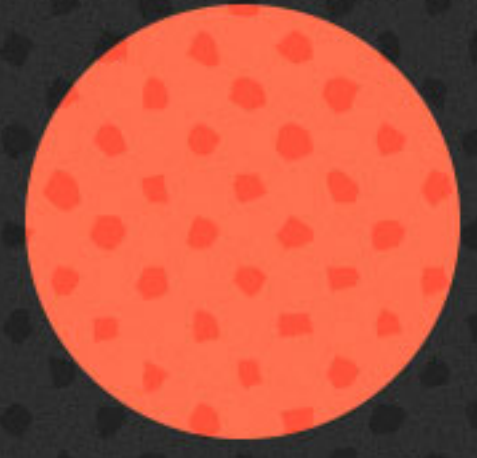




**“BELIEVER, WHEN YOU ARE ON
YOUR KNEES, REMEMBER YOU
ARE GOING TO *A KING*. LET YOUR
PETITIONS BE LARGE.”**

CHARLES SPURGEON



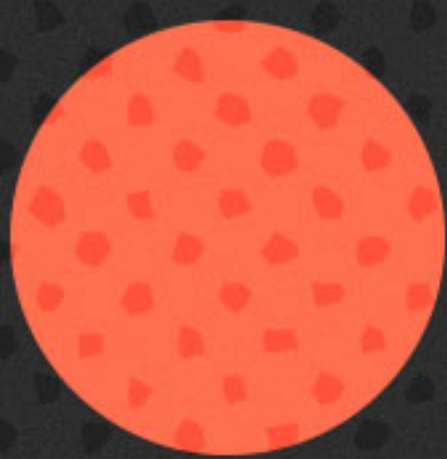


**THIS, THEN, IS HOW
YOU SHOULD PRAY:**

*"OUR FATHER IN HEAVEN,
HALLOWED BE YOUR NAME"*

MATTHEW 6:9





**“PRAY AS THOUGH
EVERYTHING
DEPENDDED *ON GOD.*
WORK AS THOUGH
EVERYTHING
DEPENDDED *ON YOU.*”**





WHEN FACED WITH OPPOSITION,
NEHEMIAH
PERCEIVES
THE THREAT.



**WHEN GOD PUTS A CALL ON
YOUR *LIFE*, THE ENEMY PUTS
A TARGET ON YOUR *BACK*.**

...in order that Satan might not outwit us.
For we are not unaware of his schemes.

2 CORINTHIANS **2:11**



YOUR ENEMY IS NOT OTHER *PEOPLE.*

For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.

EPHESIANS **6:12**



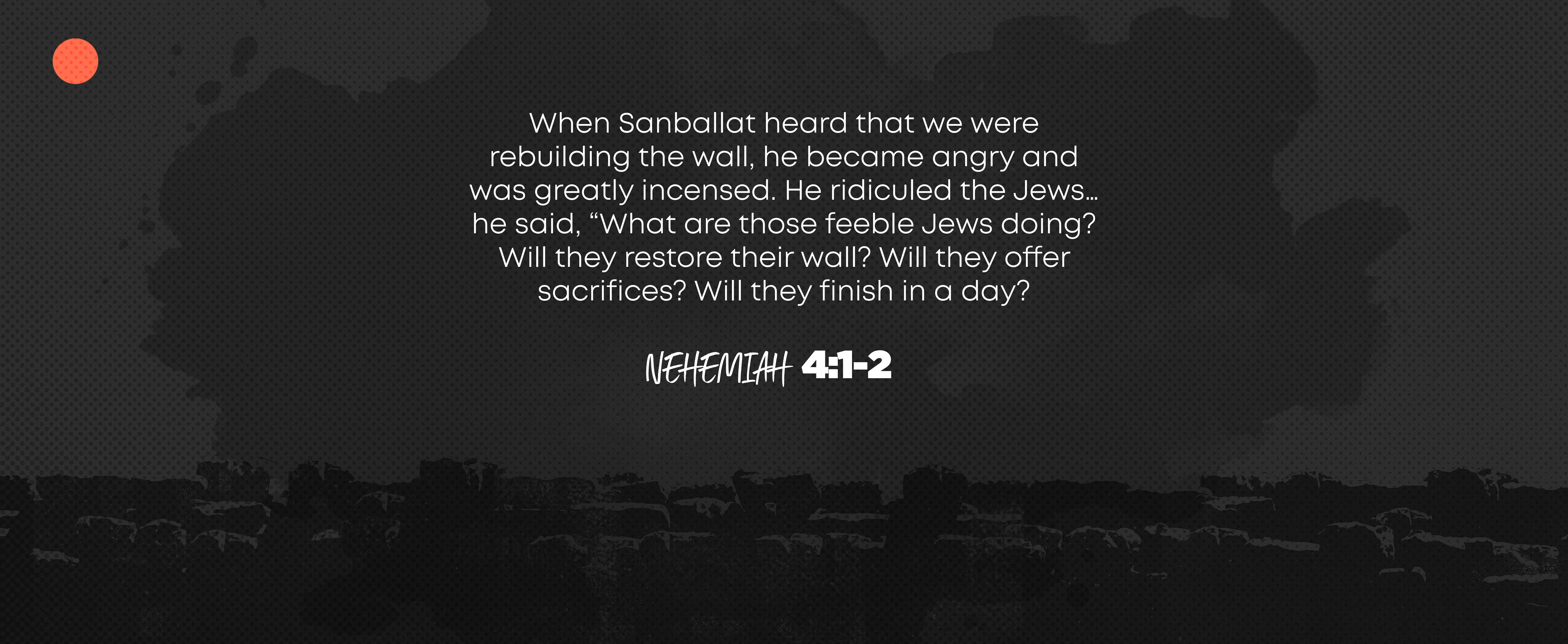
**NOT ALL OPPOSITION WE
FACE IS AN *ATTACK* FROM THE
ENEMY. SOMETIMES IT'S *PRUNING*
SHEARS FROM THE FATHER.**





When Sanballat heard that we were
rebuilding the wall, he became angry and
was greatly incensed. He ridiculed the Jews...
he said, “What are those feeble Jews doing?
Will they restore their wall? Will they offer
sacrifices? Will they finish in a day?

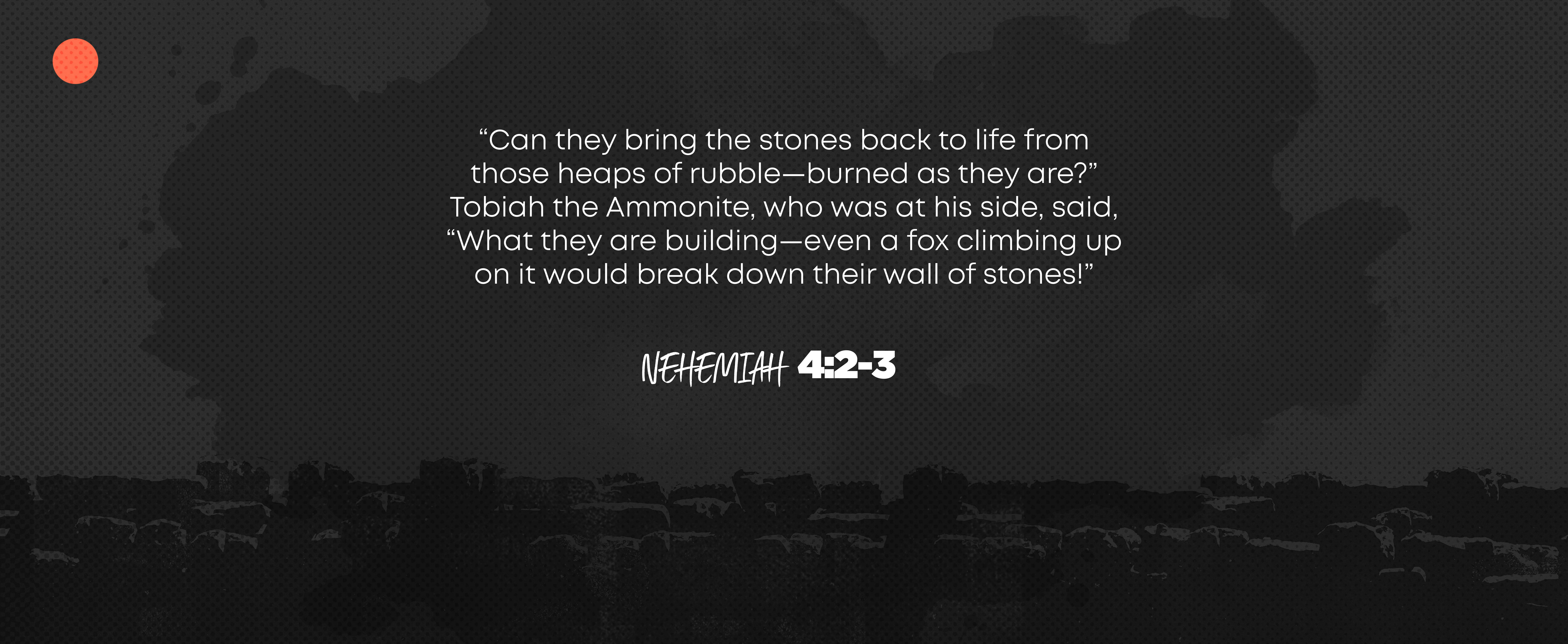
NEHEMIAH **4:1-2**





“Can they bring the stones back to life from those heaps of rubble—burned as they are?”
Tobiah the Ammonite, who was at his side, said,
“What they are building—even a fox climbing up on it would break down their wall of stones!”

NEHEMIAH **4:2-3**



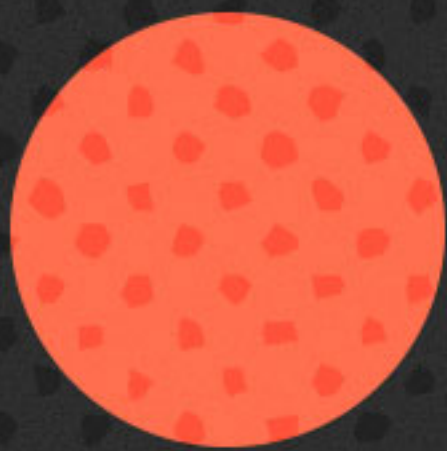


**“SO WE REBUILT
THE WALL... FOR THE
PEOPLE WORKED
WITH ALL THEIR *HEART.*”**

NEHEMIAH 4:6





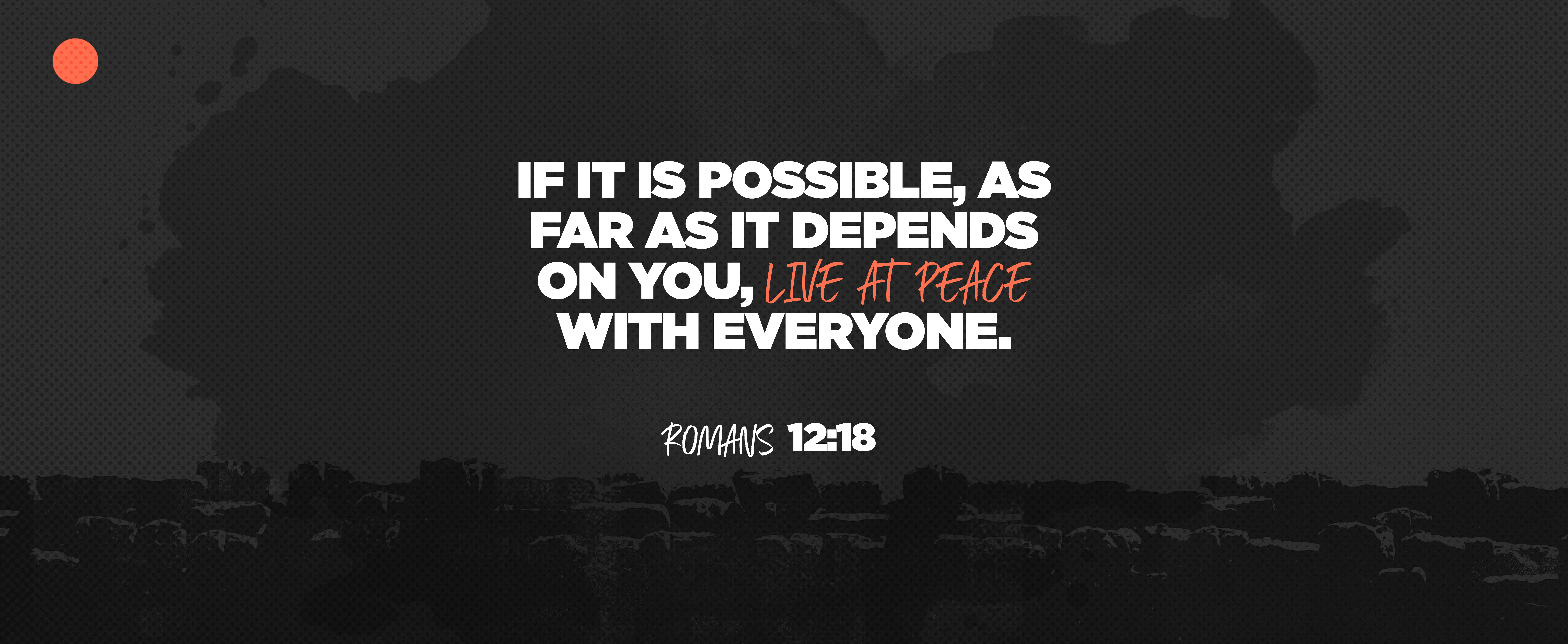


**BEING OFFENDED IS
INEVITABLE, BUT STAYING
OFFENDED IS A *CHOICE.***

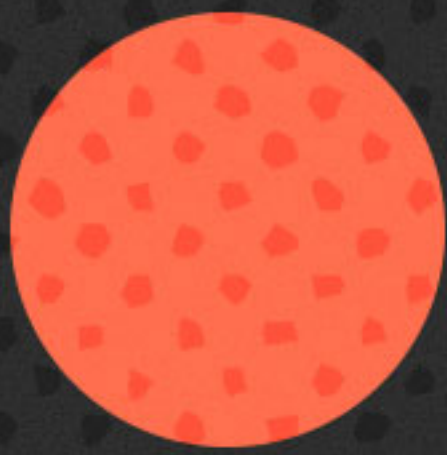


IF IT IS POSSIBLE, AS
FAR AS IT DEPENDS
ON YOU, *LIVE AT PEACE*
WITH EVERYONE.

ROMANS 12:18







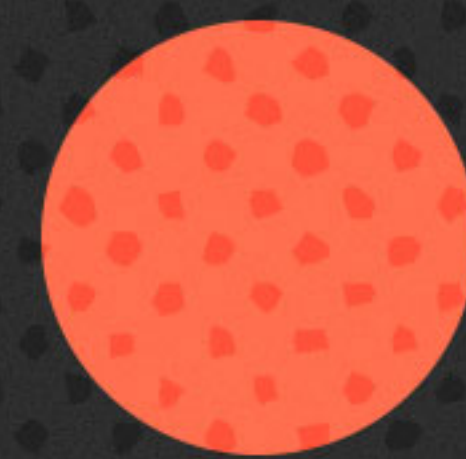
**“THERE’S NOT ALWAYS
THE RIGHT THING TO SAY,
BUT THERE IS THE RIGHT
THING TO DO, AND IT’S
TO SAY SOMETHING.”**

-HUBBY





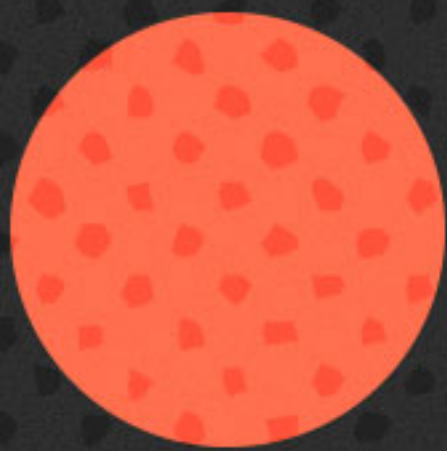
**THE OUTCOME
IS NOT THE
ASSIGNMENT.
OBEDIENCE IS.**



Make every effort to live in peace with everyone and to be holy; without holiness no one will see the Lord. See to it that no one falls short of the grace of God and that no bitter root grows up to cause trouble and defile many.

HEBREWS **12:14-15**



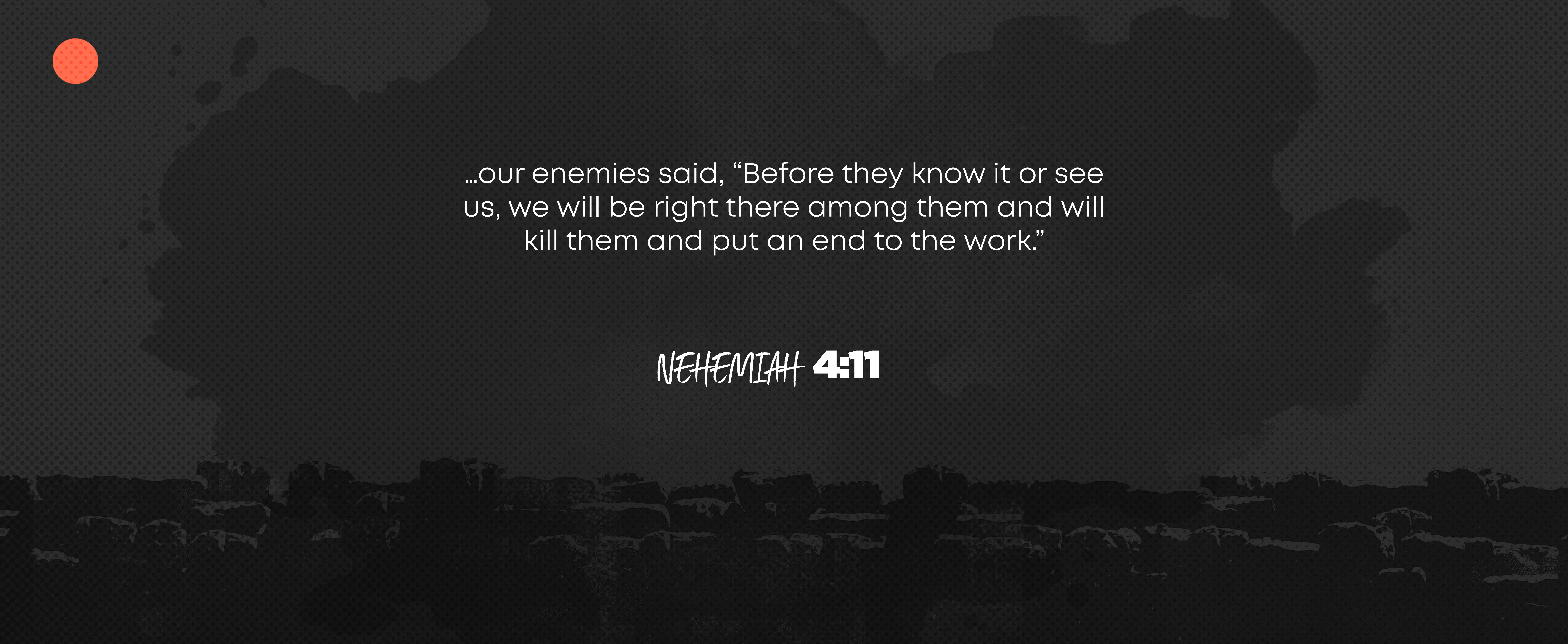


WHEN FACED WITH OPPOSITION,
NEHEMIAH PROTECTS
AND PRESSES
FORWARD.



...our enemies said, “Before they know it or see us, we will be right there among them and will kill them and put an end to the work.”

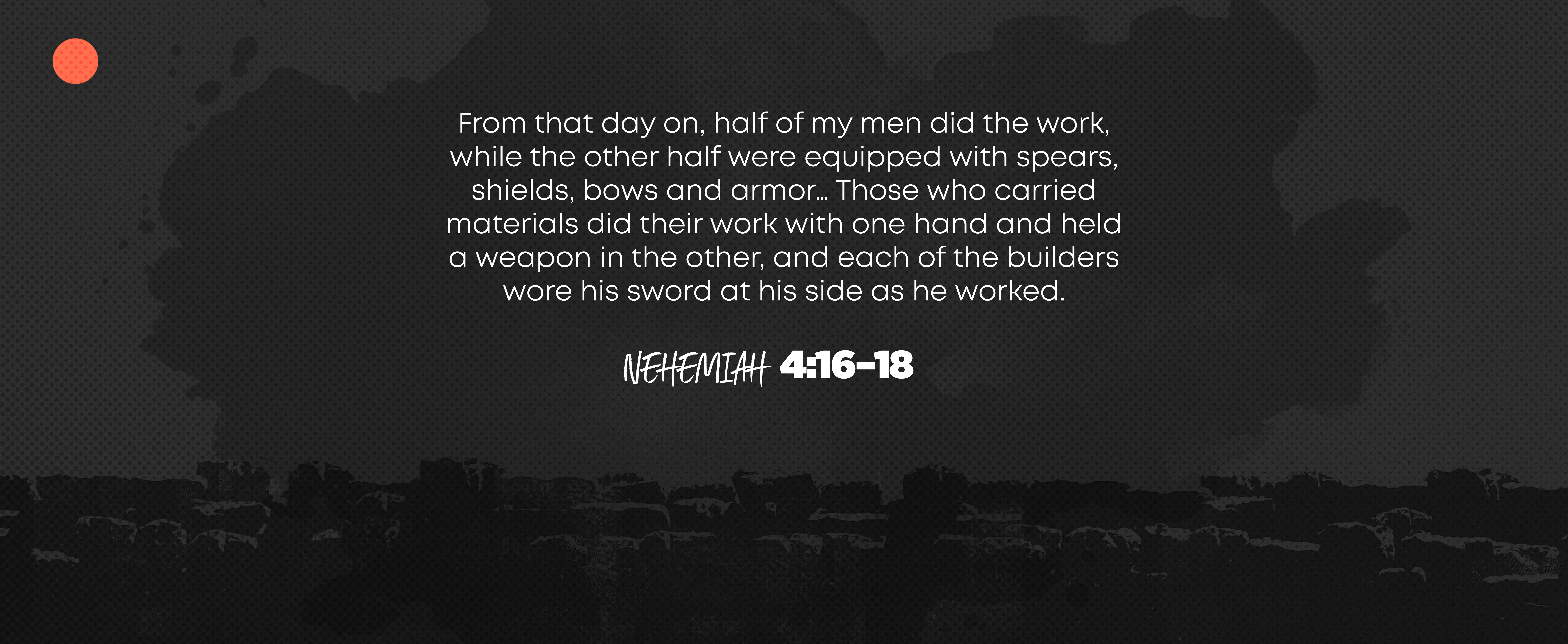
NEHEMIAH **4:11**

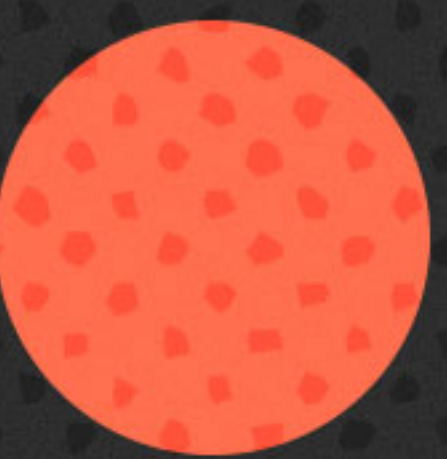




From that day on, half of my men did the work,
while the other half were equipped with spears,
shields, bows and armor... Those who carried
materials did their work with one hand and held
a weapon in the other, and each of the builders
wore his sword at his side as he worked.

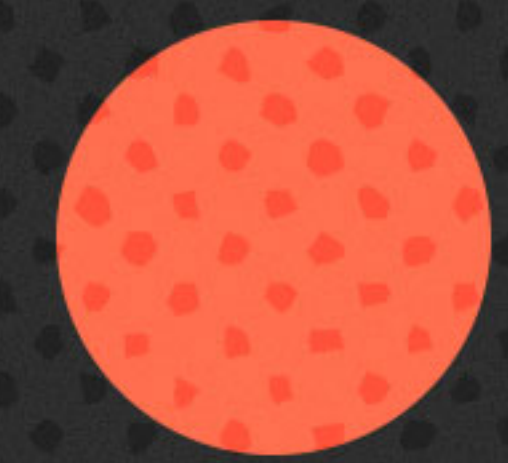
NEHEMIAH **4:16-18**



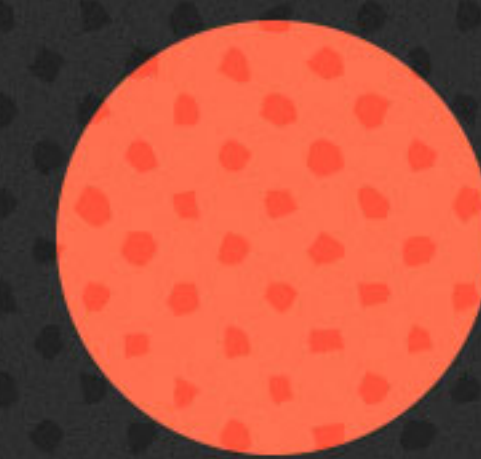


**WHEN WE PROTECT
ONLY FOR THE
SAKE OF PROTECTION,
WE HAVE MISSED
THE PLOT.**

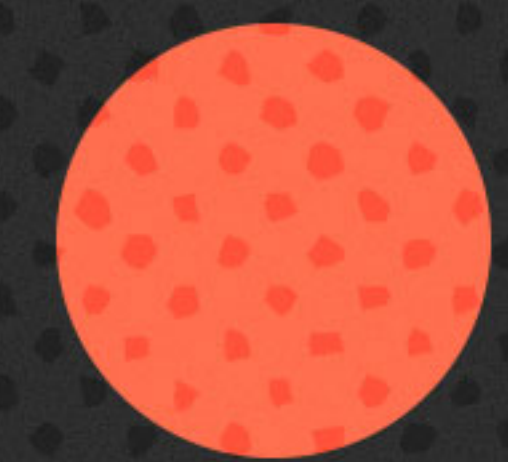




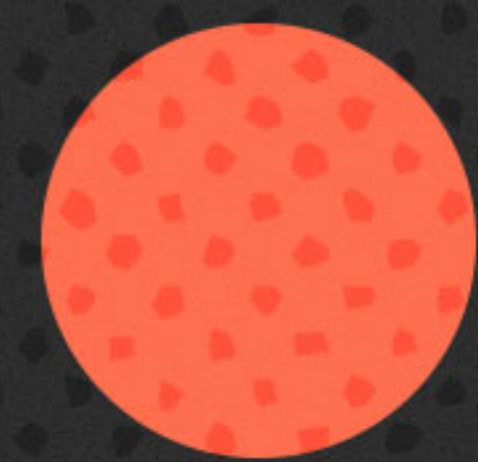
“Feeling helpless in that moment, I did what any irrational/rational mother with an envelope-of-war sticking out of her purse would do, right? The enemy is taking down my daughter in church. I got angry...”



So, on our way out of the sanctuary to meet the ambulance, I made a slight detour over to the offering box (In my memory I stomped over there!) and I slapped the enemy in his face. Take that! I took that weapon - I mean envelope - from my purse, and shoved my month's salary in the box, and told the devil "Not today! You are not winning this..."



I was completely calm and had an immense peace. Because **the battle is not against flesh and blood**... He will restore the many years that the nasty worm has eaten. And that is what I'm fighting for.



Wall? **I'm building my part.**

Sword? **Got it.**

Enemies? **Yep, they are there, and I'm gonna punch them in the face.**

Joy? **I fight for it, and I choose it.**

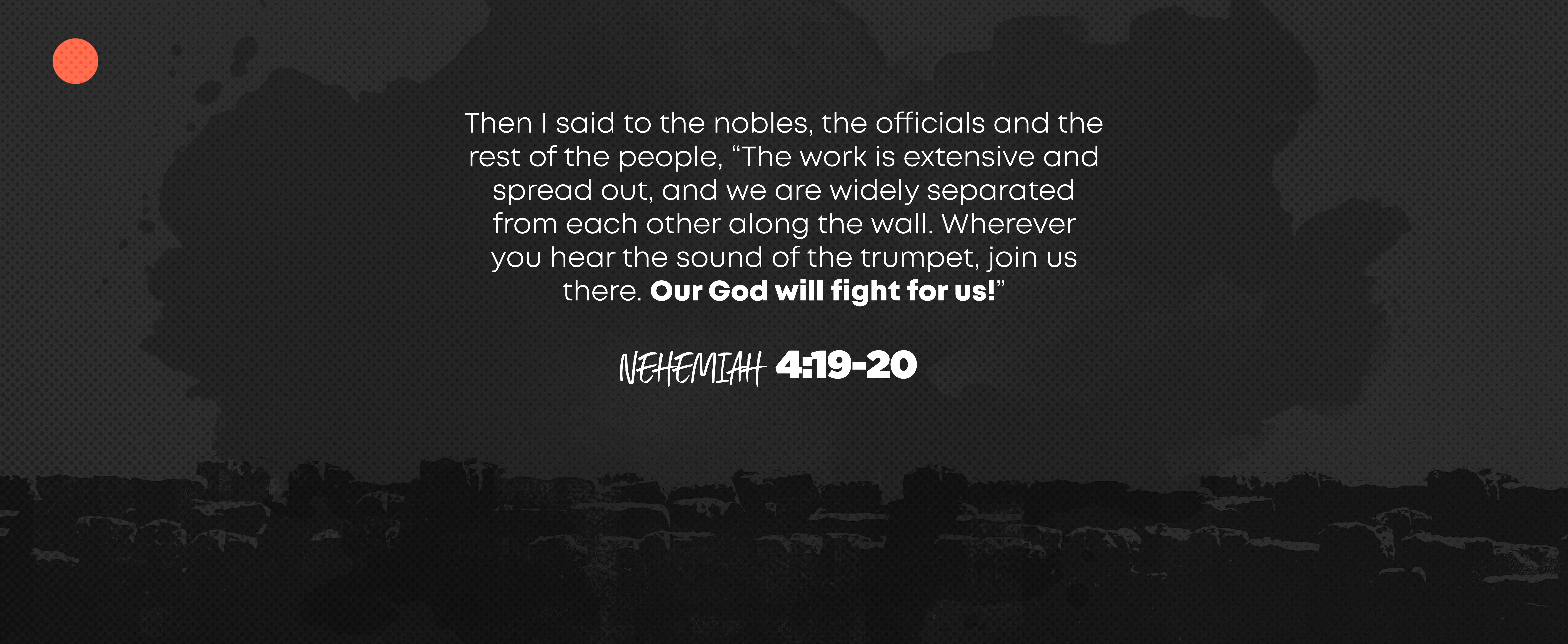
Victory? **Already won.**

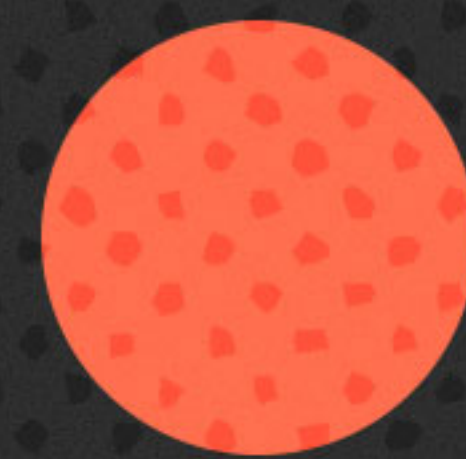




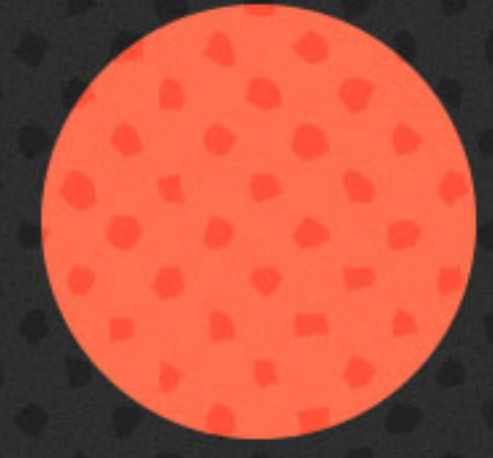
Then I said to the nobles, the officials and the rest of the people, “The work is extensive and spread out, and we are widely separated from each other along the wall. Wherever you hear the sound of the trumpet, join us there. **Our God will fight for us!**”

NEHEMIAH **4:19-20**









Therefore, my dear brothers and sisters,
stand firm. **Let nothing move you.**
Always give yourselves fully to the work
of the Lord, because you know that your
labor in the Lord is not in vain.

1 CORINTHIANS **15:58**

