

Close the gap



Heinrich Titus



Isaiah 58:12 (NKJV)

Those from among you shall build the old waste places; you shall raise up the foundations of many generations; and you shall be called the Repairer of the Breach, the Restorer of Streets to Dwell In.



Definition: Breach

- The act of breaking; or state of being broken; a rupture; a break; a gap; the space between the severed parts of a solid body parted by violence; as a breach in a garment, or in a wall.
- The violation of a law; the violation or non-fulfillment of a contract; the non-performance of a moral duty...
- Separation between friends by means of enmity; difference; quarrel.
- Infraction; injury; invasion; as a breach upon a kingly power.

1828 Webster's Dictionary



Definition: Breach

- Bereavement; loss of a friend and its consequent affliction.
- A violation of the public peace, as by a riot...or any tumult ...destructive to the public tranquility.


1828 Webster's Dictionary

Definition: Walls

- A work or structure of stone, brick or other materials, raised to some height, and intended for a defense or security. Walls of stone or brick form the exterior of buildings, and they are often raised round cities and forts as a defense against enemies.
- Walls, in the plural, is used for fortifications in general; works for defense.
- A defense; means of security or protection

Great Wall of China, 21 196km





Purpose of a wall: Separation & protection

Separation

- A wall provides separation between rooms in a house, limits the movement of people across a certain border, or separates two populations. The walls of Jerusalem served as a means of protection for the city by separating the city from any invaders.
- God calls us to separate ourselves from the things of this world unto the kingdom of God. We become a new creation in Him when we are born again. In this new birth, God builds a wall that separates us from the bondage and the snares of the enemy.

Wall of separation: salvation and consecration

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.

(2 Corinthians 5:17 NKJV)

Therefore “Come out from among them and be separate, says the Lord. Do not touch what is unclean, and I will receive you.”

(2 Corinthians 6:17 NKJV)



Wall of
separation:
fruit

"Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

Therefore, by their fruit you will know

them. Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father who is in heaven

(Matthew 7:19-21 NKJV)

Purpose of a wall: Separation

22Many will say to Me on that day, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in Your name, and in Your name drive out demons and perform many miracles?' 23Then I will tell them plainly, 'I never knew you; depart from Me, you workers of lawlessness!'

Matthew 7:22-23 (NKJV)



Wall of
separation:
faith

17 And these signs will follow ***those who believe***: In My name they will cast out demons; they will speak with new tongues; 18 they will take up serpents; and if they drink anything deadly, it will by no means hurt them; they will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover.


Mark 16:17-18 (NKJV)



Wall of
separation:
calling

2 As they ministered to the Lord and fasted, the Holy Spirit said, “Now separate to Me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them.” 3 Then, having fasted and prayed, and laid hands on them, they sent them away.

Acts 13:2(NKJV)



Purpose of a wall: Defence and Security

The city of Jerusalem has been surrounded by walls for its defense since ancient times. These walls were originally built to protect the borders of the city against intrusions.

In our lives, God builds walls of protection around us. These spiritual walls make the enemy unable to attack us unless God permits it or we ourselves allow the enemy to come in.

THE 12 GATES OF NEHEMIAH


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1. Sheep Gate - Salvation
 2. Fish Gate - Witnessing
 3. Old Gate - Strong Foundation
 - 4 Valley Gate - Suffering for Spiritual Growth
 5. Dung Gate - Garbage In The Soul Removed
 6. Fountain Gate - Living Water
 07. Water Gate - Advanced Doctrine
 08. Horse Gate - Endurance/Strength
 09. East Gate - Prosperity
 10. Inspection Gate - Personal Destiny
 11. Gate of Ephraim - Supergrace Blessing
 12. Prison Gate - Dying Grace - Eternal Blessing

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Purpose of a wall: Protection

“No weapon formed against you shall prosper, and every tongue which rises against you in judgment you shall condemn. This is the heritage of the servants of the Lord, and their righteousness is from Me,” says the Lord. (Is.54:17 NKJV)


“Have You not made a hedge around him, around his household, and around all that he has on every side? You have blessed the work of his hands, and his possessions have increased in the land.” (Job 1:10 NKJV)



A wall of
protection
against
accusation and
intimidation in
the spirit

1 But it so happened, when Sanbalat heard that we were rebuilding the wall, that he was furious and very indignant, and mocked the Jews. 2 And he spoke before his brethren and the army of Samaria, and said, “What are these feeble Jews doing? Will they fortify themselves? Will they offer sacrifices? Will they complete it in a day? Will they revive the stones from the heaps of rubbish - stones that are burned?”


Nehemiah 4:1-2 (NKJV)



A wall of
protection
against
accusation and
intimidation in
the spirit

3 Now Tobiah the Ammonite was beside him, and he said, “Whatever they build, if even a fox goes up on it, he will break down their stone wall. 4 Hear, O our God, for we are despised; turn their reproach on their own heads, and give them as plunder to a land of captivity.

Nehemiah 4:1-2 (NKJV)



God's people
are ready,
continue
building.

6 So we built the wall, and the entire wall was joined together up to half its height, for the people had a mind to work.

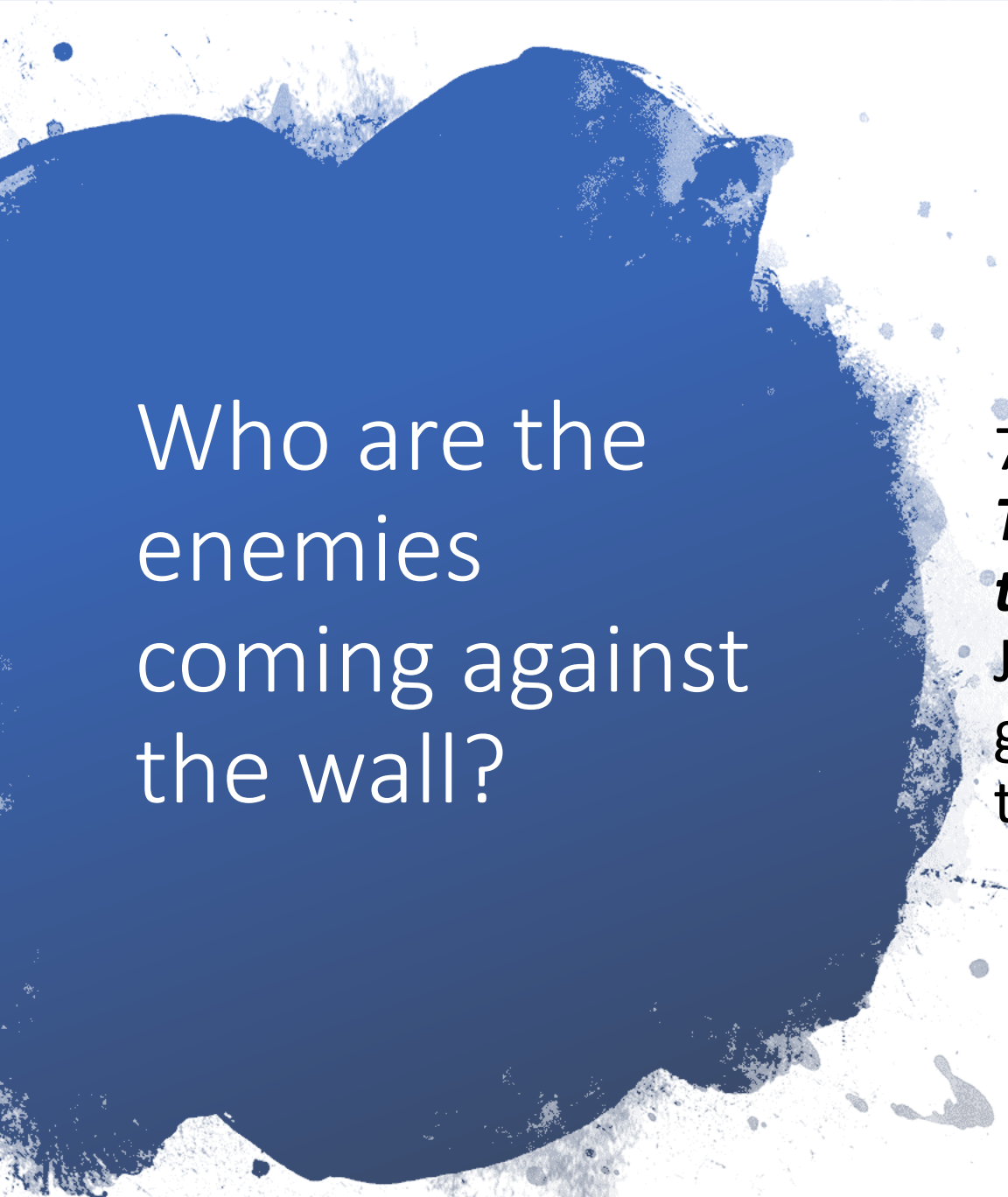
Nehemiah 4:6 (NKJV)



Be vigilant
against
confusion


7 Now it happened, when Sanballat, Tobiah, the Arabs, the Ammonites, and the Ashdodites heard that the walls of Jerusalem were being restored and the gaps were beginning to be closed, that they became very angry, 8 and all of them conspired together to come and attack Jerusalem and create confusion.

Nehemiah 4:7-8 (NKJV)



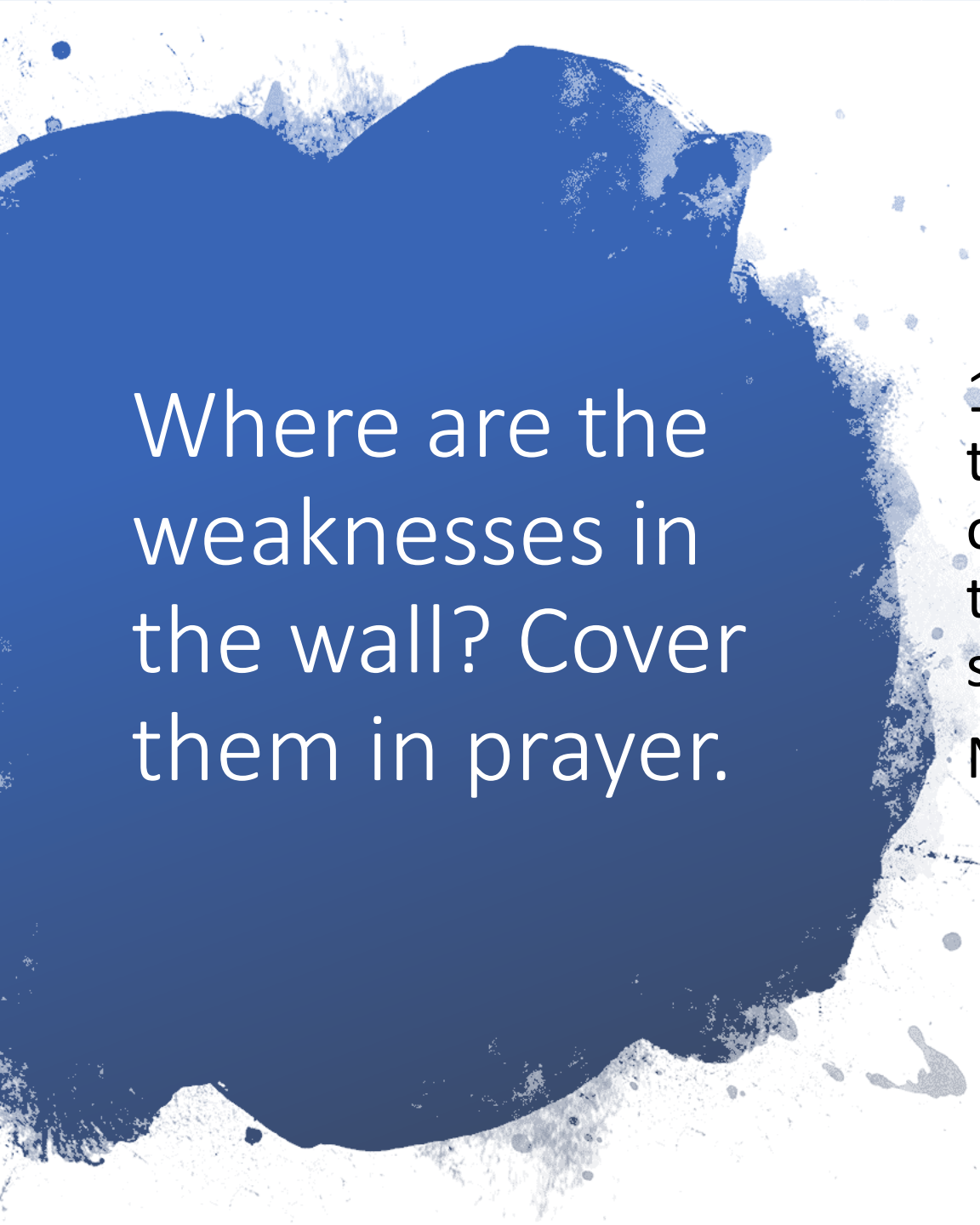
Who are the
enemies
coming against
the wall?

7 Now it happened, when ***Sanballat, Tobiah, the Arabs, the Ammonites, and the Ashdodites*** heard that the walls of Jerusalem were being restored and the gaps were beginning to be closed, that they became very angry,



Restoration and closing of the gaps/breaks in the wall, locally and globally.

7 Now it happened, when Sanballat, Tobiah, the Arabs, the Ammonites, and the Ashdodites heard that ***the walls of Jerusalem were being restored and the gaps were beginning to be closed***, that they became very angry,



Where are the
weaknesses in
the wall? Cover
them in prayer.

13 Therefore I positioned men behind the lower parts of the wall, at the openings; and I set the people according to their families, with their swords, their spears, and their bows.

Nehemiah 4:13 (NKJV)



Remember the
Lord in Praise
and warfare

14 And I looked, and arose and said to the nobles, to the leaders, and to the rest of the people, “Do not be afraid of them. Remember the Lord, great and awesome, and fight for your brethren, your sons, your daughters, your wives, and your houses.”

Nehemiah 4:14 (NKJV)



Faithfulness on the wall


15 And it happened, when our enemies heard that it was known to us, and that God had brought their plot to nothing, that all of us returned to the wall, everyone to his work.

Nehemiah 4:14 (NKJV)



Protection and
provision for
our families

“Have You not made a hedge around him, around his household, and around all that he has on every side? You have blessed the work of his hands, and his possessions have increased in the land.”
(Job 1:10 NKJV)



Trade in old
walls and take
the limits off

... “Run, speak to this young man, saying: ‘Jerusalem shall be inhabited as towns without walls, because of the multitude of men and livestock in it. 5 ‘For I,’ says the Lord, ‘will be a wall of fire all around her, and I will be the glory in her midst.’”

Zechariah 2:4-5 (NKJV)