

# Do Not Be Afraid

(Part 5)

Do not be afraid, this is the encouraging message that we need from the LORD to go on and do the work of God that He entrusted to us and to live our lives unto Him. And that is another reason for us to read the bible and to meditate on His word because His word is a source of an encouragement to us. More occasions in the bible God encouraged His people in order to enable them to carry on in living their lives to Him. These Scripture are God's provision for us today to go and serve Him.

16- *“<sup>1</sup> When Sanballat heard that we were rebuilding the wall, he became angry and was greatly incensed. He ridiculed the Jews, <sup>2</sup>and in the presence of his associates and the army of Samaria, he said, “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?”<sup>3</sup> 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!”<sup>4</sup> 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. <sup>5</sup>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. <sup>6</sup>So we rebuilt the wall till all of it reached half its height, for the people worked with all their heart. <sup>7</sup>But when Sanballat, Tobiah, the Arabs, the Ammonites and the people of Ashdod heard that the repairs to Jerusalem’s walls had gone ahead and that the gaps were being closed, they were very angry. <sup>8</sup>They all plotted together to come and fight against Jerusalem and stir up trouble against it. <sup>9</sup>But we prayed to our God and posted a guard day and night to meet this threat. <sup>10</sup>Meanwhile, the people in Judah said, “The strength of the laborers is giving out, and there is so much rubble that we cannot rebuild the wall.”<sup>11</sup> Also 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.”<sup>12</sup> Then the Jews who lived near them came and told us ten times over, “Wherever you turn, they will attack us.”<sup>13</sup> Therefore I stationed some of the people behind the lowest points of the wall at the exposed places, posting them by families, with their swords, spears and bows. <sup>14</sup>After I looked things over, I stood up and said to the nobles, the officials and the rest of the people, “Don’t be afraid of them. Remember the Lord, who is great and awesome, and fight for your families, your sons and your daughters, your wives and your homes.” (Nehemiah 4:1-14) As Nehemiah and the people with him they were doing and executing the vision of God to rebuild the wall around the city of Jerusalem to protect the temple and the city of God from evil doers by not allowing them to dwell in Jerusalem, they were faced by opposition from different kind of people who are against God and against His true people. They were trying to stop them from doing the work of God and achieving His will as we read above. But Nehemiah as a leader stood up and encouraged the people and reminded them that they need to stand firm, and to step forward defend and fight for their families, their sons and daughters, wives and homes by telling them, **“Don’t be afraid of them. Remember the Lord, who is great and awesome, and fight for your families, your sons and your daughters, your wives and your homes.”** The same message for us today, we are called to shelter and protect our families, wives, daughters and sons. God called us to protect them from the world and from the plans of evil. We are called to close the gaps that devil may*

pass through and put gates that regulates our lives and shield us from devil who uses people and circumstances around us to harm us. We don't need to be intimidated, God is in our side. *“<sup>31</sup> What, then, shall we say in response to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? <sup>32</sup>He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all—how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things? <sup>33</sup>Who will bring any charge against those whom God has chosen? It is God who justifies. <sup>34</sup>Who then is the one who condemns? No one. Christ Jesus who died—more than that, who was raised to life—is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us. <sup>35</sup>Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? <sup>36</sup>As it is written: “For your sake we face death all day long; we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered.”<sup>37</sup> No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. <sup>38</sup>For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, <sup>39</sup>neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.” (Romans 8:31-39) We should not be afraid and intimidated in living our lives to God. There are certain times God will fight for us we just need to stand still. But in other time God wants us to step forward and do His work and He is the one behind backing us up. When He is asking us to step forward and do His work, then we should not be afraid because we have His full approval and His full support.*

*“<sup>1</sup> But now, this is what the LORD says—he who created you, Jacob, he who formed you, Israel: “Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have summoned you by name; you are mine. <sup>2</sup>When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and when you pass through the rivers, they will not sweep over you. When you walk through the fire, you will not be burned; the flames will not set you ablaze.” (Isaiah 43:1-2) Certain times we might need to pass through the waters and walk through the fire, God knows that and he is the One who ordained that for us therefore He is assuring us and encourage us that we will not be harmed; He will not allow any harm to come to us.*

*My dear and beloved: That is His promise to us: “<sup>10</sup> So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand. <sup>11</sup>“All who rage against you will surely be ashamed and disgraced; those who oppose you will be as nothing and perish. <sup>12</sup>Though you search for your enemies, you will not find them. Those who wage war against you will be as nothing at all. <sup>13</sup>For I am the LORD your God who takes hold of your right hand and says to you, Do not fear; I will help you.” (Isaiah 41:10-13)*

This should be your credit and the bonus that you receive from the Lord this very day to go on and serve Him as you agree to pray.

*My prayer: Father God I come before you in the name of Jesus who died on the cross for my sins and rose again from the dead to give me eternal life. Lord thank you for the encouraging and assuring message to me. Lord I truly need you must in this moment of my life as I am passing through the following situation \_\_\_\_\_ . Lord continue to encourage me and refresh me with your love, mercy and grace till I pass successfully through all that. I thank you and praise you, this all I ask and pray in Jesus name, Amen.*