

One Hand Built, the Other Held a Weapon

Nehemiah's builders worked with a trowel in one hand and a sword in the other.

The wall was going up and the mockers showed up on schedule. Sanballat laughed at it. Tobiah said a fox could knock it over. Then the mocking turned into plots.

Nehemiah skipped the press release. He posted a guard and kept building.

Nehemiah 4:17 "Those who built on the wall, and those who carried burdens, loaded themselves so that with one hand they worked at construction, and with the other held a weapon."



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Notice the ratio. One hand building, one hand defending. Not two hands defending. Not laying down the trowel to go argue with Sanballat on his territory.

Here's what I'm seeing. Believers who feel the hostility of the culture and respond by going full sword. Every post is a fight. Every conversation is a defense. And the wall behind them sits unfinished, because you cannot build anything with both hands on a weapon.

The reverse fails too. Builders who ignore every threat, guard nothing, and act surprised when what they built gets torn down by things they refused to confront.

Sword and trowel. Vigilance and production. Nehemiah finished the wall in 52 days because the mockery never got promoted to project manager.

Whatever your Sanballat is saying this week, it doesn't get a vote on the wall.

Keep your trowel hand busy.

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