

**CRAZY FAITH—PART 6**  
**“SHUT THE DOOR!”**

**Pastor Andy Shaffer—February 15, 2026**

**Nehemiah 6:1-3** (NLT)—“Sanballat, Tobiah, Geshem the Arab, and the rest of our enemies found out that I had finished rebuilding the wall and that no gaps remained—though we had not yet set up the doors in the gates. So Sanballat and Geshem sent a message asking me to meet them at one of the villages in the plain of Ono.

But I realized they were plotting to harm me, so I replied by sending this message to them: ‘I am engaged in a great work, so I can’t come. Why should I stop working to come and meet with you?’”

**To Overcome Distractions, We’ve Got To...**

**1) Learn To Say No**

**Nehemiah 6:4-7** (NLT)—“Four times they sent the same message, and each time I gave the same reply. The fifth time, Sanballat’s servant came with an open letter in his hand, and this is what it said:

‘There is a rumor among the surrounding nations, and Geshem tells me it is true, that you and the Jews are planning to rebel and that is why you are building the wall. According to his reports, you plan to be their king. He also reports that you have appointed prophets in Jerusalem to proclaim about you, ‘Look! There is a king in Judah!’

‘You can be very sure that this report will get back to the king, so I suggest that you come and talk it over with me.’”

**The Big Idea:**

**Don’t Let The Whispers Of People Distract You From The Call Of God**

**Nehemiah 6:8** (NLT)—“I replied, ‘There is no truth in any part of your story. You are making up the whole thing.’”

**2) Allow It To Make Us More Determined**

**Nehemiah 6:9** (NLT)—“They were just trying to intimidate us, imagining that they could discourage us and stop the work. So I continued the work with even greater determination.”

**Nehemiah 6:10** (NLT)—“Later I went to visit Shemaiah...He said, ‘Let us meet together inside the Temple of God and bolt the doors shut. Your enemies are coming to kill you tonight.’”

**Nehemiah 6:11-13** (NLT)—“But I replied, ‘Should someone in my position run from danger? Should someone in my position enter the Temple to save his life? No, I won’t do it!’ I realized that God had not spoken to him, but that he had uttered this prophecy against me because Tobiah and Sanballat had hired him. They were hoping to intimidate me and make me sin. Then they would be able to accuse and discredit me.”

### **3) Focus On The Great Work & Not Give Up**

**Galatians 6:9**—“Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.”

**Nehemiah 6:3** (NLT)—“So I replied by sending this message to them: ‘I am engaged in a great work, so I can’t come. Why should I stop working to come and meet with you?’”

**Nehemiah 2:18** (NLT)—“Then I told them about how the gracious hand of God had been on me, and about my conversation with the king. They replied at once, ‘Yes, let’s rebuild the wall!’ So they began the good work.”

**Nehemiah 6:14-15** (NLT)—“Remember, O my God, all the evil things that Tobiah and Sanballat have done. And remember Noadiah the prophet and all the prophets like her who have tried to intimidate me. So on October 2<sup>nd</sup> the wall was finished—just fifty-two days after we had begun.”

**Nehemiah 6:16** (NLT)—“When our enemies and the surrounding nations heard about it, they were frightened and humiliated. They realized this work had been done with the help of our God.”

**How Will You Respond?**