

# Nehemiah 6:17

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Moreover in those days the nobles of Judah sent many letters unto Tobiah, and the letters of Tobiah came unto them.

## Analysis

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**Moreover in those days the nobles of Judah sent many letters unto Tobiah, and the letters of Tobiah came unto them.**

This verse within Nehemiah 6 addresses themes of deception, completing the work, steadfastness, discernment. Enemies shift tactics from open opposition to subtle deception, requiring spiritual discernment to complete the wall in 52 days. This passage demonstrates biblical principles applicable across both testaments—God's sovereignty combined with human responsibility, faith expressed through obedient action, and the necessity of both individual and corporate commitment to covenant faithfulness. Nehemiah models leadership that combines vision, prayer, courage, integrity, and perseverance amid sustained opposition.

## Historical Context

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Nehemiah's account occurs during Persian imperial dominance (539-331 BC), specifically 445-433 BC under Artaxerxes I. The 52-day wall completion represents remarkable achievement given opposition and limited resources. Excavations have confirmed portions of Nehemiah's wall and various gates mentioned in the text. The Persian period was crucial transitional time when Jewish identity shifted from monarchical nationalism to Torah-centered covenantal community. Without political independence, the people's cohesion depended on shared scripture, temple worship, and covenant obedience. This established patterns persisting through the Second Temple period into New Testament times. Understanding this

context illuminates Jesus's ministry among a people shaped by these reforms and challenges.

## Related Passages

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**Romans 2:1** — Judging others

**Matthew 25:31** — Final judgment

## Study Questions

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1. How does Nehemiah 6:17 deepen your understanding of God's character and His work in human history?
2. What specific action or attitude change does this verse call you to make in your walk with God?
3. How can the principles demonstrated in this passage inform your response to current challenges in your life or church?

## Interlinear Text

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גַּם	בַּיּוֹמִים	הַהֵם	רַבִּימָה	חֲרֵי	יְהוּדָה
H1571	Moreover in those days	H1992	many	the nobles	of Judah
	H3117		H7235	H2715	H3063
אֲגִידָה	הִנֵּחַ	עַל	לְטוֹבִיָּה	וְאִשָּׁר	
letters	sent	H5921	and the letters of Tobiah	H834	
H107	H1980		H2900		
לְטוֹבִיָּה	בָּא	אֵלֵיהֶם:			
and the letters of Tobiah	came	H413			
H2900	H935				