**Nehemiah Shows us the Way to Not be Distracted from Completing our Goals***[a CedarS Bible Re-enactment script by Warren as inspired by*[***Christie Hanzliks Met***](http://www.cedarscamps.org/metaphysical/articles/2016/5/ancient-and-modern-snakeys-not-to-let-in/) *for CedarS 2016 Memorial Weekend Bible Lesson]*

**Bible Verse B13 & B15: Nehemiah 2- 6**

**Characters (Those in bold have speaking roles;** *others do mostly interpretive acting):*

* Time-travelling **CNN (CedarS News Network) Reporters 1, 2, 3, 4… if available as** Narrator(s)
* *Nehemiah (interpretive actor)*
* *King of Persia (interpretive actor)*
* *Other wall builders (interpretive actors)*
* *Naysayers (interpretive actors)*

**CNN Reporter 1:** With Christian Science breakthroughs in giving retroactive treatments it is possible to time-travel through the space-time continuum, so we CNN reporters are traveling back to Bible days to answer questions about things in the past that have led to present situations. A CNN viewer recently asked: How did Nehemiah complete building the walls around Jerusalem in just 52 days with so much opposition?

**CNN Reporter 2: “**Nehemiah, who was working for a king in a foreign land. He was saddened because his home city, Jerusalem, was being destroyed. With spiritual courage, Nehemiah spoke to the king about his troubles. The king respected Nehemiah and allowed him to return home to Jerusalem to rebuild his city’s wall.” ([Christie Hanzlik Met](http://www.cedarscamps.org/metaphysical/articles/2016/5/ancient-and-modern-snakeys-not-to-let-in/))

**CNN Reporter 3: “**The story becomes more inspiring with the definitions of “Jerusalem” and “Heaven” offered in Science and Health. Mary Baker Eddy defines Jerusalem as “home, heaven.” [S12] And she defines heaven as “Harmony; the reign of Spirit; government by divine Principle; spirituality.” [S13]

**CNN Reporter 4: “**When Nehemiah leaves to protect and rebuild his sense of “home, heaven,” naysayers try to tempt him to abandon his ideals. But he won’t listen. It is as if he sees these voices as the “personification of evil" [S8], which do not fit in the harmony of home.”

**CNN Reporter 5:** Nehemiah is not be discouraged. He remains “watchful, sober, and vigilant” in his understanding of home. [S15] He refuses to yield his “mentality to any mental despotism of malpractice,” and saw the evil efforts as “erroneous and powerless.” [S16] As Nehemiah said to the naysayers, “**you have no portion, nor right, nor memorial, in [home, heaven].”** [B13] ([Christie Hanzlik Met](http://www.cedarscamps.org/metaphysical/articles/2016/5/ancient-and-modern-snakeys-not-to-let-in/))

**CNN Reporter 5: “**Nehemiah’s example shows us how to stay on the right path even when naysayers attempt to discourage us. As we stay the course, we are empowered because there is “no power opposed to God,” and false suggestions are a mere “mockery of strength.” Our right actions and our strong spiritual compass, give us strength. As Mary Baker Eddy states, “The good you do and embody gives you the only power obtainable.” [S18]
**CNN Reporter 6:** Nehemiah’s story continues in the fourth section as his enemies try to sabotage his efforts to rebuild the city wall. They try to trick and deceive him. But Nehemiah is alert, and stays focused on God’s instructions. Nehemiah succeeds at rebuilding the wall with perfect timing, and his enemies fail. [B15]

**CNN Reporter 7:** The citations in Science and Health bring out even more inspiration from this story. We’re reminded, “There is no power apart from God.” [S19] And that “Every attempt of evil to destroy good is a failure, and only aids in peremptorily punishing the evil-doer.” [S20] The Bible says Nehemiah’s enemies are “cast down” after their mean attempt to undermine Nehemiah fail. [B15]

**CNN Reporter 8:** Nehemiah is alert and stays true to God’s instructions. He follows the path God sets before him. And so he proves that, “Evil thoughts and aims [like the ones Nehemiah’s enemies had] reach no farther and do no more harm than one’s belief permits. Evil thoughts, lusts, and malicious purposes cannot go forth, like wandering pollen, from one human mind to another, finding unsuspected lodgment, if virtue and truth build a strong defence.” [S21]

**CNN Reporter 9:** It is not human will than enables Nehemiah’s to rebuild the wall. He succeeds because he follows God’s instructions in the Way of Holiness and is alert to reject every “subtle degree of evil, deceived and deceiving.” [S22] Nehemiah’s story demonstrates, “The good you do and embody gives you the only power obtainable.” [S18] [For more on how to make Nehemiah’s achievement a model for our own, listen to [***today’s “Daily Lift” by Cheryl Ranson entitled “A spiritual wall-building model.”***](http://christianscience.com/christian-healing-today/daily-lift/a-spiritual-wall-building-model?utm_source=iContact&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Daily%20Lift&utm_content=New+wider+template+160307) ]