HAND ME ANOTHER BRICK – Part XVI
"Surviving Intimidation" continued
Reference: **Nehemiah 6:5-16**
Pastor Larry Webb

Nehemiah's enemies, Sanballat, Tobiah, and Geshem, attempted one more time to harass Nehemiah and convince him to stop construction on this building project. Those men used three particular strategies in an attempt to intimidate Nehemiah.

Intimidation Technique One was a **private** letter.
verse one through **four**
> This first technique was that those men sent a private letter to Nehemiah, asking him to meet them at a supposed peace summit in a region called Ono. Nehemiah was suspicious of this invitation, and so he didn't go to this proposed meeting.

Intimidation Technique Two was a _____ letter.
verse five through **seven** (see screen)

> This was an open letter that was available for just anyone to read. In a technical sense, this letter contained libel.
> **Libel** is personal defamation made in _____, whereas, **slander** is personal defamation in _____.

> **Question**: How did Nehemiah react to that gossiping, libelous, intimidating public letter?"

> **Answer**: Nehemiah did three things:
> - Nehemiah _____ their accusations.
>   **verse eight** (see screen)

>   Reference: **I Peter 3:16** (see screen)

>   It is a legitimate right that we have to defend ourselves against false accusations, but we need to be careful that we don't become so preoccupied in defending ourselves that we get nothing else done.

> - Nehemiah _____ these accusations to those around him.
>   **verse nine** (see screen)

> - Nehemiah asked God to _____ _____ against those accusations.
>   **verse nine** cont. (see screen)

Intimidation Technique Three was a _____ _____.
verse ten (see screen)
> Nehemiah's enemies hired a man on the inside to propose a solution to Nehemiah in order to entrap him. His name was Shemaiah and he gave Nehemiah a prophecy.

> Two basic flaws in that prophecy:

> - It wouldn't be logical for God to ask Nehemiah to leave this job before the construction project was _____.

> - It wouldn't be logical for God to ask Nehemiah to violate _____ _____.
>   Read **verses eleven** through **thirteen** (see screen)

The project was completed!
verses fifteen and **sixteen** (see screen)