

Gathering an Army



Scripture

- **Psalm 133:1-3**

How good and how pleasant it is for brothers to dwell together in unity! It is like the precious oil upon the head, coming down upon the beard, even Aaron's beard, coming down upon the edge of his robes. It is like the dew of Hermann...

- **Nehemiah 4:7-9, 11-18**

Now when Sanballat, Tobiah, the Arabs, the Ammonites, and the Ashdodites heard that the repair of the walls of Jerusalem went on, and that the breaches began to be closed, they were very angry. All of them conspired together to come and fight against Jerusalem and to cause a disturbance in it. But we prayed to our God, and because of them we set up a guard against them day and night. Thus, in Judah it was said, "The strength of the burden bearers is failing, yet there is much rubbish; and we ourselves are unable to rebuild the wall."

Our enemies said, "They will not know or see until we come among them, kill them and put a stop to the work." When the Jews who lived near them came and told us ten times, "They will come up against us from every place where you may turn, then I stationed men in the lowest parts of the space behind the wall, the exposed places, and I stationed the people in families with their swords, spears and bows. When I saw their fear, I rose and spoke to the nobles, the officials and the rest of the people: "Do not be afraid of them; remember the Lord who is great and awesome, and fight for your brothers, your sons, your daughters, your wives and your houses." When our enemies heard that it was known to us, and that God had frustrated their plan, then all of us returned to the wall, each one to his work. From that day on, half of my servants carried on the work while half of them held the spears, the shields, the bows and the breastplates; and the captains were behind the whole house of Judah. Those who were rebuilding the wall and those who carried burdens took their load with one hand doing the work and the other holding a weapon. As for the builders, each wore his sword girded at his side as he built, while the trumpeter stood near me.

Other Scriptures

- Matthew 18:20
- I Corinthians 12:14-17

Main Points

- Unity brings life. Division brings destruction and death.
- Psalm 133 in Hebrew song:

Hinei mah tov u-ma nayim (Behold how good and how pleasant it is)
Shevet achim gam yachad (When brethren dwell together in unity)
Hinei mah tov u-ma nayim (Behold how good and how pleasant it is)
Shevet achim gam yachad (When brethren dwell together in unity)
Hinei mah tov Shevet achim gam yachad (Behold how good when
bretheren dwell together in in unity)
Hinei mah tov Shevet achim gam yachad (Behold how good when
bretheren dwell together in in unity)

- Stand in unity with Rabbi:
 - Receive text messages directly from Rabbi.
 - Text the keyword “Rabbi” to 88777
- There is power in unity!

Discussion Questions

1. How does the picture of the oil in Psalm 133 demonstrate unity? Describe this in words.
2. How does the body demonstrate unity? (See I Corinthians 12:14-17)
3. When the Jewish people went back to Jerusalem to rebuild the walls, what immediately occurred? Why was unity critical for their success?
4. How do our enemies today seem similar to the enemies Nehemiah and the Jewish people faced? Nehemiah provided a plan, an encouragement, and a challenge. Would you enroll to be a soldier in the army of the Lord today?
5. Text the keyword “Rabbi” to 88777. How will you be redeeming texting technology, and be salt and light in our culture today?