

Exeter Bible Church

Sunday, March 25, 2007

Speaker—Dr. Gil Peterson

Title – Expecting Opposition

Text – Nehemiah 4-6

Expecting Opposition

“God’s work done God’s way will have God’s blessing – and will face Satan’s opposition.” Nehemiah was called to serve God in a unique and special way. He kept careful records of his experience and later wrote the book that bears his name from the notes he kept during the years of his leadership of the people of God in Jerusalem.

1. Designed Opposition – Chapter 4

1. External Opposition 4:1-9 – Unbelievers do not understand the work of God and as a result generally oppose it.
2. Internal Opposition 4:10-22 – Believers can often lose sight of God’s larger purpose and focus on their own perspective and problems.

2. Disobedient Leaders – Chapter 5

1. The Scandal of Sin 5:1-5 – Some people put their own priorities and plans before the plans that God establishes.
2. The Standard of Righteousness – 5:6-19 – Godly leaders hold true to God’s Word and apply its truth with courage and faithfulness.

3. Determined Obedience – Chapter 6

1. The Strategy of Intrigue – 6:1-4
The snare of friendship with the world.
2. The Subtlety of Innuendo – 6:5-9
The dangers of gossip and superficial friendships.
3. The Seduction of Intimidation – 6:10-14
The attraction of self protection and secret pride
4. The Significance of Obedience – 6:15-19
The joy of finishing the work God calls you to complete.