

## **Responding to Opposition: Nehemiah 2:19-4:23**

As Nehemiah leads the rebuilding of the walls, he responds to opposition with faith, prayer, courage, and strategy. In this talk, Ajith Fernando explains leadership insights from Nehemiah's practical and determined wisdom.

**Ajith Fernando** serves as Teaching Director of Youth for Christ in Sri Lanka after being National Director for 35 years. His main responsibilities are mentoring leaders and teaching staff and volunteers. He ministers to Christian workers and others through a counselling and a Bible teaching ministry in Sri Lanka and abroad. He is a preeminent Bible teacher and speaker, having spoken at such international gathering as Urbana, The Lausanne Movement's Capetown 2010, and Amsterdam 2000. Ajith is a visiting lecturer and Council President of Colombo Theological Seminary and also serves as Visiting Scholar at Tyndale University College and Seminary in Toronto. He has written 15 books and his books have been published in 19 different languages. *The Call to Joy and Pain* was awarded the Christianity Today Book of the Year Award for church and pastoral leadership.

- I. Jeers and Accusations – Nehemiah 2:19
  
- II. Determined Trust in God – Nehemiah 2:20
  
- III. The Need for Administration – Nehemiah 3:1-32
  
- IV. Top People Also Did the General Work – 9 times in Nehemiah 3
  
- V. Some Nobles Will Not Stoop to Serve Their Lord – Nehemiah 3:5
  
- VI. Opponents Focus on Weakness – Nehemiah 4:1-3

- VII. Praying for Justice – Nehemiah 4:4-5
  
- VIII. Motivated, Continued Work Ethic – Nehemiah 4:6
  
- IX. Prayer and Defence – Nehemiah 4:7-9
  
- X. Weariness through Overwork – Nehemiah 4:10
  
- XI. The People Fear Enemy Attacks – Nehemiah 4:11-12
  
- XII. Immediate Response to their Fears – Nehemiah 4:13-14
  
- XIII. Giving God the Credit – Nehemiah 4:15
  
- XIV. The New Normal: Both Work and Defence – Nehemiah 4:16-23