

A stylized, high-contrast illustration of the Statue of Liberty. The statue is rendered in black and white with a yellow outline, set against a light blue background. She is holding a torch aloft in her right hand. The entire scene is framed by a yellow border.

GIANTS IN YOUR LAND

The Church's Battle Plan

Be Prepared and Win

by
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GIANTS IN YOUR LAND

The Church's Battle Plan

Introduction--Be Prepared and Win

When God sends us into our promised land (this side of Heaven), be assured that there are giants there...strongholds of the enemy that determine to hold on to your land. These giants continue to hold on to the land when God's people are either unaware of the source of their struggle, are overwhelmed by the seemingly monumental size of the giants, or consciously disobey His directive to take possession of that land. As we see the lessons and truths in the times of Moses, Joshua, and Nehemiah, so it is today [Num 13-14, Deut 7, Joshua (entire book) Luke 21:19, 1 Thess 4:1-12].

In spying out our land, are we going to allow the good report or the bad report to prevail in our lives? Are we going to allow fear, depression, pride, lust, and others to control, rob, and destroy our lives...the very enemies that usurp dominion over man since Adam? Of course not! The following two studies name in detail the "giants" in your land, our nation, cities, neighborhoods, families, and our own churches. These enemies of old are conquered through your intimate fellowship with your Triune God and your willing obedience to His Will.

Remember, what is evident in and has control of our nation and city, many times is evident in and has control of our lives. The reverse is also true. It is also important to remember that winning over our enemy and possessing our land involves the lives of other people. Some may definitely act like your enemy and behave like a giant in your land. Yet, God's ways do not deliberately sabotage and destroy other people during the process of possessing your land. Your land is really YOUR life and not someone else's. Your land is possessed by exposing and uprooting those life issues that hold YOU back from living that purposeful and joy-filled life God designed for you.

Begin to seek God's deliverance not just for our nation and city but your very own personal life. Throughout the process, God will help you deal with those giants within and without with the grace and integrity only He can offer. You will then experience not only phenomenal changes in your life but also of those around you. You will also be ready to walk in your divine destiny in the land given you.

Our lives will then be a light and salt to our city and nation, not darkness. Knowing this adventure you are about to embark on will not be easy, be of good cheer; you are not alone! As you yield, God does the work in you. The benefits and rewards are limitless! The transformation and reformation you go through will not only change you but will reach out to your family, community, and nation! God bless you for your willing heart.

Outline Summary and Focus (Study One & Two)

Study One:

7 IN CANAANLAND (w/ walled cities) –Joshua 12-13, 24:11, Deut. 7:1, Acts 13:19
(Our nation and our cities)

Fear	=	Hittites
Compromise	=	Girgashites
Pride	=	Amorites
Lust	=	Canaanites
Strife	=	Perizzites
Deception	=	Hivites
Depression	=	Jebusites

Study Two:

7 IN JERUSALEM (w/ the walls down)—Nehemiah 4-6 (Our nation/own city,
neighborhoods, families, churches)

Ridicule
Threat of Attack/Physical danger
Discouragement
Extortion
Compromise
Slander
Treachery

PERSONAL INSIGHT SHEETS—After you read through this study you will utilize the these two fill in pages. On this sheet & the following page, write down any areas in your life you find these giants operating. Determine before God to conquer that area of weakness by also writing down a commitment you make starting today. Know that these giants do not go away immediately. Commitment each day to the process of deliverance and life-long reformation.

7 GIANTS IN CANAANLAND (w/ walled cities)
Deut. 7:1-2, Joshua 12-13, 24:11

1. FEAR (Hittites)

2. COMPROMISE (Girgashites)

3. PRIDE (Amorites)

4. LUST (Canaanites)

5. STRIFE (Perizzites)

6. DECEPTION (Hivites)

7. DEPRESSION (Jebusites)

7 GIANTS IN JERUSALEM (w/ the walls down)

Nehemiah 4-6 (same enemies listed in Ez 22:4-26)

1. RIDICULE (4:1-6)

2. PHYSICAL DANGER/THREAT OF ATTACK (4:7-9)

3. DISCOURAGEMENT (4:10-23)

4. EXTORTION (5:1-13)

5. COMPROMISE (6:1-4)

6. SLANDER (6:5-9)

7. TREACHERY (6:10-14)

TRUTH IN ACTION AGAINST THE 7 GIANTS IN CANAANLAND (Deut.7:1)
(partial reference: Spirit-Filled Life Bible, Book of Deuteronomy, Truth in Action section, p. 302-303)

TRUTH IN ACTION COMPARISON

1. Know God and His Ways	and therefore avoid	Deception
2. Be totally devoted to God (Love Him only)	and therefore avoid	Lust
3. Be holy and separated from the world (a positive & disciplined life)	and therefore avoid	Depression
4. Maintain proper relationship, attitudes and continual God consciousness/God centered instead of self-centered	and therefore avoid	Pride
5. Deal with sin at the thought level	and therefore avoid	Strife
6. Maintain moral purity & never compromise	and therefore avoid	Compromise
7. Be a good soldier in spiritual warfare (rest and do not fret)	and therefore avoid	Fear

HISTORY SURROUNDING GOD'S PEOPLE

As we review the giants of Canaanland and Jerusalem, let us remember how God so miraculously and strategically placed His People in time and circumstance to influence history and deliver His People (ie. Abraham, Moses, Joshua, David, Solomon; and in captivity--Daniel, Ezekiel, Zedekiah, Jeremiah, Zerubbabel, Ezra, Nehemiah, Malachi, Esther). Today, God is consummating his purposes for humanity through the generation we now live in...You and I.

Genesis 10 shows how the present world population was derived from Noah's three sons: Shem, Ham and Japheth, and their wives (three family groups). Verse 32 states, "From these the nations spread out over the earth after the flood". These "nations" are the descendants (generations, genealogies or family histories) of the sons of Noah (verse 1). Chapter 10 describes the differentiation of nations, and asserts that we were all descended from Noah. The majority of scholars and Bible historians agree that most of--

the descendants of **Shem**, Noah's oldest son, stayed in the Middle East. These include the Hebrews, Persians and Assyrians.

the descendants of **Ham**, Noah's middle son, include the Egyptians, Ethiopians, Canaanites, Phoenicians and Hittites. His descendants appear to have done the best job of filling the earth, as they were the settlers of Africa, Asia, Australia, the South Pacific, and the Americas.

the descendants of **Japheth**, Noah's youngest son, migrated into Europe and parts of Central Asia. The Greeks, Romans, Spanish, Scythians, and Medes were Japheth's descendants.

Hamitic tribes may have originally migrated from Asia/predominantly African (Gen 5:1-32; Gen 5 9-10; 1Chron. 1:1-16; Luke 3:36-38)–

Noah's sons	- Shem, Ham , Japheth
Ham's sons	- Cush, Mizraim, Phut (Put), Canaan
Canaan's sons	- Sidon (Zidon)/Phoenicians
	Heth (Hittites)
Heth's sons	- Jebusites
	Amorites Sinites
	Girgashites Arvadites
	Hivites Zemarites
	Arkites Hamathites

Principal Hamitic tribes, nations and races--

Agagites, Algeria, Amalekites, Amorites, Anakim (giants), Anamites, Andaman Lislands, Angolas, Arkites, Arvadites, Australoids, Babylonians (Babylonia found by Nimrod), Bahamas, Bantu, Barbados, Botswana, Burundi, Bushmen, Cameroon, Canaanites, Caphtorim (Capthorites), Central African Republic, Chad, Comora Island, Congo Republic, Congo, Democratic Republic, Cushites, Dahomey (Benin), Egypt, Ekronite, Emim (giants), Equatorial Africa, Ethiopia (Abyssinia), Gabon, Gambia, Ghana,

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Gibeonites, Girgashites, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Hamathites, Hittites, Hivites, Hottentots, Horites (hurrians), Ivory Coast, Jebusites, Kenya, Lehabites, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Ludimites, Madagascar, Malagasy Republic, Malawi, Mali, Mauretania, Mauritius, Melanesia (Papua New Guinea), Morocco, Mozambique, Naphutites, Negritose, Nephilim (giants, pre and post Flood), Niger, Nigeria, Nilote, Ninevites, Pathrusites, Perizzites, Phoenicians, Philistines, Rephaim (giants, Zimbabwe, Rwanda, San Tome & Principe, Senegal, Sidonians (Zidonians), Sierra Leone, Sinits, Somali Republic, South Africa, Southwest Africa, Sudan, Sumereians, Squaziland, Tanzania, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, Uper Volta, Zaire, Zamibs Zemarites

God actually initiated His command to possess the land with Abram (Abraham). He promised Abram a ten-nation territory from the river of Egypt to the River Euphrates (Gen 10:19, 15:18-21). Three of the nation territories were temporarily given over to Esau's seed to be taken away in the millennium (Ez48, a near and far prophecy). Seven of the ten Hamitic (Canaanite) tribes were to be conquered through Moses (Deut. 7:1-2) and Joshua (Jos 12-13, 24:11) – Hittites, Girgashites, Amorites, Canaanites, Perizzites, Hivites, Jebusites.

During Moses' Life (focus--Deut. 7:1-2) - THE EXODUS

Time - March/April 1405 BC, end of 40 year wilderness; one month duration (Ex 23:23; Deut. 1:3, 34:8; Joshua 5:6-12)

Rulers - Egypt 1875 BC captivity - 1445 BC Exodus (430 years); Moses 1445 BC - 1405 BC during 40 year wilderness

God's Command/Warning - Conquer Canaan this time--7 nations greater and mightier than you (Deut. 7:1-2); making no covenant with them. Follow Joshua's leadership (Deut. 3:21-20).

Geography - The plains of Moab due east of Jericho and the Jordan River (Deut. 1:1, 29:1; Joshua 1:2)

Unfinished Business (Changing of the Guard) - Transferring leadership to Joshua and setting in the divine laws and principles for a new nation of almost 3 million people whose origins go back to Noah's 3 sons who had 70 children who birthed the nations of the whole world (Gen 9:18-19; Ex 1:7)

During Joshua's Life (Joshua 12-13, 24:11) - THE POSSESSION

Time - approx. 15 years, 1405-1390 BC

3 stages--1 month, March/April 1405 BC (Deut. 34:5-9; Josh 1-5)

Moses dies, Cross the Jordan

7 years, April 1405-1398 BC (Josh 6-13)

Conquer the land/7 nations

8 years, 1398/7-1390 BC (Josh 13-24)

Colonize the land

Rulers - of God's people--Joshua
of Canaanland--many hamitic tribes and kings

God's Command - Conquer Canaanland according as God has commissioned you (Josh 1:2-5) particularly those 7 nations greater and mightier than you (Josh 24:11) & Colonize Canaanland (Josh 12-24). In Joshua 12, we have a general view of the territory to be divided among the tribes of Israel, including the land on both sides of Jordan. The first six verses contain a list of the kings on the east side of Jordan conquered by Moses and their territories, and the remainder of the chapter gives the nations conquered by Joshua. The extent of this country from north to south was no more than a hundred and fifty miles and not more than fifty miles from east to west. The result of the whole conquest besides the previous victories over Sihon and Og, is summed up as including thirty-one kings of cities on the west of the Jordan, belonging to seven nations which had been mentioned in the first promise to Abraham: the Amorites, Canaanites, Girgashites, Hittites, Hivites, Jebusites and Perizzites. Special note is given to the extermination of the Anakim (giants), who had terrorized the spies and those remaining in the Philistine cities of Gaza, Gath and Ashdod. The defeat of the thirty-one kings did not involve in every case the capture of their cities. Jerusalem for example was not taken until after the death of Joshua. Many other cities held out for a long time.

Geography - All the land as promised to Abraham, Moses and Joshua (Gen 15:16-21, 17:8; Deut 11:24; Josh 1:3-4, 24:11)---from The River of Egypt to the River Euphrates

3 Phases of Conquest (Josh 6-12)

Central Canaan, Southern Canaan, Northern Canaan

Unfinished Business (Changing of the Guard) - Joshua's renewal of the Covenant, review of God's Faithfulness and Command to complete the conquest (The Book of Judges) and to stay pure and serve God in sincerity and truth (Josh 24:11, 13-15, 23-27)

During Nehemiah's Life (Nehemiah 1-6) - THE REBUILDING AND RESTORING

Time - 20 years, 445-425 BC

The Jews had already been in Jerusalem for some ninety years. A number had remained in Babylon and Persia.

Rulers - (Prior history to Nehemiah's time)

- After Solomon died, the nation of Israel divided into northern and southern kingdoms (930BC) and experienced about 325 years of chaos between each other and enemy nations.
- The Hebrews were in captivity by 2 subsequent empires
 - Babylon (Nebuchadnezzar, from 605 BC)
Daniel, Ezekiel and Zedekiah (Judah's last king) were exiled to Babylon; Jeremiah stayed and ministered in Jerusalem. Jerusalem was burned to the ground July 18, 586 BC.
 - Persians & Medes conquered Babylon and took over empire (Cyrus the Great/Darius the Mede, from Oct. 29, 539 BC). Cyrus appointed Darius the Mede to be king of the city of Babylon. During first year of reign, Cyrus allowed the Jews to return to Jerusalem and rebuild the Temple (remember, Jeremiah was in Jerusalem and predicted the length of captivity (Ezra 25:11-12, 29:10) and Isaiah actually called Cyrus by name some 170 years before (Is 44:28).

There were 3 separate returns over years. The duration of the return stage was approximately 140 years. It begins with the historical ministry of Ezra the scribe (Ezra 7:6-10), and ended with the prophetic ministry of Elijah the prophet (Mal. 4:5, 6).

Leaders of return journeys--
Zerubbabel (536 BC)
Ezra (455 BC)
Nehemiah (445 BC)

There were at least 5 Persian kings associated in some way with the period of return--

1-Cyrus the Great (539-530 BC)

Conquered Babylon and issued return and to rebuild Temple (Ezra 4:14). Daniel may have been involved in writing the decree

2-Cambyses (530-522 BC)

Son of Cyrus; ordered temple work halted through compromise and slander

3-Smerdis (522-520 BC)

4-Darius the Great (520-486 BC) (not Darius the Mede)

Established order in Persian empire after chaos followed Cambyses' death. He allowed temple work to continue (Haggai and Zechariah were ministering at that time (Ez 5:1-2). Temple was completed on Feb 18, 516 BC (Ez 6:15)

5-Xerxes I (486-465 BC)

Son of Darius the Great; also was Ahasuerus in the book of Esther, her husband

6-Artaxerxes (465-424 BC)

King Artaxerxes had shown kindness to Ezra some ten years before Nehemiah and would also honor Nehemiah's request to return to Jerusalem. This king was the son of Xerxes and therefore the stepson of Esther. His stepmother no doubt had much influence upon Artaxerxes' attitude toward Ezra and Nehemiah.

Nehemiah,

Son of Xerxes I & stepson to Esther

On throne when both Ezra & Nehemiah returned to Jerusalem

(Ez 7:1,8; Neh 2:1)

Ezra--a priest devoted to the Word of God/a Bible teacher, Scribe, Revivalist, and Reformer. His job was the purification of the people (Ez 7,9-10 Neh 8)

Nehemiah--cupbearer (personal secretary, administrator, valet) to emperor Artaxerxes; a politician and builder. He was a younger contemporary of Ezra. His main concern became the protection of the people of Jerusalem. The book of Nehemiah was an autobiography of his "call to the wall". His broken heart over the state of Jerusalem sent him off to rebuild the walls of God's chosen city 13 years after Ezra's return.

God's Command - Build the Walls of Jerusalem again

Geography - from Persia/Babylon to Jerusalem

Unfinished Business (Changing of the Guard) - Nehemiah went back to Persia in 432 BC but in 425 BC returned to Jerusalem.. A number had remained in Babylon and Persia. During that short period the old enemies of Nehemiah were surfacing again. During that time, Malachi dealt with the same problems as Ezra and Nehemiah. Those problems were--

Corrupt priests (Mal 1:6-2:9; Neh 13:1-9)

Neglect of tithes and offerings (Mal 3:7-12,
Neh. 13:10-13)

Intermarriage with pagan wives (Mal 2:10-16,
Neh. 13:23-28)

Nehemiah returned and boldly cleansed the people. His unlimited zeal and fearless actions caused all to repent and, at least for a time, restored the purity of God's people (Neh 13:23-31). He reminded the people that even Solomon sinned in these areas, and there was no greater than Solomon. They again remembered that God's ways are Sovereign and must be obeyed for the good of all. Nehemiah's prayers for mercy and repentance brought cleansing and joy back to Jerusalem again. Let us ask the Lord as Nehemiah did,

"...Remember me, O my God, for good!" (Neh 13:31).

7 GIANTS IN CANAANLAND (W/ WALLED CITIES)

Detail Study One

OUR NATION AND OUR CITIES

7 Giants in Canaanland (w/ walled cities) - Deut. 7:1-2, Joshua 12-13, 24:11

A person's name or even the name of a country has meaning and purpose. As God through Moses and Joshua commanded the people to enter the promised land and conquer certain enemies in that land, the origins and characteristics of those occupying tribes/nations are seen in history by the meaning of each name. As can be seen from the long list of Hamitic tribes, these seven enemies do not represent all the enemies we may need to face in our lives; but I believe they represent commanding strongholds that continually fight against God's people as we possess our land--our lives, our cities, our nation. I believe there was a reason for the scripture listing and order of these nations in Deut. 7:1. These enemies often work sequentially as well as in concert to weaken, paralyze, and enslave us. Their destructive activity is an often circular theme in our lives.

Let us identify each enemy/these giants and, as Joshua did, divide and conquer! Yet least we think we can do it all alone, remember the Lord's words in Deut.7:1-9,

“When the Lord your God brings you into the land which you go to possess, and has cast out many nations before you, the Hittites and the Girgashites and the Amorites and the Canaanites and the Perizzites and the Hivites and the Jebusites, **seven nations greater and mightier than you**, and when the Lord your God delivers them over to you, you shall conquer them and utterly destroy them. You shall make no covenant with them nor show mercy to them...The Lord did not set His love on you nor choose you because you were more in number than any other people, for you were the least of all peoples; but because the Lord love you, and because He would keep the oath which He swore to your fathers, the Lord has brought you out with a mighty hand, and redeemed you from the house of bondage, from the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt. Therefore, know that the Lord your God, He is God, the faithful God who keeps covenant and mercy for a thousand generations with those who love Him and keep His commandments;”

Notice how these seven nations were greater and mightier than God's people. Yet, God determined to deliver them Himself, **if** they would only believe and act according to His Word. We are all totally dependent on God's Love, Mercy, and Intervention. Sometimes, it also takes longer than we think to win over these giants in our lives (Ex 23:29-33). Supernatural endurance is a vital tool for winning over giants. Winners Never Quit! The only quitting we do is to Stop Fighting the Lord, our God!

Under the list of each giant, write down any areas in your life you find an enemy operating. Then, determine before God to conquer that area. Remember these giants are more than likely weaknesses of the flesh and do not necessarily involve demons or demonic activity. Demons definitely utilize these weaknesses in man and have access to our lives when these weaknesses are present. They then have access corporately in our

family, community, and nation. We are all affected. Our character and personality are influenced/alterd by these weaknesses. Whether it is purely a matter of the flesh or includes demonic activity, these weaknesses are our enemy. Yet, Jesus has made us to be overcomers! Jesus' power and presence in deliverance is felt through identifying the enemy in our flesh and Satan's army, confessing our part in giving the enemy access to our hearts and lives, giving and receiving repentance, and walking out the beautiful fruits of repentance with a renewed heart.

Throughout the years, we will daily bring our old behavior and structures we built to the cross to die. We then truly walk a resurrected life. Demons cannot usurp the authority of Jesus when there is no access through our flesh. This is Sanctification, Transformation, and Reformation...God's way.

Seven Giants in our lives

1. **FEAR** (Hittites)

[Gen 15:20, Ex 3:8, 17, 13:5, 23:23; Num 13:29; Deut 7:1; Josh 1:4, 3:10, 12:8, 24:11; Judges 1:26, 3:5; 1 Kings 9:20, 10:29, 11:1; 2Kings 7:6; 2 Chr 1:17, 8:7; Ezra 9:1; Neh 9:8]

"Chittiy" (khit-tee') - descendant of Heth, second son of Canaan "Cheth" (khayth) - Heth = terror; ancestor of the Hittites

"Chathath" (khaw-thath') - prim. root. to be shattered, be dismayed, be broken, be abolished, be afraid, to dismay, terrify

(once inhabitants of central Anatolia (modern Turkey) later north Lebanon. The Hittites were the first nation mentioned that Israel was to overcome. They were descendants of Heth (whose name means "terror, fear") and lived in the mountain regions of Canaan. (Num. 13:29) They were a well developed nation when Israel entered the land, and were known for their ferocity in warfare. Research and tradition tells us they would at times skin their captives alive to strike fear in the hearts of any other nation who dared to attack them!)

Prevention and Cure - Be a good soldier in spiritual warfare; rest and do not fret (Deut 3:21-22, 30:11-14) [ref.#7 see Truth in Action sheet]

2. **COMPROMISE** (Girgashites)

[Gen 15:21; Deut 7:1; Josh 3:10, 24:11; Neh 9:8]

"Girgashiy" (ghir-gaw-shee') - Girgashite or Girgasite = "dwelling on a clay or barren type of soil"; ancestor of Canaan

(The name of this people has been discovered in the Ugaritic inscriptions as 'grgs' and 'bn_grgs', that is, Girgash and the sons or children of Girgash. They are also known to us in the Hittite documents as the karkm; and in Egyptian records as the Kirkash. They settled to the east of the river Jordan between Galilee and the Dead Sea. Although some scholars believe they were scattered throughout the land without clear territorial lines. The Amorites are mentioned 87 times, the Canaanites 72 times, even the lowly Perizzites are mentioned 23 times; but the Girgashites are only mentioned 7 times and always as a tag on item to a list of the

more mentioned peoples. We may know that the Canaanites were the people who used purple dye, the Amorites were mountain people, the Hittites were Semites from the north, the Perizzites were those who lived in unwalled cities, the Girgashites are not known for anything although there is a wild speculation that the name might mean 'client of Gesh' who was the Sumerian god of light who was introduced to Palestine around 2,000 BCE.. Tradition says they fled to Africa; these peoples seemed to just fade away, their culture, lifestyle unknown to any great degree)

Prevention and Cure - Maintain moral purity and never compromise (Deut 22:13-21, 22:22) [ref. #6 see Truth in Action sheet]

3. **PRIDE** (Amorites)

[Gen 14:7, 15:16-21; Ex 3:8, 17, 13:5, 23:23; Numb 13:29, 21:13,21,25-26,31-34, 22:2, 32:33, 39; Deut 1:4,7, 19-20, 27, 44, 3:2,8,9, 4:46-47, 7:1, 31:4; Josh 2:10, 3:10, 5:1, 7:7, 9:10, 10:5,6,12, 12:2,8, 13:4,10,21, 24:8,11,12,15,18; Judges 1:34-36, 3:5, 6:10, 10:8,122, 11:19,21-23; 1 Sam 7:14; 2Sam 21:2; 1Kings 4:19, 9:20, 21:20; 2Kings 21:11; 2Chr 8:7; Ezra 9:1; Neh 9:8; Ps 135:11, 136:19; Is 17:9b]

"emoriy" (em-o-ree') - sense of publicity, prominence

"amar" (aw-mar') - prim. root. to say, speak, utter, to boast, to act proudly, ginsayer

(Known to the Sumerians as the Martu, and to the Akkadians as the Amurru, this people settled in the land of Canaan. They appear to have initially adapted a nomadic way of life, although they were soon to organize themselves into a very powerful and aggressive nation. The Amorites, indeed, were to conquer Babylonia, subsequently producing one of the most famous kings in the ancient world, Hammui, whose own name contains the designation Amarru)

Prevention & Cure - Maintain proper relationships, attitude, and continual God consciousness. Be God centered instead of self centered (Deut 8:10-20, 12:4,8,13, 13:1-5, 18:21,22; 21:18-21) [ref: #4 see Truth in Action sheet]

4. **LUST** (Canaanites)

[Gen 10:18,19, 12:6, 13:7, 15:31, 24:3, 37 34:30, 50:11; Ex 3:8,17, 13:5,11, 23:23; Numb 13:29, 14:25,43,45, 21:3; Deut 1:7, 7:1, 11:30; Josh 3:10, 5:1, 7:9, 11:3, 12:8,13:4 16:10, 17:12-12,16,18, 24:11; Judges 1:1, 3-5, 9, 10,17,27-33, 3:3,5; 2 Sam 24:7; 1King 9:16; Ezra 9:1; Neh 9:8, 9:24; Obadiah 1:20; Zech 11:7,11]

"K@na'an" (ken-ah-an-ee') - a merchant, trader, trafficker, peddler

"K@na'an" (ken-ah'-an) - "lowland" (Canaan)/in Greek Canaan

"kana" (kaw-nah') - prim. root. be brought down, be brought into subjection, humiliate, to subdue

(means "blood-red"; origin of name--4th son of Ham was Canaan and was cursed by grandfather Noah because of Noah being naked before Ham & Canaan (Gen

9:18-27). Some believe the crime involved was homosexual. The Hebrew language suggests this view. The phrase "nakedness of his father" in Gen 9:22 is definitely connected with sexual immorality in Leviticus 18 and 20. Ham's son, Canaan, was the ancestor of the Canaanite people who later populated the promised land and who were noted for their horrible habits of sexual perversion (Gen 10:19, 19:1-11, 1Kings 14:24, Rom 1:24-27). Some of the early cities founded by the Canaanites were Gezer, Megiddo, Jericho, Sodom, Gommorrah, and Jerusalem. The religious beliefs and deities of Babylonia were superimposed upon those of the primitive Canaanite. The Canaanite religion was without exaggeration the most sexually perverted, morally depraved, and bloodthirsty of all ancient history. Their religion was permeated with homosexuality, prostitution, and child sacrifice. Their carved idols were of gods, goddesses, and human sex organs. It was for this reason that God ordered Joshua to exterminate their very culture, citizens, and cities (Deut. 7:1-5, 20:10-15, Josh. 9:24). The phrase "his younger son" or "his youngest son" (as some translate it) is referring to Noah's youngest grandson, which was Canaan. Also, if taken as written in Gen. 5:32, Japheth was Noah's youngest son, and not Ham)

Prevention and Cure - Be totally devoted to God. Love Him only. (Deut 1:42, 4:1,2,6-8, 4:29, 6:4,5) [ref.#2 see Truth in Action sheet]

5. **STRIFE** (Perizzites)

[Gen 13:7, 15:20; Ex 3:8, 23:23; Deut 7:1, 20:17; Josh 3:10, 12:8, 17:15, 24:11; Judges 1:4-5, 3:5-7; 1 Kings 9:20; 2 Chr 8:7; Ezra 9:1-2; Neh 9:8]

"p@rizziy" (per-iz-zee) - belonging to a village, dweller in an unwalled city
 "paraz" (paw-rawz) - root meaning to separate, to decide, chieftain, warrior

(The Perizzites lived in the open country in the higher elevations of the land. (Josh.11:3) Their practice was to build their cities without walls, thus doing without the security such walls provided. Because of this, they were known as "dwellers in unwalled cities." They supposedly used diplomacy, negotiation, and craftiness as their means of defense and security.)

Prevention & Cure - Deal with sin at the thought/root level.
 (Deut 29:18, 31:5-8, 31:29) [ref:#5 see Truth in Action sheet]

6. **DECEPTION** (Hivites)

[Ex 3:8,17, 13:5, 23:23; Deut 7:1]

"Chivviy" (khiv-vee') - Hivite = "villagers"; 6th generation of Canaan descendants
 "chavvah" (khav-vaw') - life-giving, living-place, village, town, tent village,
 those whom one dwells amongst
 "Chavvah" (khav-vaw') - Eve = "life" or "living"; the first woman, wife of
 Adam; first woman deceived and reversing the created order of authority
 "chavah" (khaw-vah') - prim. root. to tell, declare, show, make known to deceive
 others, self deception

(Known to the ancient Greeks as the Heuaios, this people moved to the foothills of Lebanon during the Israelite conquest of Canaan. Solomon was later to use Hivites as builders. The Hivites were known as being "tent villagers." They built few cities, preferring rather to live in tent villages scattered throughout the wide valleys and plains of Canaan. They were primarily nomadic herdsman, and built their tent villages with the tanned skins of their goats. The Hivites were similar to the Perizzites in several ways. One was that they also used diplomacy and craftiness as their means of defence. Probably the best known occasion of their trickery was when a small segment deceived Joshua and the men of Israel into making a league with them at Gilgal. (Josh.9:1_27))

Prevention and Cure - Know God and His Ways (Deut 2:14, 7:22, 32:11,12) [ref. #1 see Truth in Action sheet]

7. **DEPRESSION** (Jebusites)

[Gen 15:21; Ex 3:8,17, 13:5, 23:23; Num 13:29; Deut 7:1; Josh 3:10, 12:8, 15:63, 24:11; Judges 1:21, 3:5, 19:11; 2 Sam 5:6,8; 1Kings 9:20; 1 Chr 11:4,6; 2Chr 8:7; Ezra 9:1; Neh 9:8]

"Y@buwciy" (yeb-oo-see') - Jebusite = "descendants of Jebus", from 3rd son of Canaan and lived in or around the site of Jebus, the early name for Jerusalem; lived among the inhabitants of Jerusalem and could not drive them out (Josh 1:21; 15:63)

"Y@buwc" (yeb-oos') - Jebus = "threshing place", city of the Jebusites, early name for Jerusalem; also "Jebusi"

"buwc" (boos) - prim root. to tread down, reject, trample down, to be trodden down

(The posterity of Jebus settled in the mountainous regions of Judea where, due to their strong and natural fortifications, they were able to withstand the armies of Israel. The original city of Jebus came later to be known as Jerusalem, the Urusalimmu of the Amara tablets)

Prevention and Cure - Be holy and separated from the world; a positive and disciplined life (Deut. 11:18-21, 12:25,28,32, 30:15-20) [ref. #3 see Truth in Action sheet]

7 GIANTS IN JERUSALEM (W/ THE WALLS DOWN)

Detail Study Two

OUR OWN CITY, NEIGHBORHOODS, FAMILIES, CHURCHES

7 Giants in Jerusalem (w/ the walls down)

Nehemiah 4-6 (same enemies listed in Ez 22:4-26)

As we experience our exodus from captivity and win over the seven enemies or giants in our land (our nation and cities) by tearing down the enemy's walls and possessing the land, it is time to rebuild and restore. When possessing the land, rebuilding and restoring are essential to holding on to the land. You will find after numerous battles, your own protective walls were attacked and torn down during the battles. It is time to rebuild those protective walls in your life. As you begin to rebuild you will also begin to reestablish those protective walls and gates for your own city, neighborhoods, families and churches.

During the rebuilding process seven strategically repeated attacks will usually come to stop you. They will repeatedly come in sequence and in concert to stop rebuilding the land. Just as the giants in the land fought to keep ownership of your promised land, there will be a team of giants in the land assigned to specific tasks. These attacks will be more targeted and personal. They will be covert and overt. They will come in the guise of friendship or outright attack. These attacks will be much closer to home and community as they try to hinder final restoration. After coming so far, are we going to stop now?

As you review Nehemiah's life and walk with God, one could summarize his character with the word "integrity". His life was totally in God's Sovereign Hands as he went to rebuild the walls of God's chosen city, Jerusalem. He too faced 7 enemies or attacks very much like Joshua and the army of Israel. In addition, he was targeted by 7 other more personally targeted giants. These giants in your life, home, and community display themselves unfortunately through other people.

Nehemiah's experiences with these giants give us clear examples of the tactics of certain people in our everyday life. Although there were other people involved (ie. Geshem, an influential Arab or Samaritan) these oppositions and attacks on Nehemiah were essentially orchestrated through two people--

Sanballat (Heb. meaning, "The Enemy is Secret"; Sin-the moon god; remember Jericho's root meaning was also "its moon or moon") - an influential Samaritan and governor of Samaria; sought to assassinate Nehemiah but failed in his various intimidations; he was attempting to have control of all of Judea; a Horonite (Beth-horon, 3 km. NE of Jerusalem), an enemy of the Jews

Tobiah (meaning Yahweh is good) - an Ammonite servant that was an expert at ridiculing the Jews; might have been a high-ranking Persian official w/ Jewish ancestry and a deputy of Sanballat's. He was silenced by the diligence of the people and had many important friends among the Hebrews

Nehemiah responded to each giant decisively. The pattern of victory in warfare was the same--

The Attack/attacker identified

The Enemy's strategy/motives identified

The Response was firm and swift

Let us review each attack and how Nehemiah responded. Again, write down on the list provided any areas of your life Satan and his giants have targeted you for defeat. Much can be learned by understanding how Nehemiah dealt with each attack. Read Nehemiah chapters 1-3 before you begin this journey into your land of giants. Focus on Nehemiah's ability to discern what and who was the enemy, Nehemiah's open humility with his motives, and finally his confidence in taking firm and swift action.

Seven Attacks in our lives

1. **RIDICULE** (2:19, 4:1-6)

Hebrew/Greek definition - many definitions; main meaning-- to mock, scorn, be a byword, to taunt

Modern definition - to banter, show contempt, disrespect, to be impudent, deride, disdain, make fun of

The **ATTACK** - (external) The enemy furious, showed contempt, mocked the people, plan, and materials. They made fun of the Jews at their feeble attempt at building the wall up again; cheap workmanship and incapable workmen

The **STRATEGY/MOTIVE** - To stop the work and control the territory

The **RESPONSE** - Prayed to God

Ignored Sanballat and Tobiah

Continued to work till the wall was joined to half its height

The people had a mind to work

Didn't allow ridiculing talk to interfere

Scripture references regarding ridicule and remedies--

2 Kings 2:23 (mock SC#7046)

Youth mocking Elisha

2 Chron 30:10 (mock SC #3932)

Tribes mocking messenger

of God - refuse to come to Jerusalem

Prov. 14:9 (mock SC#3887)

Fools that mock repentance of sin

Ps 123:4 (scorn SC#3933)

Have had our fill of the scorning and ridicule of the rich and proud

Deut 28:37 (byword SC#8148)

Become a byword because of disobedience

Luke 14:29 (mock SC#1702)

Jesus is mocked

Matt 20:19 (mock SC#1702)

Jesus is mocked

Jude 18 (mock SC#1703)

Mockers go after their own desires; false teachers

2. **PHYSICAL DANGER/THREAT OF ATTACK** (4:7-9)

Hebrew/Greek definition - to do evil, to do injury, to be in danger, in jeopardy, in perils

Modern definition - Peril or uncertainty of physical safety

The **ATTACK** -(external) Rage and anger, conspire together to attack them physically

The **STRATEGY/MOTIVE** - Create confusion, control and kill leaders

The **RESPONSE** - Prayed to God

Set a watch against the enemy day and night

Continued to work on wall

Scripture references regarding danger and remedies--

Prov 27:12 (evil SC#7451)

A wise man sees evil and takes refuge

Matt 5:21 (danger SC#1777)**

Those who hate, put themselves in danger

(hold a grudge against someone)

Luke 8:22-24 (jeopardy SC#2793)

The disciple in a boat in a storm w/ Jesus

asleep-in danger

Rom 8:35 (peril SC#2794)

Nothing including danger can keep the love

of Christ from us

2 Cor 11:26 (perils SC#2794)

Paul's many dangers, yet victorious & still

keeping on

3. **DISCOURAGEMENT** (4:10-23)

Hebrew/Greek definition - anguish, impatient, grieved, dismayed, faint, oppressed, discouraged, melt away

Modern definition - depressed, saddened, cast a gloom, weigh heavy upon, cast down, disheartened, sink one's soul

The **ATTACK** - (Internal & External) The leaders complaining and discouraged because the strength of the laborers is failing/the strength of the burden bearers is weakening

Too much rubbish that they cannot continue building the wall

The enemy continually taunts and boasts to everyone that they will surprise attack, kill us, and stop the work

The **STRATEGY/MOTIVE** - to weaken from within by constant harassment and fear of attack

The RESPONSE -

Positioned men--

Behind the lower parts of the wall at the openings, so no one will sneak in

Set the people--

According to families w/ swords, spears, and their bows

Exhorted the rulers/nobles, leaders, and the people with his own confidence in God--

Do not be afraid

Remember the Lord, Great and Awesome

The enemy's plans became known to us; God had exposed and frustrated their plan and it came to nothing

Everyone returned to the wall-building

Change of Work/Watch strategy--24 hours work/watch:

Half at construction w/ weapons near by

Half at guard/held spears, shields, bows and wore armor

Warning trumpet right beside Nehemiah to rally people to a central point for attack

Leaders began to fully support the work and people

Again, exhorted everyone that "Our God will fight for us"

Scripture references regarding discouragement and remedies--

Ex 6:9 (anguish SC#7115)

People discouraged & in anguish over bondage so much they couldn't receive God's promise from Moses

Num 21:4 (discouraged much)

People discouraged from the wilderness travel/grieved

SC#7114)

Deut 1:21, 31:8, Josh 1:9

Be not dismayed, the land is yours

Deut 1:28 (discouraged SC#4549)

Brothers discouraged people hearts/melt away with talk about the giants in the land

Job 4:5 (faint SC#03811)

Hezekiah is oppressed over his sickness

Is 38:9-20 (oppressed SC#6234)

God not discouraged & shall not fail

Is 42:4 (discouraged SC#7533)

Faint not at my trials

Eph 3:13 (faint SC#1573)

Fathers do not provoke your children and discourage them

Col 3:21 (discouraged SC#120)

Some specific remedies--

1 Kings 19:2-4

"What are you doing here?"

Num 1:10-15, Is 38:9-20,
Ps 55:22

Cast your burdens on the Lord

Mark 6:31

Come aside by yourselves & rest--take a break

Luke 21:28

Lift up your heads, see your deliverance is on the way

4. **EXTORTION** (5:1-13)

Hebrew/Greek definition - take by force, claim for oneself eagerly, lend for interest, usury, to bite, extort, oppress, defraud

Modern definition - overcharge, over-assessed, usury, exploitation, profiteering

The **ATTACK** - (Internal) Problems from within Nehemiah's own people

Morale very low resulted in--

1. external pressures
2. physical exhaustion
3. fear
4. internal problems...Four difficulties--
 - ! Food shortage/famine because of wallbuilding (v2)
 - ! Mortgaging fields, vineyards, homes for grain (v3)
 - ! Borrowing money from Jewish brothers at exorbitant interest rates to pay property taxes to King Artaxerxes (v4)
 - ! Selling their children into slavery to pay off creditors (v5)

These difficulties sound like today's problems.

The **STRATEGY/MOTIVE** - To further weaken morale from within as well as from physical exhaustion and fear. The Target--division in the ranks/to stop the work

The **RESPONSE** - Deep anger toward certain people's selfishness, greed, and insensitivity. Those who should have been the most compassionate (ie. nobles and officials) were most guilty of exploitation

After deep thought and calming down, action was taken--

- ! Nobles/rulers were rebuked
- ! Stopped usury/interest charged through a public trial or assembly
- ! Restored to the people the lands, vineyards, olive groves, houses and 1/100th part of money, grain, wine, and oil charged
- ! Required an oath from the priests to abide by the promise they made to restore the people's possessions

Scripture references regarding extortion & remedies--

Prov 28:8 (NIV, ampl)**	"He who by charging excessive interest and who by unjust efforts to get gain increases his material possession gathers it for him [to spend] who is kind and generous to the poor."
Lev 6:4	Those found guilty of extortion and thievery by oppression must restore what was taken.
Ez 18:13,18, 22:12	Unjust interest charged in order to oppress and increase dishonest profit destroys a person's life.
Ps 62:10	Trust not in extortion and oppression, nor robbery; if riches increase, do not set your heart on them.
Ec 7:7	Extortion and oppression make a wise man a fool, and a bribe destroys his understanding and ability to make decisions.

At this point in the record of Nehemiah 5:14-19, Nehemiah, himself declared his motives and behavior from the beginning. What gave him the capacity to be such an unselfish example to a nation? He had a deep reverential fear of God and intimate fellowship with His Creator. He knew the laws of God and knew God's voice and obeyed. A nation follows a leader who takes God's stand and walks his talk. He knows where his source of strength resides against these giants. Let us go on to the last three attacks which were designed to entrap and destroy.

5. **COMPROMISE** (6:1-4)

Hebrew/Greek definition - related in context from...feign, slip away, wrong fellowship
Modern definition - make concessions, yield, give away, desert one's principles, evade responsibility, gamble with, put in jeopardy, lay open, run into or encounter danger

The **ATTACK** - (External-covert/subtle) After wall was essentially rebuilt except for hanging the doors in the gates, the enemy sent four messages asking for a meeting/dialogue session in the plains of Ono (meaning "strong"; was a rebuilt town of Benjamin tribe, a warring tribe)

The **STRATEGY/MOTIVE** - To kill Nehemiah
A more subtle satanic attack--Deception that leads to Dangerous Dialogue and Delay (ie. a play on emotions--aren't you known to be a peacemaker? Let's get together)

The **RESPONSE** - Oh, no! Why should I leave this great work to come down and let you kill me! (sent 4 times)

Scripture references regarding compromises and remedies--

Ps 1:1 (related to concessions made w/ the ungodly)	Doesn't walk, stand, or sit with the ungodly <u>walk</u> in ungodly counsel <u>stand</u> in way w/ sinners <u>sit</u> in the seat of the scornful When you share in ungodly ways, you may walk for awhile, then stand, then eventually sit; your life eventually stops.
Ps 17:5 (slip SC#505)	Do not slip; hold my steps that I will not slip.
Heb 2:1 (slip away SC#3901)	Pay careful attention to your walk, lest in any way you drift and slip away.
Rom 12:9 (unfeigned, w/o compromise SC#505,5271)	Let love be with honest sincerity, genuine (w/o hypocrisy, hidden motives, compromise,
2 Cor 6:14-18	No compromise with unbelievers; Do not be inconsistent with your faith; light has nothing to do with darkness.
Gal 1:8-10, 2 John 7:11	Related to false teachers; Do not please men; please God; preach only Christ; no compromise; no mixture.
Eph 5:11	Related to works of darkness: Don't compromise w/ darkness but rather expose/reprove them.

6. SLANDER (6:5-9)

Hebrew/Greek definition - speak evil of, blasphemy, use the tongue to slander, talebearer, backbite, to defame, evil report

Modern definition - defamation, monstrous lie, scandal, libel, backbiting, out and out lie, gross or flagrant/shameless falsehood, speak ill behind one's back, malicious gossip, character assassination, whispering campaign

The ATTACK - (External-overt/open) Message sent a 5th time by the enemy--
Open Letter of Slander and Threats to meet together or else!

More open satanic attack--Public Accusations by Rumors and Lies (ie. again, a play on the emotions; defend yourself! As if this shows themselves to be honest and not hiding anything!)

The STRATEGY/MOTIVE - Since the more subtle messages of compromise didn't work to trap him in a vulnerable position, a stronger, more public threat based on total lies was hoped to shake Nehemiah from his firm stand. Letter was filled with slanderous accusations & rumors--

- to rebel
- to build own empire
- to appoint false prophets to legitimize your divine authority
- to become king to gain political/military authority

So, let's meet to have you answer/respond to these matters (said the spider to the fly!) Take counsel together? Who's kidding who? After all, human beings must defend themselves at all costs! The strategy was again to intensify the people's fears and discouragement by killing the leaders in order to stop the work.

The RESPONSE - A firm but simple declaration that the rumors are complete lies and the enemy invented them himself.

Motives exposed by God's revelation.

Prayed to God for their hands to be strengthened!

Scripture references regarding slander and remedies--

*****Lev 19:16 (talebearer SC#7400)	Do not go about spreading slander among your people and do nothing to endanger your neighbor's life.
Num 14:36 (slander SC#1681)	The spies brought back a slanderous report about the promised land--bringing <u>slander upon the land</u> .
Ps 31:13 (slander), Prov 10:18	One becomes a fool when God's anointed is slandered.
Ps 15:3 (backbite SC#7270)	Those who will dwell in God's tabernacle are those who...do not backbite or slander.
Ps 101:5 (slander SC#3960)	Be warned about privately slandering your neighbor.
Matt 15:11-12,19 (blaspheme SC#988)	Out of the heart comes...we must endure the slander.
Eph 4:31 (evil speaking SC#988)	Put aside evil speaking.
2 Cor 12:20 (backbiting SC#2636)	Will we find these in our church?...debate, jealousy, rage, strife, slander (backbiting).
1 Tim 5:14 (speak w/ reproach)	Give the enemy no opportunity for slander of no one!
Titus 3:2 (speak evil SC#987)	
James 4:11, 1 Pet 2:1, 2 Pet 2:10, Jude 1:8	Speak no evil of one another.

7. **TREACHERY** (6:10-14)

Hebrew/Greek definition - trespass, treachery, to lie, to deceive, to betray
Modern definition - dishonesty, falseheartedness, unreliable, unstable, doubledealing, foulplay, pretending friendship in order to betray

The ATTACK - (External-covert) Since the public attacks didn't work, another more sinister subtle plot was planned. A secret informer Shemaiah (so-called friend) hired by Sanballet tried to persuade Nehemiah to run and hide for his life. Shemaiah (whose Hebrew name means "Jehovah has heard") claimed God told

him Nehemiah would be killed that very night. This was a personal and private/covert satanic attack through lies of a false prophet.

The STRATEGY/MOTIVE - To discredit the leader, tarnish his integrity; to establish an evil report about Nehemiah; to make him afraid and act sinfully out of fear for his own life.

The RESPONSE - I will not be a coward and sin! Anyway, what is this one life among all of God's people!

- ! God revealed the informer was from the enemy and knew his strategy and motives.
- ! Prayed to God (Ps 59--David's Triumph over Treachery)

Scripture references regarding treachery and remedies--

Remember that treachery is most often accompanied by--

Deceit	Gen 34:13-31
Soothing Words	Judg. 9:1-5
Professed favor	1 Sam 18:17-19
Pretense	Dan 6:1-8

and anyone can be snared by it...man, woman, king, a son, an enemy, a disciple.
Jesus was treacherously betrayed by--

Friends	Matt 10:4
Sinners	Matt 17:22
Men	Matt 26:45
Religious leaders	Matt 20:18

You may be betrayed also by--

Parents	Luke 21:16
Brothers (Cultural, racial)	"
Relatives	"
Friends	"

Additional references--

Is 24:16 (treacherously SC#0898)	Although Praise to God for His judgments are heard, His heart is heavy because evil and treachery are still everywhere.
Lam 1:2	So called friends deal treacherously & do not comfort.
Ps 73:15 (offend; ampl)**	I am frustrated w/ the ease of & mocking by the wicked; and if I voiced my feelings, said that all I get out of being pure is trouble and woe, I would betray (deal treacherously) with God's own people now and future

Is 33:1 (treacherous ampl.)**	generations. But when I went into the sanctuary & meditated then I knew their end. Woe to you who deal treacherously w/ others although/even when they do not deal treacherously with you.
Jer 12:6 (treacherous)**	Even your brethren are treacherous with you. Do not believe them even though their words are smooth and w/ favor.
Lev 26:40 (trespass SC#4604)	Confess treachery; repent.
2 Sam 19:26 (betrayed, deceived SC#7411)	
Acts 7:52 (betrayed SC#4273)	Jews betrayed and murdered their Messiah.

Even with all the harassment and dangerous situations God's people encountered, the wall was completed in an amazing 52 days! They did not give up. They followed God's plan through Nehemiah. Remember, that even when a great work is completed, the enemy is never far off. He continues to plot against you and God's work in your life (6:19). Tobiah continued to write harassing letters and plot against Nehemiah. The enemies and their strategies are the same today.

Remember to use these scriptures for all we have learned about the enemy. God exhorts and warns us with the following__

- | | |
|-------------------------|--|
| Eph. 6:10-20 | The Armor of God (especially remember the two offensive weapons--the Word of God and prayer. You must know how to use these indestructible weapons. This sword brings life, not death! |
| Philp. 2:12-16
4:6-9 | Hold fast, Continue the work, God will work His plan through you. Be anxious for nothing, Keep God's thoughts always, Walk in the peace of God. |
| Col. 3:15-17
(ampl) | Let the peace of God be your umpire in all matters of life. |

Always remember...

THE GREATER THE WORK, THE GREATER THE OPPOSITION!



VICTORY IS YOURS...

***EVEN IN THE MIDST OF
THE GIANTS' NOISE!***

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