



A TIME TO BUILD

# NEHEMIAH

**Chapter 4:1-23**

# **DISCOURAGEMENT**

**To be Discouraged:  
A loss of confidence  
or enthusiasm**

**To Discourage:  
An attempt to prevent something  
by showing disapproval  
or creating difficulties**



# **OBSTACLES**

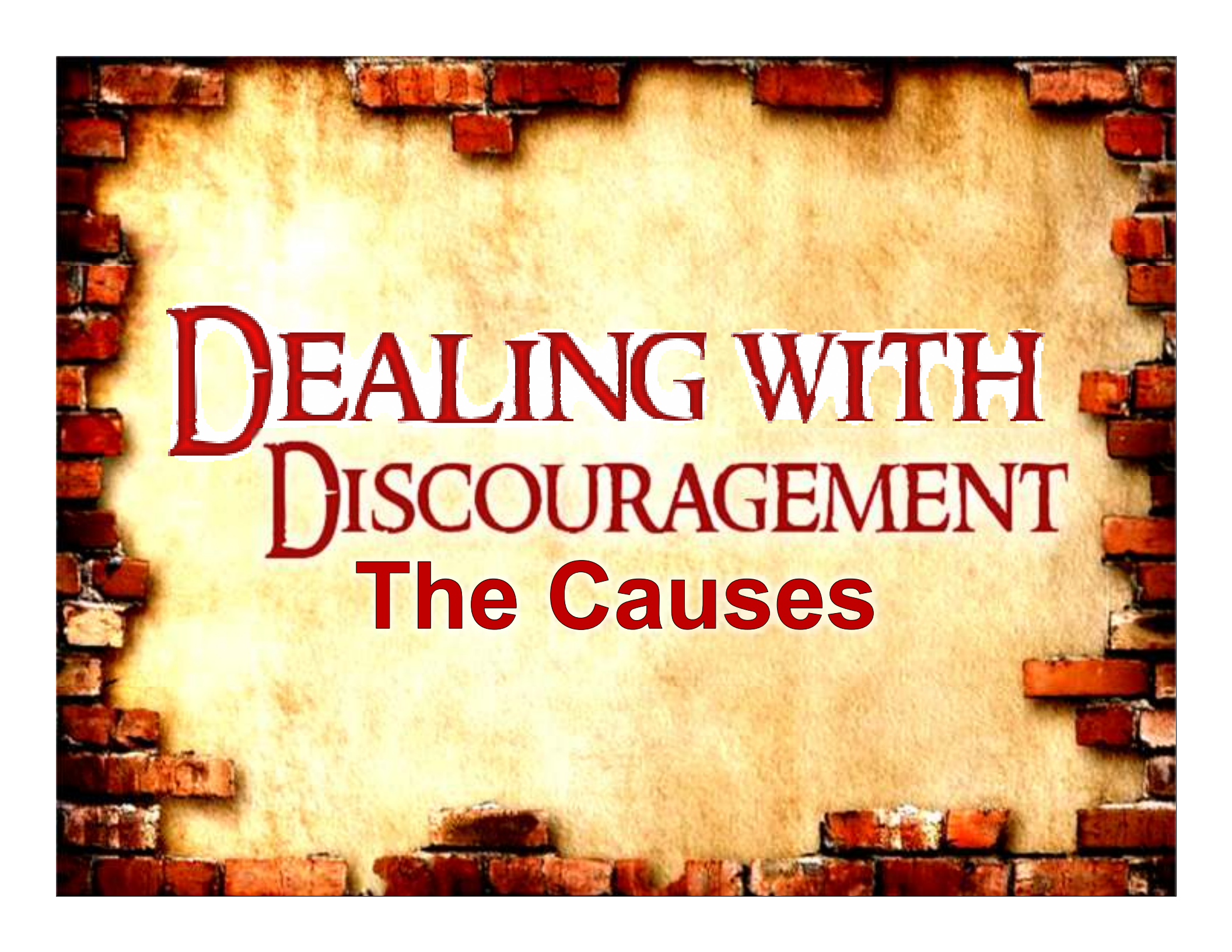
**They had people that  
would not listen**

**They had enemies that  
tried to stop them**

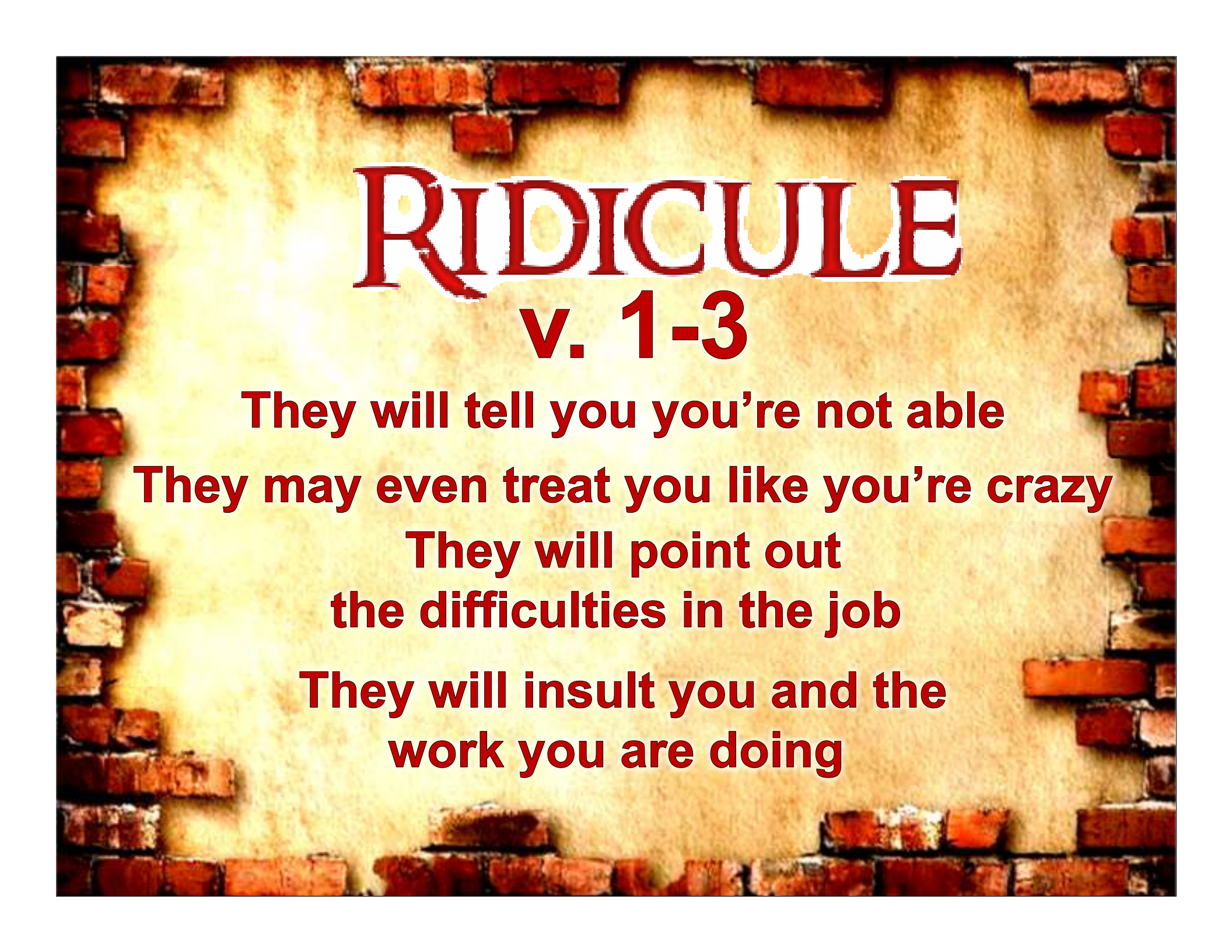
**Even friends & family  
that worked against them**

The image features a central text area with a light beige, textured background. This central area is framed by a border of red bricks, which are arranged in a pattern that is slightly irregular and appears to be peeling away from the surface, creating a sense of depth and texture. The text is written in a large, bold, serif font with a dark red color and a white outline, making it stand out prominently against the background.

# HOW NOT TO BECOME DISCOURAGED

The background of the slide is a textured wall. The central portion is a light beige, mottled plaster that appears to be peeling away from the underlying structure. This central area is framed by a border of red bricks, which are also visible at the top and bottom edges of the image. The bricks are arranged in a traditional pattern, with some mortar visible between them.

# DEALING WITH DISCOURAGEMENT The Causes



# **RIDICULE**

## **v. 1-3**

**They will tell you you're not able**  
**They may even treat you like you're crazy**  
**They will point out**  
**the difficulties in the job**  
**They will insult you and the**  
**work you are doing**



# **PLOTS**

**v. 7-8**

**When the words don't stop you  
the conflict will escalate**

**You may even find  
yourself being threatened**

**Your enemies will  
seem very large**

# **OVERWHELMED**

**v. 10**

**You're giving it your all**

**But really are you making a difference?**

**You getting tired but there is still  
so much to do**

**The past (rubble) is getting  
in the way**

**You begin to doubt**



The background of the slide is a textured wall. The central portion is a light beige, mottled plaster that appears to be peeling away from the underlying structure. This central area is framed by a border of red bricks, which are also visible at the top and bottom edges of the image. The bricks are arranged in a traditional pattern, with some mortar visible between them.

# DEALING WITH DISCOURAGEMENT The Solutions



# PRAY

**Hear us, our God, for we are despised. Turn their insults back on their own heads. Give them over as plunder in a land of captivity. Do not cover up their guilt or blot out their sins from your sight, for they have thrown insults in the face of the builders.**

**v. 4-5**

# ACKNOWLEDGE MILESTONES

**So we rebuilt the wall till all of it reached half its height, for the people worked with all their heart.**

**v. 6**



# **FORTIFY YOUR WEAKNESSES**

**Therefore I stationed some of the people behind the lowest points of the wall at the exposed places, posting them by families, with their swords, spears and bows.**

**v. 13**

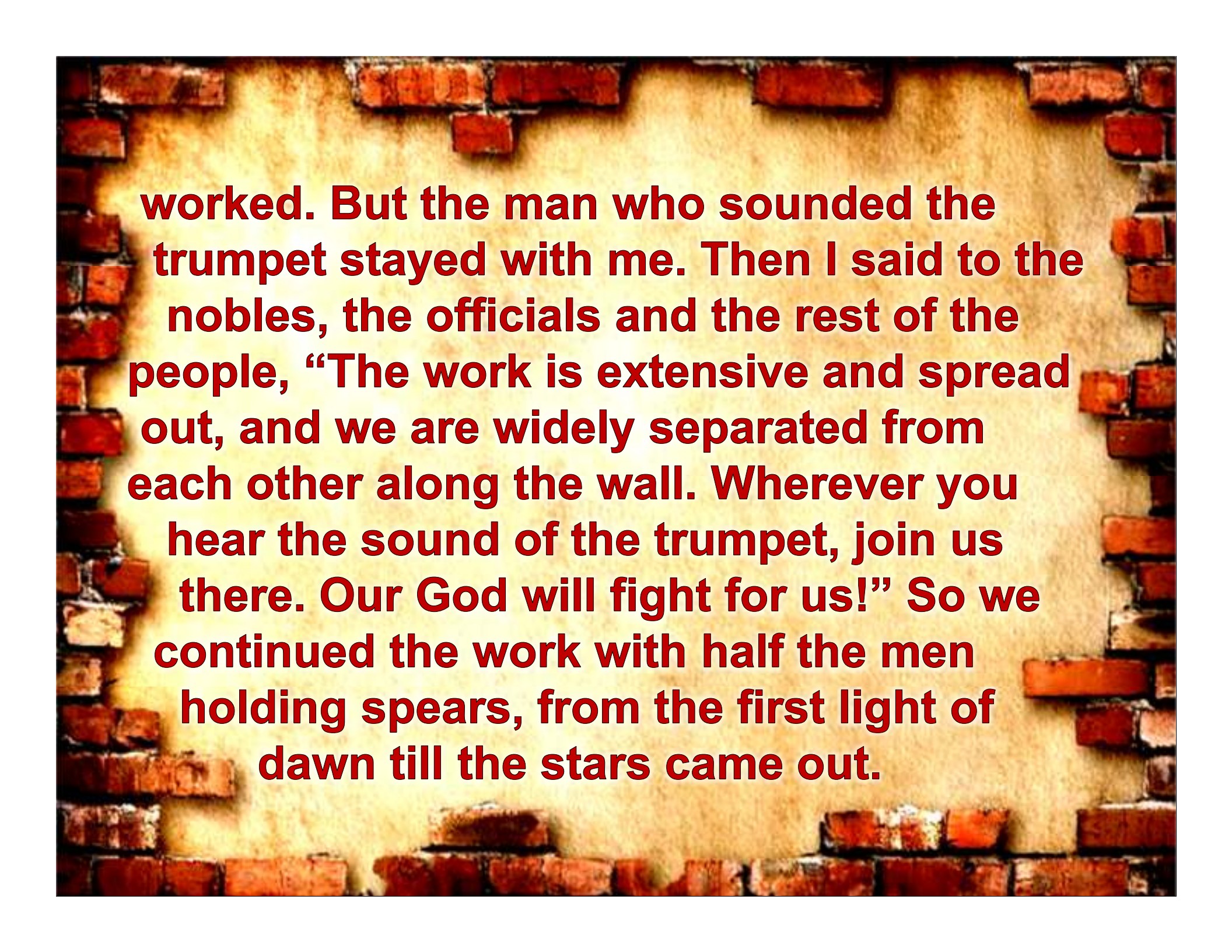
# REMEMBER GOD'S IN CONTROL

**After I looked things over, I stood up and said to the nobles, the officials and the rest of the people, “Don’t be afraid of them. Remember the Lord, who is great and awesome, and fight for your families, your sons and your daughters, your wives and your homes.”**

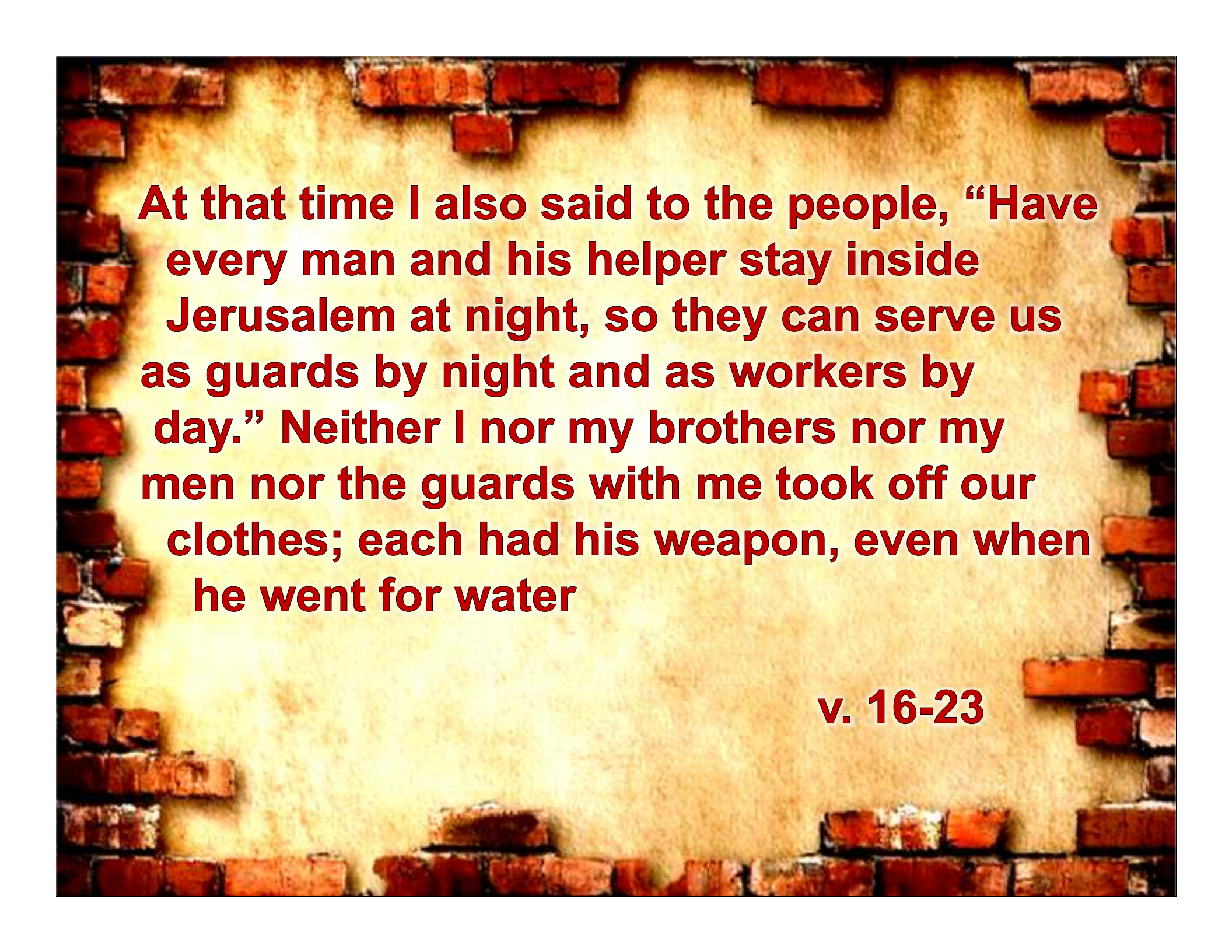
**v. 14**

# RALLY TOGETHER

**From that day on, half of my men did the work, while the other half were equipped with spears, shields, bows and armor. The officers posted themselves behind all the people of Judah who were building the wall. Those who carried materials did their work with one hand and held a weapon in the other, and each of the builders wore his sword at his side as he**



**worked. But the man who sounded the trumpet stayed with me. Then I said to the nobles, the officials and the rest of the people, “The work is extensive and spread out, and we are widely separated from each other along the wall. Wherever you hear the sound of the trumpet, join us there. Our God will fight for us!” So we continued the work with half the men holding spears, from the first light of dawn till the stars came out.**



**At that time I also said to the people, “Have every man and his helper stay inside Jerusalem at night, so they can serve us as guards by night and as workers by day.” Neither I nor my brothers nor my men nor the guards with me took off our clothes; each had his weapon, even when he went for water**

**v. 16-23**





# **DISCOURAGE THE DISCORAGERS**

**When our enemies heard that we were aware of their plot and that God had frustrated it, we all returned to the wall, each to our own work.**

**v. 15**

# NEHEMIAH

IT IS TIME TO  
BUILD

