



Ebenezer International Ministries, Inc

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Haile: By the time you read this Haile will have returned to Ethiopia. Whenever he is stateside it is always a whirlwind of meetings, and travel, and planning, and speaking engagements, but we enjoy our time together. During Haile's visit God blessed our plans for the future and broadened our vision. It is so amazing to witness the power of God as he provides and moves in the hearts of people to bring about His purposes. Thanks so much to all who opened your hearts, your homes, and churches to Haile while he was here. Your love and support provide much needed encouragement.

Ethiopia: In Ethiopia arrangements are being made to facilitate an evangelism team sponsored by the Don Whitt Evangelistic Association, which will arrive in September. The team will do evangelistic outreach and hold a pastors' conference. In addition, in November there is a church in Georgia that is planning to bring a group of youth to work with and minister to young people in Ethiopia. We will inform you more about that as the project develops. The container load of paper arrived in Ethiopia a few weeks ago, so that need has been met for the time being. Thanks again to Jerry Spencer Ministries for spearheading that effort. Although the print shop is currently in use, construction continues. While Haile was in the States we received some monetary and material donations that should go a long way towards finishing this project. Construction of a multi-purpose building has begun on the grounds of Cross Pointe Christian Academy. This building will be used to host youth programs, pastors' conferences, crusades, multi-church meetings, and house mission teams, among other things. The walls are starting to come up, now. A ladies group at Milan First Baptist has collected enough funds to build a church, so we should have a new church to dedicate this spring. The first group of students at Cross Pointe Christian Academy is now in the ninth grade. There is an urgent need to build a structure to house the future high school students so that they can continue their education.

From the Chairman: Nay-sayers. They have always been with us. Those that, for whatever reason, think it is their calling in life to douse the flames of passion, zeal, and excitement wherever they find it. Some are driven by an inborn hatred for whatever the cause may be. Others simply succumbed to the nay-sayers at some point in the past. Despite their initial passion and excitement, the nay-sayers confirmed the personal doubts and fears that they harbored, and now they have become one of them. Passionless, apathetic, with no vision, and no real hope. They settled for the status quo and encourage others to do likewise. Some are probably well-meaning. They don't want you to be disappointed the way they were. Jesus had them. - "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" - You know Noah heard their taunts for years while he was building the ark. Nehemiah, the cup-bearer, was surrounded by them. The leader of his tormentors was Sanballat and he knew how to push all the buttons. "What makes you think you are capable of building this wall?" - "You don't have the resources, man power, or skills." - "Your people haven't been able to rebuild it in all the time since they have returned from exile. What makes you think you can do it now?" - "What are you going to do, call on your God? How well has that worked for your people so far?" - "Even if you do get it built, it will never stand."

Nehemiah heard all of this. You know it had to sting, and you know it played hard on any personal doubts and fears he may have had. However, in Nehemiah chapter 4, after hearing the onslaught of the nay-sayers, you find this statement (V.6), "So we rebuilt the wall..." Somehow, despite all the negativity, Nehemiah managed to stay the course. So, what was his formula for success? It was pray, prepare, pray some more, then proceed. What gave him the confidence that his method would work?

He knew something that the nay-sayers always overlook. God had inserted Himself into the equation, and God can do anything He wants, when He wants, any way He wants, with anybody He chooses to use. Don't let the nay-sayers drag you down. **BUILD THE WALL!**

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