

# Before the THRONE

## The Devotional

Volume 1

Books of the Law & History

Nehemiah 6:15-19

“So the wall was finished... and it came to pass, when all our enemies heard of this... and saw this that they were cast down in their own eyes, for they perceived that this work was of God. Further, in those days the nobles of Judah sent letters to Tobiah... for many in Judah were sworn to him. And they also reported Tobiah’s good deeds to me, and reported my words to him, and Tobiah sent letters to me to put me in fear.” Nehemiah 6:15-19

Coming to spiritual maturity does not mean that we are immune from opposition – the opposite may be true – increased conflict.

One of the severest, at least deepest pains that the servant of the Lord may experience is the pain received at the hand of one called “friend”. “Even my best friend, the one I trusted completely, the one who shared my food, has turned against me.” (Psalm 41:9 NLT) We expect our enemy to attack us. We can expect him to lie and try to deceive others concerning us, but, a friend? “It is not an enemy who taunts me – I could bear that. It is not my foes who so arrogantly insult me – I could have hidden from them. Instead, it is you – my equal, my companion and close friend. What good fellowship we enjoyed as we walked together to the house of God.” (Psalm 55:12-14 NLT).

Betrayal is surely a hard lesson to learn, but in it we touch the heart of Jesus as He experiences such deep hurt from, not as you may think, Judas, but from our own unfaithfulness to Him!

May these experiences drive us closer to the heart of the Jesus all the while enabling us to remain faithful and full of integrity in spite of the pressures exerted upon us to side with the enemy against our Friend!

“Lord, forgive me! Lord, help me stand steadfast and faithful – to the end!”