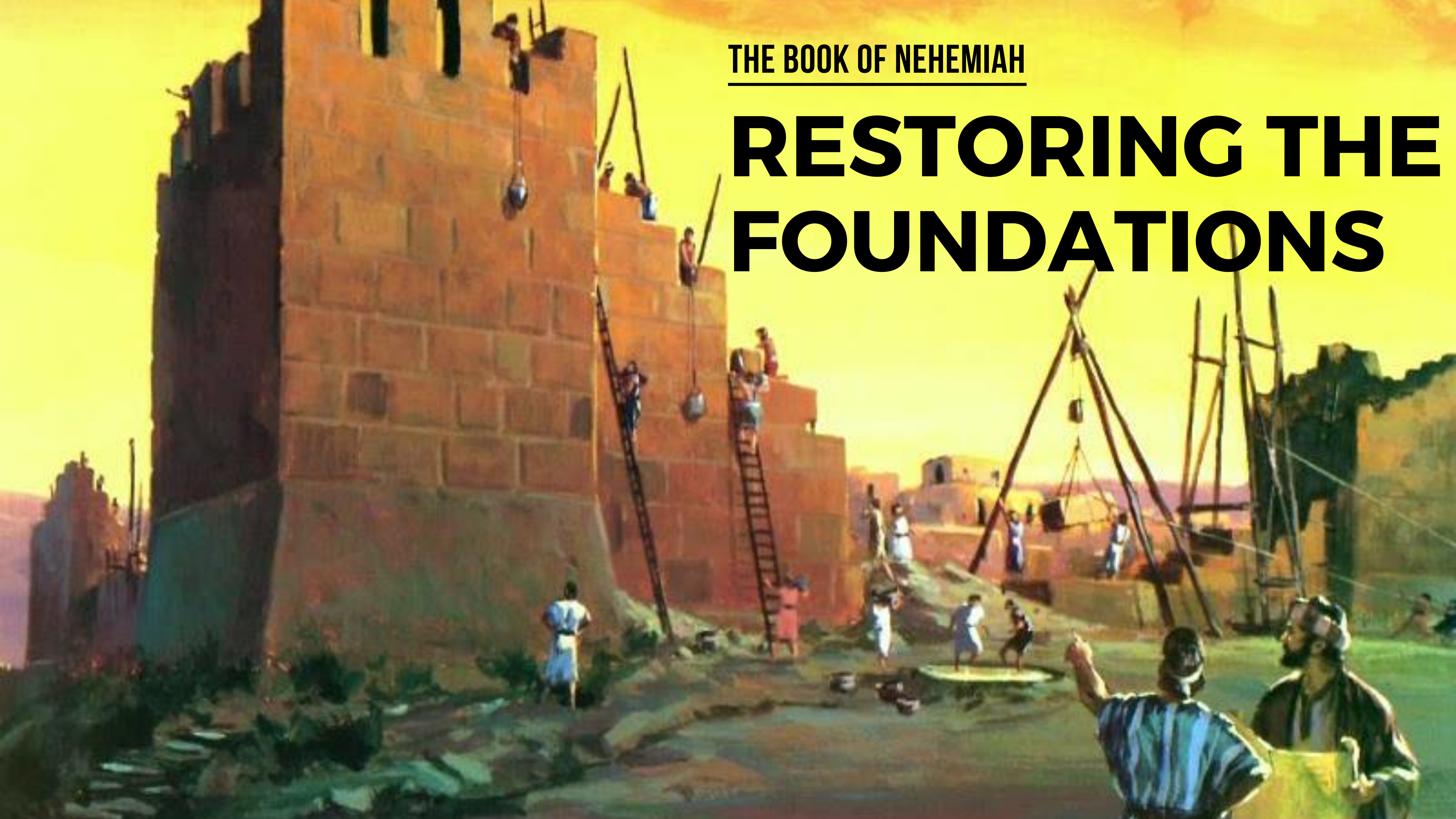


THE BOOK OF NEHEMIAH

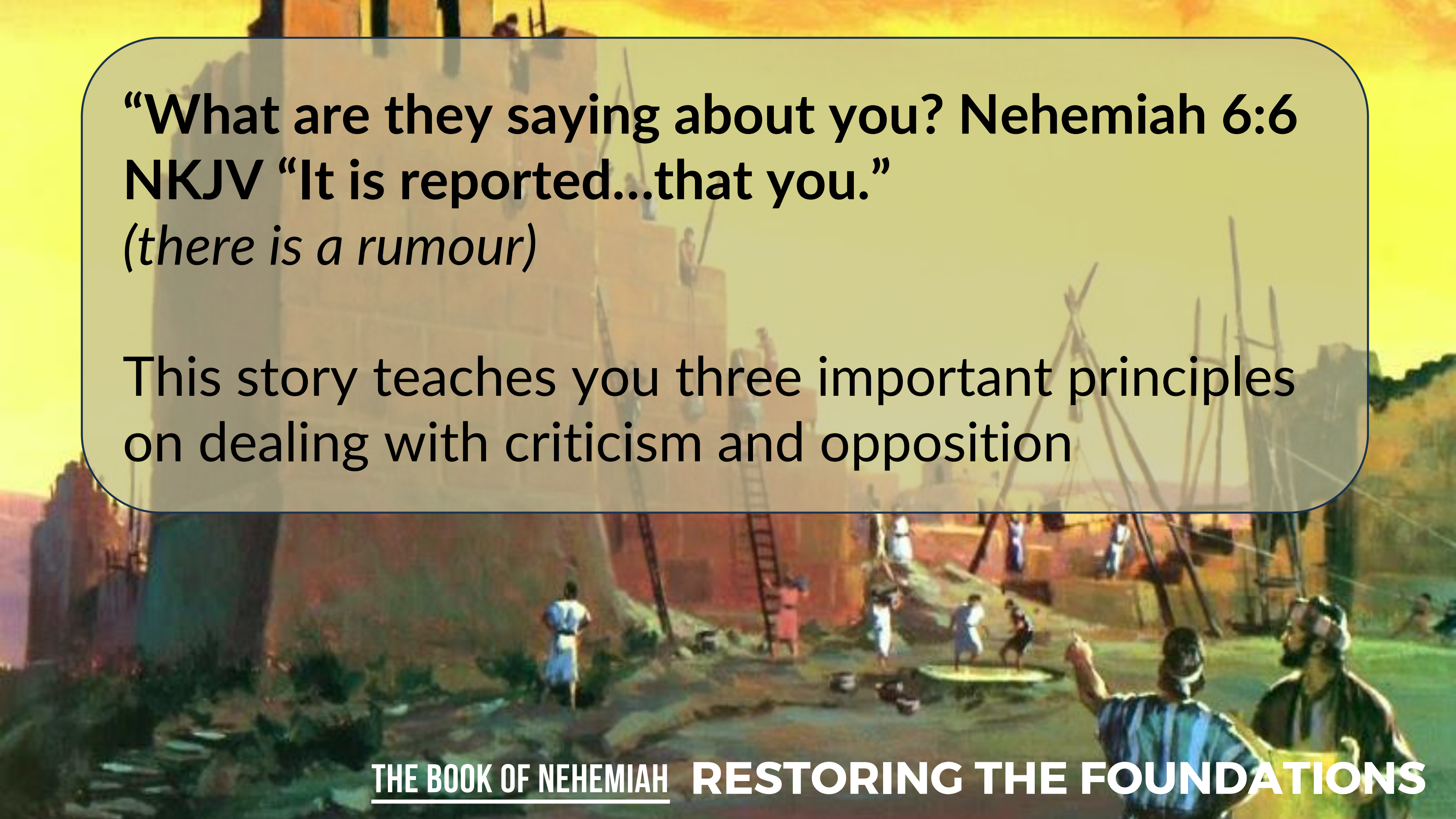
# RESTORING THE FOUNDATIONS





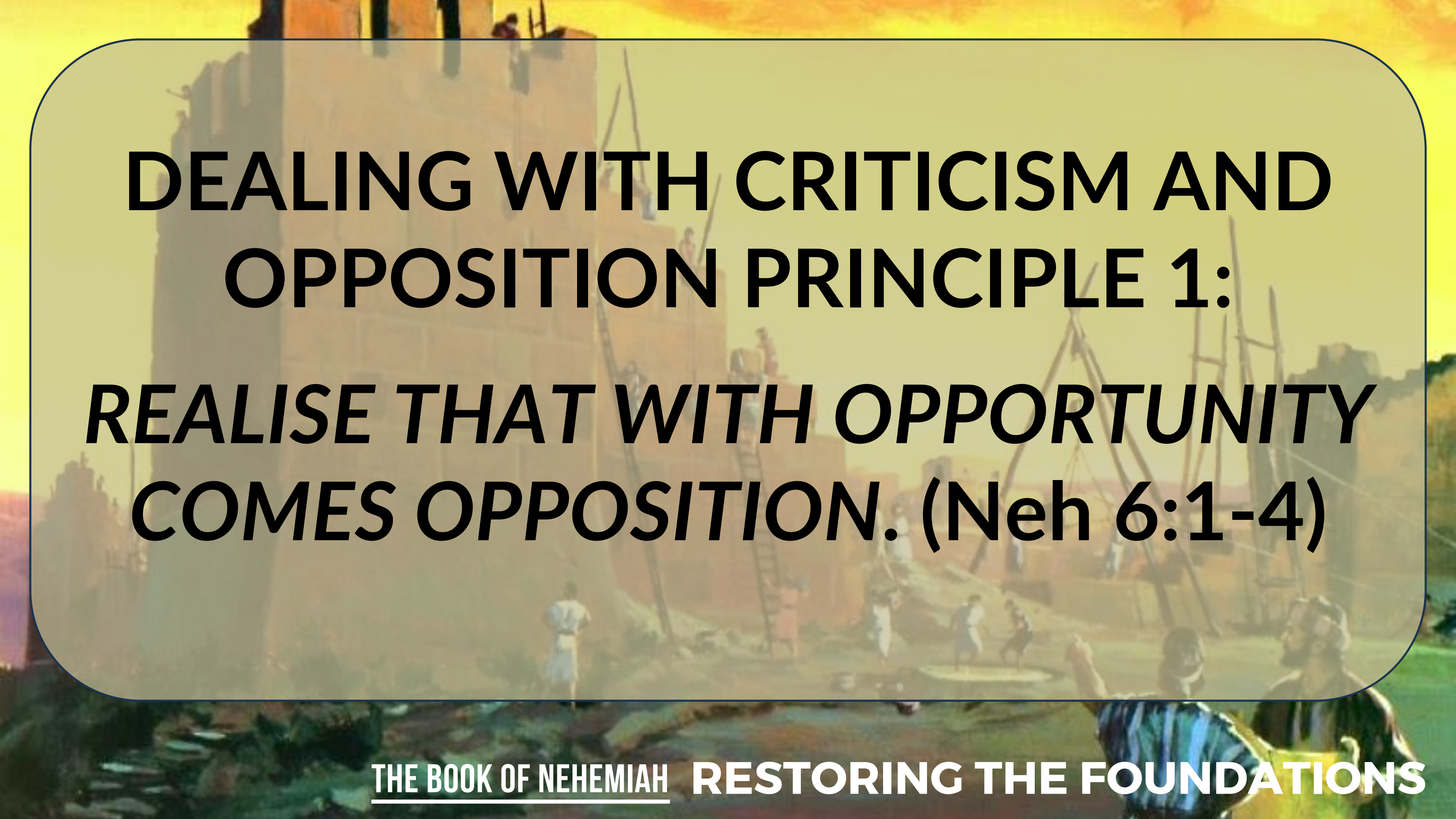
***“The greatest glory in living lies not in never falling, but in rising every time we fall.”***

**Nelson Mandela**



**“What are they saying about you? Nehemiah 6:6  
NKJV “It is reported...that you.”  
*(there is a rumour)***

**This story teaches you three important principles  
on dealing with criticism and opposition**

The background of the slide is a historical-style illustration of a construction site. In the foreground, a man in a blue tunic and a woman in a yellow tunic are looking towards the right. In the middle ground, several workers are seen building a wall of reddish-brown bricks. Some workers are on ladders, and others are on the ground. The scene is set against a bright, hazy sky, suggesting a warm, sunny day. The overall tone is one of active labor and restoration.

**DEALING WITH CRITICISM AND  
OPPOSITION PRINCIPLE 1:  
*REALISE THAT WITH OPPORTUNITY  
COMES OPPOSITION. (Neh 6:1-4)***

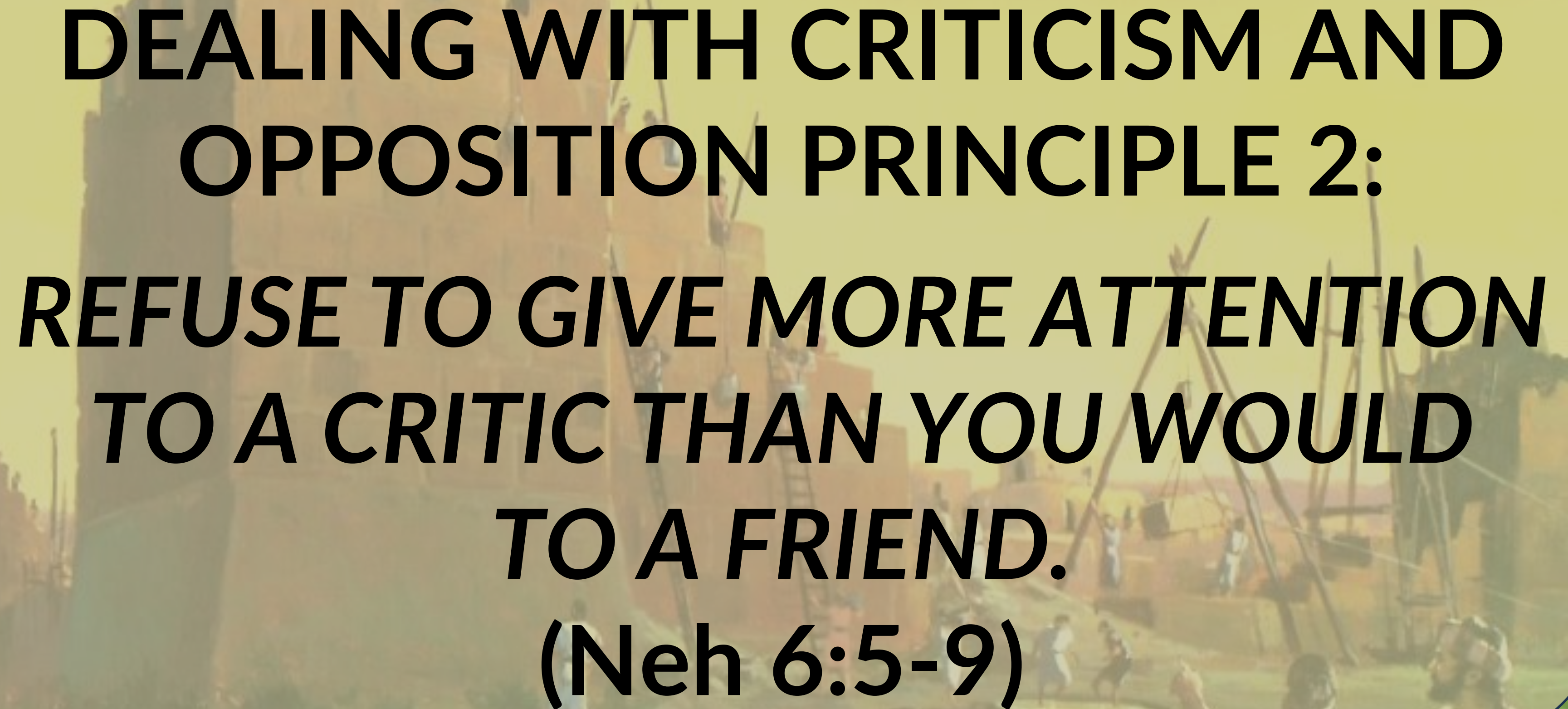
**‘There is a wide-open door for a great work here,  
although many oppose me’  
(1 Corinthians 16:9 NLT).**

- Criticism is a sign of respect; if you weren’t succeeding, they wouldn’t even notice you.**

**YOU CAN’T DEFEAT WHAT YOU DON’T DEFINE!**

## **NEHEMIAH: “BUILD ON WHAT GOD HAS GIVEN YOU.”**

- His leadership was built not so much on ancestry from the Jewish lineage as by faithfulness.
- Nehemiah was ordinary guy—Vision—Help of his God!
- God has given each person specific gifts - some are not as visible; all are useful.



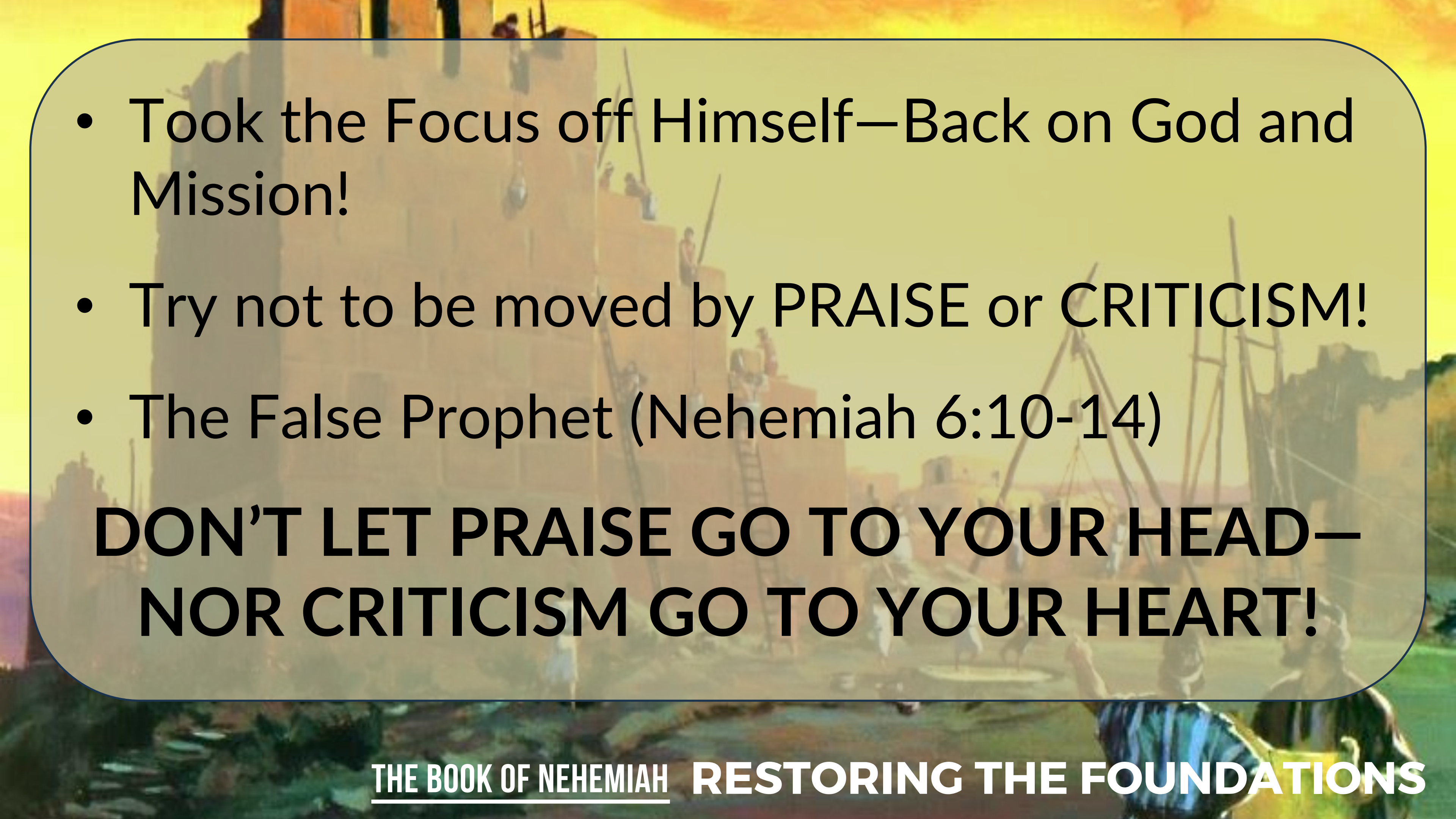
**DEALING WITH CRITICISM AND  
OPPOSITION PRINCIPLE 2:  
*REFUSE TO GIVE MORE ATTENTION  
TO A CRITIC THAN YOU WOULD  
TO A FRIEND.*  
(Neh 6:5-9)**



HERE'S THE TRUTH WE NEED TO GRASP:

**THE EXTERNAL OPPOSITION WILL ONLY BE  
AS LOUD AS MY INTERNAL INSECURITIES  
ALLOW THEM TO BE!**



- 
- Took the Focus off Himself—Back on God and Mission!
  - Try not to be moved by PRAISE or CRITICISM!
  - The False Prophet (Nehemiah 6:10-14)

**DON'T LET PRAISE GO TO YOUR HEAD—  
NOR CRITICISM GO TO YOUR HEART!**



**DEALING WITH CRITICISM AND  
OPPOSITION PRINCIPLE 3:  
*REMEMBER BIG BATTLES PRODUCE  
THE BIG VICTORIES. (Neh 5:15-16)***

# **GOD GIVES YOU BATTLES TO FIGHT ACCORDING TO YOUR SIZE -**

so understand he is trying to grow you!

- **1 Cor 10:13 NO TEMPTATION**
- **2 Corinthians 1:8-9 to rely on God**
- **1 Chron 14 David, every breakthrough brings a battle**

The background of the slide is a historical-style illustration of a construction site. In the foreground, two men are shown; one is wearing a blue tunic and the other a brown one, both looking towards the right. Behind them, a large wall is under construction, with several workers visible on different levels. Scaffolding and ladders are used to reach the higher parts of the wall. The sky is a warm, golden-yellow color, suggesting a sunrise or sunset. The overall scene is one of active labor and restoration.

**CONCLUSION:**  
**YOU WILL NEVER FINISH WHAT  
YOU DON'T START.**

Start with God



# WHAT'S YOUR NEXT STEP? WHERE DO YOU NEED TO START?

**S** - Summarize the main point for you:  
What's your key takeaways from the message?.

**T** - Translate into action:  
What action step can you do this week to move forward?



# **WHAT'S YOUR NEXT STEP? WHERE DO YOU NEED TO START?**

**A - Add a personal touch:**

Who do you need to tell/share with this week?

**R - Reflect:**

Pause sometime this week to reflect on the **BIG PICTURE**

**T - Thank someone:**

Express gratitude to God or someone in your life for how they have already helped you.