

~TOBIAH 2 (209)

(To-bi'ah) [Good Is Yah]

- An opponent of Nehemiah. **Tobiah** was the servant, likely some official under the Persian king.
- Now when Sanballat the Horonite and **Tobiah** the servant, the Ammonite, and Geshem the Arabian heard of it, they began to deride us and look on us despisingly and say; What is this thing that you are doing? Is it against the king that you are rebelling? (**Nehemiah 2:19**)
- Both he and his son Jehohanan married Jewish women, and **Tobiah** was also related to High Priest Eliashib. This put **Tobiah** in a position of advantage for undermining Nehemiah's authority, in that many Jews looked up to and spoke highly of **Tobiah**.
- In those days also the nobles of Judah were making numerous their letters that were going to **Tobiah** and those of **Tobiah** that were coming in to them. (**Nehemiah 6:17**)
- For many in Judah were sworn to him, for a son-in-law he was to Shecaniah the son of Arah, and Jehohanan his son had himself taken the daughter of Meshullam the son of Berechiah. (**Nehemiah 6:18**)
- Also, good things about him they were continually saying before me. And my own words they were continually taking out to him. There were letters that **Tobiah** sent to make me afraid. (**Nehemiah 6:19**)
- Now before this, Eliashib the priest in charge of a dining hall of the house of our God was a relative of **Tobiah**. (**Nehemiah 13:4**)
- And at their side Meremoth the son of Urijah the son of Hakkoz did repair work, and at their side Meshullam the son of Berechiah the son of Meshezabel did repair work, and at their side Zadok the son of Baana did repair work. (**Nehemiah 3:4**)
- These are the sons of the jurisdictional district who came up out of the captivity of the exiled people whom Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon had taken into exile and who later returned to

Jerusalem and to Judah, each to his own city. (**Nehemiah 7:6**)

- Those who came in with Zerubbabel, Jeshua, Nehemiah, Azariah, Raamiah, Nahamani, Mordecai, Bilshan, Mispereth, Bigvai, Nehum, Baanah. The number of the men of the people of Israel. (**Nehemiah 7:7**)
- The sons of Arah, six hundred and fifty-two. (**Nehemiah 7:10**)
- When Nehemiah arrived in Jerusalem, **Tobiah** and his associates were displeased with Israel's brightening prospect.
- Eventually I came to the governor's beyond the River and gave them the letters of the king. Moreover, the king sent with me chiefs of the military force and horsemen. (**Nehemiah 2:9**)
- When Sanballat the Horonite and **Tobiah** the servant, the Ammonite, got to hear of it, then it seemed to them something very bad that a man had come to seek something good for the sons of Israel. (**Nehemiah 2:10**)
- At first they merely derided and mocked the Jews.
- Now when Sanballat the Horonite and **Tobiah** the servant, the Ammonite, and Geshem the Arabian heard of it, they began to deride us and look on us despisingly and say; What is this thing that you are doing? Is it against the king that you are rebelling? (**Nehemiah 2:19**)
- Now **Tobiah** the Ammonite was alongside him, and he went on to say; Even what they are building, if a fox went up against it, he would certainly break down their wall of stones. (**Nehemiah 4:3**)
- But when the wall rebuilding made progress, they became very angry. However, various conspiracies, to kill off the Jews.
- Now it came about that, as soon as Sanballat and **Tobiah** and the Arabians and the Ammonites and the Ashdodites heard that the repairing of the walls of Jerusalem had gone forward, for the gaps had started to be stopped up, they became very angry. (**Nehemiah 4:7**)
- And all of them began to conspire together to come and fight against Jerusalem and cause me disturbance. (**Nehemiah 4:8**)

- But we prayed to our God and kept a guard posted against them day and night on account of them. (**Nehemiah 4:9**)
- Moreover, our adversaries kept saying; They will not know and they will not see until we come right in among them, and we shall certainly kill them and put a stop to the work. (**Nehemiah 4:11**)
- When I saw their fear I immediately rose and said to the nobles and the deputy rulers and the rest of the people; Do not be afraid on their account. Yehowah the great and the fear-inspiring One keep in your mind, and fight for your brothers, your sons and your daughters, your wives and your homes. (**Nehemiah 4:14**)
- Now it came about that as soon as our enemies heard that it had become known to us, so that the true God had frustrated their counsel and we had all of us gone back to the wall, each one to his work. (**Nehemiah 4:15**)
- And an attempt to get Nehemiah to violate the sanctity of the temple.
- Now it came about that, as soon as it was told to Sanballat and **Tobiah** and to Geshem the Arabian and to the rest of our enemies that I had rebuilt the wall and there had not been left in it a gap, although up to that time the doors themselves I had not set up in the gates. (**Nehemiah 6:1**)
- And I myself entered the house of Shemaiah the son of Delaiah the son of Mehetabel while he was shut up. And he proceeded to say; Let us meet by appointment at the house of the true God, within the temple, and let us close the doors of the temple, for they are coming in to kill you, even by night they are coming in to kill you. (**Nehemiah 6:10**)
- But I said; Should a man like me run away? And who is there like me that could enter into the temple and live? I shall not enter! (**Nehemiah 6:11**)
- So I investigated, and here it was not God that had sent him, but he had spoken this prophecy against me as **Tobiah** and Sanballat themselves had hired him. (**Nehemiah 6:12**)

- For this reason he had been hired in order, that I might be afraid and do that way, and I should certainly sin and it should certainly become in their possession a bad reputation, in order, that they might reproach me. (**Nehemiah 6:13**)
- All failed. Even after the walls were completed, **Tobiah**, through correspondence with his sympathizers in Jerusalem, attempted to intimidate Nehemiah.
- And it came about that, as soon as all our enemies heard of it and all the nations that were around us got to see it, they at once fell very much in their own eyes, and they got to know that it was from our God that this work had been done. (**Nehemiah 6:16**)
- In those days also the nobles of Judah were making numerous their letters that were going to **Tobiah** and those of **Tobiah** that were coming in to them. (**Nehemiah 6:17**)
- For many in Judah were sworn to him, for a son-in-law he was to Shecaniah the son of Arah, and Jehohanan his son had himself taken the daughter of Meshullam the son of Berechiah. (**Nehemiah 6:18**)
- Also, good things about him they were continually saying before me. And my own words they were continually taking out to him. There were letters that **Tobiah** sent to make me afraid. (**Nehemiah 6:19**)
- Properly, therefore, Nehemiah asked Yehowah to remember the many wicked deeds of **Tobiah** and his confederates.
- Do remember, O my God, **Tobiah** and Sanballat, according to these deeds of each one, and also Noadiah the prophetess and the rest of the prophets that were continually trying to make me afraid. (**Nehemiah 6:14**)
- On Nehemiah's second arrival from Babylon, when he found a dining room in the temple court reserved for **Tobiah**, he promptly threw **Tobiah's** things out.
- Now before this, Eliashib the priest in charge of a dining hall of the house of our God was a relative of **Tobiah**. (**Nehemiah 13:4**)

- **And he proceeded to make for him a large dining hall, where previously they were regularly putting the grain offering, the frankincense and the utensils and the tenth of the grain, the new wine and the oil, to which the Levites and the singers and the gatekeepers are entitled, and the contribution for the priests. (Nehemiah 13:5)**
- **And during all this time I did not happen to be in Jerusalem, for in the thirty-second year of Artaxerxes the king of Babylon I came to the king, and sometime later I asked leave of absence from the king. (Nehemiah 13:6)**
- **Then I came to Jerusalem and got to notice the badness that Eliashib had committed for **Tobiah** by making for him a hall in the courtyard of the house of the true God. (Nehemiah 13:7)**
- **And it seemed very bad to me. So I threw all the furniture of **Tobiah's** house outside the dining hall. (Nehemiah 13:8)**
- **After that I said the word and they cleansed the dining halls, and I proceeded to put back there the utensils of the house of the true God, with the grain offering and the frankincense. (Nehemiah 13:9)**