



He put them all outside -

A Summary of the Seven Stages of Progression/Opposition:

Stage 1 (2:9-16)	Inspection (2:13)	Some express disappointment (2:10)
Stage 2 (2:17-20)	Initiation (2:18)	Some speak unkind words (2:19)
Stage 3 (3:1-32)	Collaboration (3:1-32)	Some refuse to participate (3:5)
Stage 4 (4:1-6)	Continuation (4:1)	Some predict failure (4:3)
Stage 5 (4:7-23)	Expansion (4:7-23)	Some threaten violence (4:8)
Stage 6 (5:1-19)	Restoration (5:8a)	Some take advantage of the vulnerable (5:8)
Stage 7 (6:1-14)	Completion (6:1)	Some attack personally (6:2, 5, 10)

Nehemiah's enemies target him in three ways:

1. _____ (2-4) - "Let's meet in the plain of Ono"

2. _____ (5-9) - "Let's meet ... open letter"

3. _____ (10-14) - "Let's hide in the temple"

Characteristics of Toxic People:

- Superficially _____ -
- Seemingly _____ -
- Relationally _____ -
- Subtly _____ -
- Creatively _____ -

What should we do?

1. Refuse to be _____!
2. Learn the difference between _____ and _____ people.

Difficult

Need help
Hard to love
Expect you to be who God made you
Will give you space

Toxic

Make _____
Allergic to love
Expect you to be who they expect you to be
Will not respect _____

We are called to _____ everyone,
_____ the _____,
but _____ in the _____.

3. Live in the _____.

My God, how perfect are Thy ways!
But mine polluted are;
Sin twines itself about my praise,
And slides into my prayer.

When I would speak what Thou has done
To save me from my sin,
I cannot make Thy mercies known,
But self-applause creeps in.

Divine desire, that holy flame
Thy grace creates in me;
Alas! Impatience is its name,
When it returns to Thee.

This heart, a fountain of vile thoughts.
How does it overflow,
While self upon the surface floats
Still bubbling from below.

Let others in the gaudy dress
Of fancied merit shine;
The Lord shall be my righteousness,
The Lord forever mine.

William Cowper