Ezra/Nechemiah 37: Nechemiah 3 - The Wall / Trash Talk

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3:1-32 The Construction (continued)

1. Rashi to Nechemiah 3:11

מדה שנית - כאותה מדה אשר בנה חבירו של מעלה גם הוא בנה כמותו

"A second measure" – In the same measure his friend, listed previously, had built, so he built like him.

2. The City of David - Jewish Action (2007)

https://www.ou.org/torah/machshava/tzarich-iyun/tzarich_iyun_king_davids_tomb/ https://jewishaction.com/jewish-world/israel/king_davids_tomb_a_different_perspective/

3. Prof. Mordechai Zer-Kavod, Daat Mikra to Nechemiah 3:24, footnote 63

רבים סברו שיש כאן כפל לשון, וטעותם היא שהם חושבים שהוראת "פנה" היא רק "קרן זוית", כרשום במילונים. אבל כל המעיין בתנ"ך יוכח שאין זו הוראתה הקדומה, אלא מקום **מורם** מיתר המקומות. ומכאן: "ראש פנה" (תהילים קיח:כב)...

Many have believed this was redundant language. Their mistake is that they think the meaning of *pinah* is only "corner", as listed in dictionaries. But anyone who examines Tanach will be shown that this is not the original definition, but a place which is elevated above other places. Thus "rosh pinah" in Psalms 118:22...

4. Ibn Ezra to Nechemiah 3:20

החרה אפו על עצמו על עכוב המלאכה

His anger was inflamed against himself, for the delay of the work

5. Talmud Yerushalmi, Kiddushin 4:1

מיד עמד [דוד] וריחקן שנאמר "והגבעונים לא מבני ישראל המה." אף עזרא ריחקן שנאמר [נחמיה יא כא] "והנתינים יושבים בעופל." אף לעתיד לבוא הקב"ה מרחקן דכתיב [יחזקאל מח יט] "והעובד העיר יעבדוהו."

Immediately, David stood and distanced them, as Shemuel II 21:2 says, "And the Givonim were not of the Jews." Ezra also distanced them, as it says, "And the Netinim dwelled in the Ophel." In the future, too, Gd will distance them, as Yechezkel 48:19 says, "And the ones who serve in the city will work [that land]."

6. Mishnah Shekalim 6:3

ולמה נקרא שמו שער המים שבו מכניסין צלוחית של מים של נסוך בחג רבי אליעזר בן יעקב אומר בו המים מפכים ועתידין להיות יוצאין מתחת מפתן הבית

Why is it called the Water Gate? For through it they would introduce the pitcher of water for libation on the holiday. Rabbi Eliezer ben Yaakov said: Water churns there; in the future it will emerge from beneath the lintel of the House.

7. Zecharyah 14:8-9

וְהָנָהוּ בַּיָּוֹם הֹהוּא יֵצְאָוּ מַיִם־חַיִּים מִירְוּשָׁלֵּחִ חֶצְיָּם אֶל־הַיָּם הַקּדְמוֹנִּי וְחֶצְיָם אֶל־הַיָּם הָאַרְאוֹ בְּקִיץ וּבָחָרֶף יִהְיֶה: וְהָנָה דֶ' לְמֶלֶךְ עַל־כָּל־הָאָרֶץ בַּיִּוֹם הֹהוּא יִהְיָה דָ' אָחָד וּשְׁמָוֹ אָחָד:

And it will be, on that day, living water will emerge from Jerusalem, half to the eastern sea and half to the western sea; in summer and winter it will be. And Gd will be King over the entire land; on that day Gd will be One and His Name One.

3:33-38 Trash Talk

8. The foxes Eichah 5:18

9. R' Dov Zakheim, Nehemiah, pg. 89

His problem, however, was that Nehemiah was a royal official who was ostensibly on a mission from the king. For that reason, he could not openly take up arms against Nehemiah. Instead, Sanballat initially resorted to a form of psychological warfare...

Sanballat delivered this address to his followers – the "force" being a body of irregular troops – within earshot of the Jewish workers in order both to intimidate them and to arouse doubts about the likelihood that the wall could be completed in a timely fashion.

10. Ibn Ezra to Nechemiah 3:34

היקריבו זבח חנכת הבית:

Will they bring the sacrifice for the dedication of the House?