21 And it came to pass in the month Nisan, in the twentieth year of Artaxerxes the king, [that] wine [was] before him; and I took up the wine, and gave [it] unto the king. Now I had not been [beforetime] sad in his presence.

22 Wherefore the king said unto me, Why [is] thy countenance sad, seeing thou [art] not sick? this [is] nothing [else] but sorrow of heart. Then I was very sore afraid.
And I arose in the night, and I rode upon a beast that I had ridden in the day, and I went out by the gate of the valley, and to the dung port, and I came to the dung port, and I viewed the walls of Jerusalem, which were broken down, and the gates thereof were consumed with fire.

And I went out by night by the gate of the valley, even before the dragon well, and to the dung port, and I viewed the walls of Jerusalem, which were broken down, and the gates thereof were consumed with fire.

And I came to Jerusalem, and there was three days.

Then I came to the governors beyond the river, and gave them the king's letters. Now the king had sent captains of the army and horsemen with me.

When Sanballat the Horonite, and Tobiah the Ammonite, heard [of it], it grieved them exceedingly that there was come a man to seek the welfare of the children of Israel.

And I arose in the night, and I and some few men with me; neither told I [any] man what my God had put in my heart to do at Jerusalem: neither [was there any] beast with me, save the beast that I rode upon.

Then I went on to the gate of the fountain, and to the king's pool, but [thereby] was no place for the beast [that was] under me to pass.

Then I went up in the night by the brook, and viewed the wall, and turned
Then I told them of the hand of my God which was good upon me; as also the king's words that he had spoken unto me. And they said, What is this thing that ye do? will ye rebel against the king?

Then answered I them, and said unto them, The God of heaven, he will prosper us; therefore we his servants will arise and build: but ye have no portion, nor right, nor memorial in Jerusalem.

And the rulers knew not whither I went, or what I did; neither had I as yet told [it] to the Jews, nor to the priests, nor to the nobles, nor to the rulers, nor to the rest that did the work.