

Nehemiah

Independent Baptist Church - Keeseville NY
Sunday morning - March 8th, 2009

A Manual for Serving The LORD "Dealing with Internal Strife" Nehemiah 5:1-13

Introduction: We have been dealing with opposition to God's work, first from without, and then from within. As Christians laboring together in the work of God I ask this sobering question. "Who is the cause for most of the strife and opposition to Christian work today?" Is it the government with its extreme views concerning the "separation of Church and State"? Is it the ACLU with its hatred against anything that even sounds religious? Unfortunately the greatest strife and threat to Christian work today is from those within the church. In Nehemiah 5:1-13 we have an illustration of how strife developed among a group of fellow workers, strife that threatened their unity and their completing the work that God had given them to do - rebuilding the walls of Jerusalem. The cartoon character Pogo said, "We have met the enemy and he is us." Nehemiah found this to be the case in his day, and we will too.

I. The _____ of The Strife - 5:1-5

A. It was a _____ Time - vs. 1-4

1. _____ ...v.2
2. _____ ...v.3
3. _____ ...v.4
4. _____ ...various

B. It was an _____ Time

1. There was a _____ to be completed
2. There was a _____ to be maintained

II. The _____ of The Strife - 5:1-5

A. Hard _____ - vs. 1-5 (as per - 1.A.1-4)

B. Hard _____ - vs. 1-5

1. _____

2. _____

III. The _____ to The Strife - 5:6-11

A. There was _____ anger - v. 6

B. There was _____ thought - v. 7a

C. There was _____ confrontation - v. 7b

D. There was _____ rebuke - v. 7c-8

E. There was _____ reasoning - v. 9-11

1. Something to _____ - v. 9

2. Someone to _____ - v. 10

3. Something to _____ - v. 11

IV. The _____ to The Strife - 5:12-13

▶ A _____ to repent - v. 12a

▶ An _____ to take - v. 12b

▶ A _____ to avoid - v. 13a

▶ A _____ to envy - v. 13b

*"AND ALL THE ASSEMBLY SAID 'AMEN!' AND PRAISED THE LORD.
THEN THE PEOPLE DID ACCORDING TO THIS PROMISE."*