

# Nehemiah

Independent Baptist Church – Keeseville NY  
Sunday morning - March 22nd, 2009

## A Manual for Serving The LORD

### “It Doesn’t Matter What Others Are Doing”

Nehemiah 5:14-19

**Introduction:** Nehemiah was a leader who was determined that he would not lead in the way that his predecessors had lead the people of God, especially at a time when the people were in such need. We discovered that the people were in bondage to the ruling rich class. As we called the leadership into question we learned that they misunderstood their duty; they misused their authority; and they mistreated their people. Rather than feeding the flock they were fleecing the flock. We just started to see from our passage that Nehemiah was a leader with compassion for God’s needy people and because of the fear of God he would not do as others had done before him. He remembered his original calling by God when he was still back in Shushan the palace. The people were “*in great distress and reproach*” and the wall of Jerusalem was “*also broken down*”. Nehemiah’s call was twofold - rebuild the wall and build up the people. Nehemiah determined that his presence in Jerusalem would not add to the burden but lighten it by leading with compassion that he demonstrated in many practical ways...ways which we want to examine this morning.

#### I. A People in NEED

##### A. Because of their BONDAGE

1. FAMINE
2. POVERTY

##### B. Because of their RULERS

1. Their former GOVERNORS
2. Their former Governor’s OFFICIALS

#### II. A Leadership in QUESTION

- A. They MISUNDERSTOOD their duty
- B. They MISUSED their authority
- C. They MISTREATED their people

#### III. A Leader with COMPASSION

*Nehemiah demonstrated his compassion by...*

##### A. WAIVING his rights:

1. To receive SUPPORT
2. To purchase PROPERTY

B. \_\_\_\_\_ his servants to work

C. \_\_\_\_\_ his way

D. \_\_\_\_\_ his faith

1. Free from the fear of \_\_\_\_\_

2. Free in the fear of \_\_\_\_\_

*"...BUT I DID NOT DO SO, BECAUSE OF THE FEAR OF GOD"*