A Renewed Remnant

Lesson 13

Internal Problems Arise (Neh. 5)

Introduction

Nehemiah faced a tough situation…keeping one eye on building Jerusalem's walls and the other eye on the enemies who could strike at any moment. Such efforts had to have required all the dedication he & the remnant could produce. However, that wouldn't even be the worst part.

Nehemiah would also discover some internal problems that posed as big a threat as those he had to counter from Sanballat. In some ways, these would be more discouraging.

1) What situation prevailed upon the remnant? (v. 3b) What condition did it create? (vv. 1-2)

2) Sadly, what else happened? (vv. 3a, 4-5)

3) How did Nehemiah respond to all this? (vv. 6-7)

4) *Thought question*: do you think Nehemiah still had a job opportunity back in Susa? Given the disappointment re: his brethren in this matter, what might he have been tempted to do?

5) How did the Law address this matter? (Ex. 22:25; Lev. 25:35-43; Deut. 23:19-20)

6) In his assembly, what did Nehemiah say? (vv. 8-11)

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7) What was the initial response from the remnant? (v. 8b; cp. 1 Kings 18:21; Rom. 1:20)

8) What did the remnant eventually say? (v. 12a) What did Nehemiah do to ensure the remnant's compliance? (vv. 12b-13)

9) What does Nehemiah record in vv. 14-18 that showed he didn't just lead by giving orders?

10) What do we learn about Nehemiah *personally* from v. 14a?

11) Again, what does Nehemiah do? (v. 19; cp. 1:5-11a; 2:4; 4:4-5, 9)