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**Pastor Scott Baker 7/14/24**

**The problem facing the people. (v.1-5)**

This time the obstacle was not from those outside the community, but from those **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** the community!

Because everyone’s focus was on building the wall, many of the things they would have regularly done were **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**, such as gathering food and earning money.

The wealthier Jews who were loaning them money and taking their children as slaves as collateral were **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** God’s Word!

**(Deuteronomy 23:19-20**; **Leviticus 25:39-40)**

God expects His people to be generous and meet the needs of the less fortunate out of **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** and not greed!

These wealthy Jews were being **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**, looking out for only themselves.

***We demonstrate selfishness in the church today when we…***

**1) Reject \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. (Hebrews 10:24-25)**

When you are not connected to community, you are missing out and others are missing out on what **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** can add to their lives!

**2) Refuse to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.**

When you refuse to serve, it **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** the work of the church and places a greater burden on others in your community.

**3) Regularly \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.**

We are to always build each other **\_\_\_\_\_**, not tear each other down.

**(Ephesians 4:29**)

Jesus taught that if someone sins against you, go to them **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** before anyone else. **(Matthew 18:15)**

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**Nehemiah’s response to the problem facing the people. (v.6-13)**

***Nehemiah responded with…***

**1) Righteous \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. (v.6)**

Not all anger is **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**! **(Ephesians 4:26)**

He was upset that they were not being **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** to God’s Word.

**2) Self-\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. (v.7)**

He took some time to get his head right, to pray and to make sure he would address things in a way that would be **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** and not destructive! **(Ephesians 4:26-27)**

**3) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. (v.7-13)**

He **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** with the issue! He did not ignore it or sweep it under to rug.

Nehemiah modeled for us the correct way to deal with problems – go to the ones you have a problem with first and not **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** else!

He then decides that because this problem was affecting the entire community to call everyone together and address it **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**.

One day we will all stand before God and **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**for our actions! **(2 Corinthians 5:10)**

***From their response to Nehemiah’s correction, we all can learn a few things about being corrected when needed ourselves…***

**1) Listen to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. (Proverbs 15:31-32)**

**2) Deal with your \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. (1 John 1:9)**

**3) Right those you have \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. (Matthew 5:23-24)**

**4) Thank God for His \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_! (Lamentations 3:22-23)**

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