

Nehemiah 5:6-13

Dealing with Opposition pt. 3

Nehemiah has had to deal with opposition from the outside and inside the city of Jerusalem. He dealt with the _____ abuse and the potential of _____ abuse as well. As with anything in his life, he spent time in the _____, in _____ and _____ to wisely deal with these things.

Last time we were together, Nehemiah heard the outcry of his own people. They couldn't pay their bills, their taxes, they were losing their property and most importantly, some were losing their children. It was bad enough for them to experience these things but it was worse in that the oppressors were _____.

Remember that Nehemiah's response was _____ but he didn't stop there. The text adds that he "_____ them _____." He took time to consider his response.

He called a meeting with the oppressors, the nobles and officials. It appears he attempted to resolve this issue _____ (Matt 18). Nehemiah took the role of a prosecutor and charged them, he rebuked them. He charges them with _____, profiting from their suffering. He tells them as well that selling them as slaves was an abomination in the sight of God.

One word describes him: _____.

Nehemiah was proposing basically a year of jubilee. He was calling for them to return money, land, buildings and people to the former owners and parents.

An interesting comment in verse 10 makes it sound as if Nehemiah was confessing to charging interest to his fellow Jews. Did he? If he did, he is calling all, including himself, to repentance. It also could be

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taken that Nehemiah is saying "I didn't charge interest, follow my example."

failed in their oath, God would _____.

When the nobles and officials don't respond, he calls a public meeting.

Imagine how hard this was! He also had to stop the work on the wall. Nehemiah understood that the wall surrounding God's city and God's people would be _____ if God's people were sinning against God's people.

"If we are going to win the world to Jesus, the world is going to have to see what _____."

What happened as Nehemiah called these men to repent? Verse 12.

He also had them swear an oath, after they verbally consented.

Nehemiah then symbolically shook his robe and caused everything in the fold to fall to the ground. The idea was that if they