

# LESSON 6 - DON'T BACK DOWN - BUILD UP

## NEHEMIAH 4 & 5

### DAY 1 - REVIEW

1. What did you learn from last week's lesson that you can apply to your own life?
2. What was most interesting to you and why, from the commentary notes?
3. What was most helpful to you and why, from the lecture?

### DAY 2 - READ NEHEMIAH 4:1-5

READING: Nehemiah 4:1-5 [[Open NKJV](#)] [[Open NIV](#)]

4. Describe the reaction of Sanballat to the rebuilding of Jerusalem's wall.
5. **Personal Question:** Have you ever been mocked for doing what you believed God was calling you to do? Describe the situation.
6. Write down one principle learned from the first three verses. (*Hint: look for a command or warning or a lesson.*)
7. Write down how you might apply the principle from question 6 in your own life.
8. a. How did Nehemiah respond to Sanballat's and Tobiah's mocking?  
  
b. What do you learn from Nehemiah's example?

9. *Thought Question:* Do you think Nehemiah was praying in God's will when he asked God to "turn their insults back on their own heads"? Why or why not?
10. Nehemiah 4:5 reads in the King James Version, "And cover not their iniquity, and let not their sin be blotted out from before Thee: for they have provoked Thee to anger before the builders." According to this verse, who are Sanballat and Tobiah really opposing?

### **DAY 3 - READ NEHEMIAH 4:6-15**

READING: *Nehemiah 4:6-15* [[Open NKJV](#)] [[Open NIV](#)]

11. Find an indication from verse 6 that describes the Jews' work ethic. Why is this important?
12. In verse 9, what did Nehemiah do when he discovered his enemies' plot to "stir up trouble" for them?
13. What lesson do you learn from the two things Nehemiah had his people do in response to the enemies' plot in v. 9?
14. In verse 12, from where did the opposition come? (Hint: Why were the workers so discouraged?)
15. How did Nehemiah respond to his enemies' threats and his peoples' grumblings in vs. 13-14?

### **DAY 4 - READ NEHEMIAH 4:16-23**

READING: *Nehemiah 4:16-23* [[Open NKJV](#)] [[Open NIV](#)]

16. a. In verse 16, how did Nehemiah plan not to be surprised by the enemy?
- b. What principle do you learn from Nehemiah's strategy?

17. *Thought Question:* In verse 20, Nehemiah tells the people, “Our God will fight for us!” What do you think he means by this statement?

18. What do you learn about perseverance in verses 21-23?

## **DAY 5 - READ NEHEMIAH 5:1-13**

*READING: Nehemiah 5:1-13; Exodus 22:25; Leviticus 25:36; Proverbs 28:8* [[Open NKJV](#)] [[Open NIV](#)]

19. a. Using verses 1-5, what problem did Nehemiah encounter from some Jewish men and women?

b. *Thought Question:* How might this issue affect Nehemiah’s mission for God?

c. Using verses 6-9, how did Nehemiah respond to the issue/problem?

20. Usury is defined as “the lending of money at an extremely high or unlawful rate of interest.” According to the verses listed below, how was usury to be viewed by God’s people?

Exodus 22:25

Leviticus 25:36

Proverbs 28:8

21. *Thought Question:* Was Nehemiah too harsh with his words? Why or why not?
22. In verse 12, how did the nobles and officials initially respond to Nehemiah's admonition?
23. a. In verses 12 & 13, what did Nehemiah do to insure a measure of accountability to their commitment?
- b. What lesson do you learn from Nehemiah's words and actions?

## **DAY 6 - READ NEHEMIAH 5:14-19**

READING: Nehemiah 5:14-19 [[Open NKJV](#)] [[Open NIV](#)]

24. How long was Nehemiah Governor of Judah?
25. What did Nehemiah say that he had not done while he was the Governor of Judah?
26. *Thought Question:* Why do you think Nehemiah was telling the people this information?
27. What was Nehemiah's main motivation for refraining from eating the food allotted to him as Governor? (*Hint: Use vs. 15-16 for your answer.*)
28. *Personal Question:* Have you ever refrained from something that was rightfully yours "out of reverence for God" and the good of the mission? Describe it.
29. What do verses 18 & 19 reveal about Nehemiah's character?