

Nehemiah 5:1-4, 6-7, 15 (NASB)

Now there was a great outcry of the people and of their wives against their Jewish brothers. For there were those who said, "We, our sons and our daughters are many; therefore let us get grain that we may eat and live." There were others who said, "We are mortgaging our fields, our vineyards and our houses that we might get grain because of the famine." Also there were those who said, "We have borrowed money for the king's tax on our fields and our vineyards."

Then I was very angry when I had heard their outcry and these words. I consulted with myself and contended with the nobles and the rulers and said to them, "You are exacting usury, each from his brother!" Therefore, I held a great assembly against them.

But the former governors who were before me laid burdens on the people and took from them bread and wine besides forty shekels of silver; even their servants domineered the people. But I did not do so because of the fear of God.



SERMON NOTES

August 28, 2011

T. Don Guthrie, preaching

A House Divided

Nehemiah 5:1-4, 6-7, 15 (NASB)

Mark 3:24 (KJV) "And if a kingdom be divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand."

True test of every organization

Tested over time

Conflicts will come

- **CONSIDER OTHERS** (v. 15)
Philippians 2:3-7a "Do nothing from selfishness or empty conceit, but with humility of mind regard one another as more important than yourselves; do not *merely* look out for your own personal interests, but also for the interests of others. Have this attitude in yourselves which was also in Christ Jesus..."
- **CHECK ANGER** (v. 7)
Ephesians 4:26 "BE ANGRY, AND *yet* DO NOT SIN; do not let the sun go down on your anger..."
- **CONFRONT ISSUES** (v. 7)
v. 9 – "not right"
- **CREATE NEW CONSENSUS**
v. 11 – "give them back their fields, today."

Judges 5:2 "That the leaders led in Israel, That the people volunteered, Bless the LORD!