

GOD-FOCUSED ABOUT MONEY

Nehemiah 5, page 385

- I. Some Jews got rich at the expense of others (5:1-5).
 - A. Famine made grain scarce so some mortgaged fields (1-3).
 - B. Some wealthy Jews exploited those owing taxes (4-5).
 - We are stewards, not owners (Lev. 25:23; 1 Tim. 6:7).

- II. Nehemiah rebuked the greedy Jews (5:6-8).
 - A. They put liens on fields of fellow Jews (5:3; 11; Lev. 25:23).
 - B. They enslaved fellow Jews (5:5; 8; Lev. 25:39-55).
 - C. They charged fellow Jews interest (5:7; Ex. 22:25; Lev. 25:36).
 - Greed is an attitude, not an amount (David/Ahab).

- III. Nehemiah sought their true repentance (5:9-13).
 - A. Repentance starts with desiring to honor God (9).
 - B. Repentance means making all possible restitution (10-12a).
 - C. Repentance restores the worship of God (12b-13).
 - Trusting God financially begins with godly integrity.

- IV. Nehemiah modelled contentment and generosity (5:14-21).
 - A. Nehemiah as governor supported his administration at his own expense, not taxing his people (14-15).

1

- B. Nehemiah focused on building the wall (16).
- C. Nehemiah was generous because he had compassion (17-18).
- D. Nehemiah anticipated God's blessings (19).
 - Our generosity defines our contentment (1 Tim. 6:8-19).