

The Enemy Within | Ben Boyd | September 27, 2026

Revival Ready Series | Nehemiah 5

- **When The Enemy Fails In His Attacks From The Outside, He Will Attack The Inside.**

Acts 20:28-31 (NLT)-

²⁸ So guard yourselves and God's people. Feed and shepherd God's flock—his church, purchased with his own blood—over which the Holy Spirit has appointed you as leaders. ²⁹ I know that false teachers, like vicious wolves, will come in among you after I leave, not sparing the flock. ³⁰ Even some men from your own group will rise up and distort the truth in order to draw a following. ³¹ Watch out! Remember the three years I was with you—my constant watch and care over you night and day, and my many tears for you.

Nehemiah 5:1-5 (NLT)-

¹ About this time some of the men and their wives raised a cry of protest against their fellow Jews. ² They were saying, "We have such large families. We need more food to survive." ³ Others said, "We have mortgaged our fields, vineyards, and homes to get food during the famine." ⁴ And others said, "We have had to borrow money on our fields and vineyards to pay our taxes." ⁵ We belong to the same family as those who are wealthy, and our children are just like theirs. Yet we must sell our children into slavery just to get enough money to live. We have already sold some of our daughters, and we are helpless to do anything about it, for our fields and vineyards are already mortgaged to others."

Nehemiah 5:6-12 (NLT)

⁶ When I heard their complaints, I was very angry. ⁷ After thinking it over, I spoke out against these nobles and officials. I told them, "You are hurting your own relatives by charging interest when they borrow money!" Then I called a public meeting to deal with the problem. ⁸ At the meeting I said to them, "We are doing all we can to redeem our Jewish relatives who have had to sell themselves to pagan foreigners, but you are selling them back into slavery again. How often must we redeem them?" And they had nothing to say in their defense. ⁹ Then I pressed further, "What you are doing is not right! Should you not walk in the fear of our God in order to avoid being mocked by enemy nations?" ¹⁰ I myself, as well as my brothers and my workers, have been

lending the people money and grain, but now let us stop this business of charging interest. ¹¹ You must restore their fields, vineyards, olive groves, and homes to them this very day. And repay the interest you charged when you lent them money, grain, new wine, and olive oil.” ¹² They replied, “We will give back everything and demand nothing more from the people. We will do as you say.” Then I called the priests and made the nobles and officials swear to do what they had promised.

- **When We Understand How Generously God Has Treated Us, Generosity Should Become Our Natural Response To One Another**

2 Corinthians 8:9 (NLT)

You know the generous grace of our Lord Jesus Christ. Though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, so that by his poverty he could make you rich.

- **Selfishness Gets Exposed When Life Gets Hard**
- **Pressure Doesn't Always Produce What's In Us. Sometimes Pressure Simply Reveals What's Been There The Whole Time.**
- **Ask Yourself Three Questions:**
 1. Where Has Selfishness Taken Root In My Heart?
 2. Who Have I Been Hurting Because I've Been Putting Myself First?
 3. What Do I Need To Make It Right?

Nehemiah 5:15 (NLT)

The former governors, in contrast, had laid heavy burdens on the people, demanding a daily ration of food and wine, besides forty pieces of silver. Even their assistants took advantage of the people. But because I feared God, I did not act that way.

Nehemiah 5:9 (NLT)

Then I pressed further, “What you are doing is not right! Should you not walk in the fear of our God in order to avoid being mocked by enemy nations?”

2 Corinthians 7:1 (NLT)

Because we have these promises, dear friends, let us cleanse ourselves from everything that can defile our body or spirit. And let us work toward complete holiness because we fear God.

- **Being A Friend Of God Is Fearing Him**

“The person who fears God doesn’t say within themselves, ‘How close can I get to the line and not fall in?’ No, he or she says, ‘I want to be so close to god, and so far away from that line, that I can’t even see it.’” – John Bevere