

THE IMPORTANCE OF LEADING BY EXAMPLE

(Nehemiah 5:14-19)

I. INFIGHTING AMONG THE JEWS AND THE GOVERNOR'S SOLUTION (5:1-13)

II. NEHEMIAH'S OWN PERSONAL INTEGRITY (5:14-19)

A. Nehemiah's Personal Cost (vv. 14-18)

1. In light of the events that had just taken place (in verses 1-13), Nehemiah took the opportunity to demonstrate by _____ how he performed his duties as governor of Judah in an _____ manner.
2. Even though Nehemiah was entitled to eat of the governor's food, _____ not to use the taxed expense account, but he and his associates paid their own way out of their _____. (v. 14)
3. While previous governors had oppressed the people with their indulgences, Nehemiah could not do this; his inner motivation was out of _____ for the _____. (v. 15)

* In the New Testament, who on occasion refused to take financial support? (Acts 20: 33-35; 1 Cor. 9:1-12)
4. The governor and his associates were examples by the fact that _____ of them _____ on the wall; they also _____ get involved in purchasing land for themselves, nor from poor people. (v. 16)

5. According to the Persian custom, as governor of Judah Nehemiah had to _____ a number of people at his table; this included _____ in the area and _____ from other nations. (v. 17)

6. It is estimated that this amount of food would meet the needs of over _____ guests; we can conclude that Nehemiah must have kept an “_____” policy to all who would come. (v. 18a)

7. Rather than take the governor’s food allowance, he _____ to _____ the people with more taxation, he willingly bore the _____ himself. (v. 18b, cf. 1 Thess. 1:9-12; 2 Thess. 3:7-10)

B. Nehemiah’s Primary Purpose (v. 19)

1. Nehemiah’s prayer was not so much a plea for a reward as it was a definitive way of acknowledging that he had personally _____ in good _____ and from the _____ motives. (v. 19, cf. Deut. 28:1-14; Matt. 6:33; Mark 10:29-31)

2. Nehemiah’s intentions and motivations are revealed throughout this section
 - a. He did what he did out of _____ and _____ for the Lord. (vv. 15, 19, cf. Matt. 22:36-38)

 - b. He did what he did out of _____ and brotherly _____ for others. (vv. 17-18, cf. Matt. 22:39-40)

* What can you personally apply from this passage?