

*Nehemiah, part 6:*  
**“Every Man for Himself?”**  
Nehemiah 5:1-13

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*Restoring the peace and unity of the people of God.*

**1. Peace and Unity Tested and Disrupted** vv. 1-5

*“And there was a great outcry of the people and their wives  
against their Jewish brethren.”*

**(1) Outward Crises:**

- Famine
- Excessive Taxation

**(2) Consequences:**

- Hunger
- Mortgaging of properties
- Sons and daughters forced into slavery!

**(3) The Biggest Problem: SIN! The grievous Aggravation of these Circumstances**

- The Abuse: Nobles and Leaders taking advantage of the vulnerable!

- Taking over their properties
- Charging interest for loans rather than providing charitable loans.

- The Result: Disruption! An Outcry! Brothers against Brothers!

**2. Peace and Unity Restored** vv. 6-13

**(1) Sin Addressed (6-11)**

- 1- Nehemiah's Anger and Rebuke *“After serious thought, I rebuked the nobles and rulers,  
and said to them,  
'Each of you is exacting usury from his brother.'”*

- 2- The Calling of an Assembly vv. 7b-11 *“So I called a great assembly against them.”*

- Charge and Appeal 8-10 *“Now indeed, will you even sell your brethren?  
Or should they be sold to us?...What you are doing is not good.  
Should you not walk in the fear of our God  
because of the reproach of the nations, our enemies?”*

- Pressing for Amends 11 *“Restore now to them, even this day, their lands,  
their vineyards, their olive groves, and their houses,  
also a hundredth of the money and the grain,  
the new wine and the oil that you have charged them.”*
- Give everything back!
  - Today!
  - Including the interest charged!

**(2) Wonderful Resolution! (12-13)**

- 1- The Promise to Restore All! *“We will restore it, and will require nothing from them;  
we will do as you say.”*

-2- The Seriousness of the Oath Pressed 13a

- 3- The Unity and Rejoicing of the People *“And all the assembly said, ‘Amen!’  
and praised the LORD.”*

**Further Application:**