

Under Construction In 2009

Cementing Relationships In Conflict

Scripture Reading: *Philippians 2:1-13*

Introduction:

- A. When the enemy fails in his attacks from the outside, he very well may attack from within.

- B. One of his most effective weapons is _____.

I. A great outcry (*Nehemiah 5:1-5*)

- A. Jew was exploiting Jew, and the economic situation had become desperate.

- B. Four different groups of people were involved in this crisis.

II. A great assembly (*Nehemiah 5:6-13*)

- A. It's one thing to confront foreign enemies and quite something else to deal with your own people when they fight one another.

- B. Nehemiah was "*very angry*" (5:6).

- C. Nehemiah "*took counsel*" with himself (5:7).

- D. Nehemiah's rebuke and six grounds of appeal (5:7-11).
 - 1. Their brotherly relationship
 - 2. The Word of God
 - 3. God's redemptive purpose for Israel
 - 4. Israel's witness to their Gentile neighbors
 - 5. Nehemiah's own personal practice
 - 6. The judgment of the Lord

III. A great example (*Nehemiah 5:14-19*)