

Nehemiah, part 7:
“The Beneficent Governor”
Nehemiah 5:14-19

Nehemiah: A governor who truly served the needs of his people

1. His Kindnesses Recounted

vv. 14-18

(1) He did not live off of his brethren! (14-15) *“from the time that I was appointed to be their governor ...twelve years...neither I nor my brothers ate the governor’s provisions.”*

-1- Note the abuse of privilege, the excesses of the previous governors

- Excessive taxation
- Sinful abuses of authority

-2- He could have *justly* claimed *some measure* of provision, but did not!

- Did not want to add to the burdens of God’s people.
- Lived from his own resources for the whole 12-year period.

(2) He did not seek personal enrichment *“Indeed, I also continued the work on this wall, and we did not buy any land. All my servants were gathered there for the work.”*

- He did not buy land or properties

- He did not use his position or authority to amass personal wealth

(3) All of his resources were utilized in the vital project of rebuilding
– directed toward the interests of the people of God

(4) He provided generously for a large contingent of Jews and Rulers (17-18)

-1- Daily provision!

-2- Generous provision!

-3- All from his own resources!

2. His Kindnesses Remembered

v. 19

(1) His plea that he and his many kindnesses might be accepted of God

- A plea for God’s favor

*“Remember me, my God, for good,
according to all that I have done for this people.”*

(2) The Divine testimony of such acceptance

- His deeds forever recorded here!

Further Application: