

The Fruit of Repentance

“We will not neglect the house of our God.” Nehemiah 10:39b

Text: Nehemiah 10

South Orlando Baptist Church

Topics: Tithing, Worldliness

March 22, 2015

Supplemental Texts: See below

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Revival will always produce...

1. Submission to the Word (vs. 9:38-10:29)

- A. The people of Israel “swore an oath to follow the law of God...and to carefully obey all the commands, ordinances, and statutes of Yahweh...” (s. 29)
- B. Under the Lordship of Jesus, we must vow to obey the Word of God every single day.

2. Separation from the World (10:30-31)

- A. The people of Israel had to separate “themselves from the surrounding peoples to obey the law of God” (vs. 28).
- B. As Christians, we are not to conform to this world (Romans 12:2), or love the system of this world (1 John 2:15). Instead, we are to be salt and light in the world through our life and witness (Matthew 5:13-15).

3. Support of God’s house (10:34-39)

- A. Through tithing (giving a tenth of all income) towards the support of the priests and the temple, the people of Israel vowed to “not neglect the house of our God” (vs. 39).
- B. Today, the temple of God is His people, the church. (1 Corinthians 6:19) We should tithe faithfully to the local church where God has called us to be members.

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Questions for Application

1. Why did the people of Israel want to make a binding agreement? (9:38)
2. How was the agreement of the people made legal? (9:38)
3. Why did the people separate themselves from their neighbors? (10:28)
4. What were the specifics of the oath between God and the people of Israel? (10:30-39)
5. What offerings did the people promise to give to the Lord? (10:32-33)
6. What responsibility did the people take on to insure that the temple was run properly? (10:34-39)
7. Why was it necessary for the people to bring offerings to the temple? (10:34-39)
8. In what ways did the people promise to care for the priests and the temple? (10:34-39)
9. What was significant about the people's offering that demonstrated their commitment to the Lord and their respect for the temple? (10:36-38)
10. How did the people decide what they should tithe? (10:37)
11. When have difficult circumstances in your life motivated you to seek the Lord?
12. Why do you think it sometimes takes negative experiences to refocus our attention on God?
13. What area of your life do you need to recommit to the Lord?
14. What methods can we use to keep ourselves accountable to the promises we make to the Lord?
15. What commitments did the people make to worship?
16. How can we demonstrate thankfulness to the Lord for His forgiveness?
17. How can you depend on the Lord to help you truly repent and change your bad habits?
18. How can you show a commitment to regular worship?
19. Who can help you be accountable to stay true to your intentions to serve God?