

NEHEMIAH - CHAPTER 12

NOTES FROM LARGE GROUP DISCUSSION

DATE _____

V1-26 INCLUDED WITH CHAPTER 11 STUDY

- THE LIST OF THOSE WHO REPOPULATED JERUSALEM

V27-43 THEY DEDICATE THE WALL

- THE TIME FOR CELEBRATION AND CEREMONY HAS COME
- V27-THE LEVITES WERE SOUGHT OUT
 - INSTRUMENTS & VOICES
 - GLADNESS & THANKSGIVING
 - THEY LIKELY SANG PSALMS LIKE THOSE WE STUDIED
- V29-THE SINGERS LITERALLY HAD SURROUNDED THE CITY TO LIVE
- V30-THE PURIFICATION COULD HAVE BEEN BY WATER OR BLOOD OR FASTING (DUET 26)
- V31+THE LEADERS WENT UP FIRST & TWO CHOIRS WERE MADE
 - TWO CHOIRS WERE MADE
 - EZRA WITH THE FIRST-V36
 - NEHEMIAH WITH THE SECOND-V38
 - THEY WENT TO THE NORTH & SOUTH
 - ENCIRCLING THE CITY WALLS
 - THE LEADERS AND SCRIBES AND TEACHERS JOINED THEM
- V36-THE LINEAGE OF REDEMPTIVE HISTORY
 - DAVID'S INSTRUMENTS AND TRUMPETS
 - THE PEOPLE SAW GOD'S PROMISES IN THIS
 - LINEAGE, MEANING, HISTORY-IT'S NOT CASUAL OR ACCIDENTAL
 - PURPOSEFUL AND PROMISEFUL
- V40-AFTER HAULTING AT THE GATE OF THE GUARD, THEY MET IN THE TEMPLE
 - BOTH CHOIRS STOOD IN THE TEMPLE
 - GIVING THANKS
- V43-THEIR SACRIFICE AND JOY WERE GREAT
 - JOY & REJOICE ARE MENTIONED 5 TIMES IN ONE SCRIPTURE
 - THEIR JOY WAS HEARD FAR AWAY-REDEMPTION! (JOY WHERE DESTRUCTION ONCE WAS)
 - IT WAS MORE THAN JUST SONG OR NOISE-IT WAS UNMISTAKABLE, UNSCRIPTED, ENTIRELY NATURAL, UNFORCED, SOUL DEEP JOY!

V44-47 THEY PUT INTO PLACE THEIR BINDING AGREEMENT

- THE DETAILS THEY ESTABLISHED IN CHAPTER 10
- ORDER IS A PART OF THEIR CELEBRATION
 - SCRIPTURE CONFRONTS US THAT WE NEED TO GATHER REGULARLY AND ORDER OUR LIVES AROUND CORPORATE WORSHIP
 - THE RECENT SENSATIONALIZING OF COMMUNITY MINIMIZES THE INSTITUTION OF THE CHURCH. WE KNOW THE CHURCH IS NOT A BUILDING, IT IS A PEOPLE-HOWEVER WE

.....and the JOY of Jerusalem was heard far away.

NEHEMIAH - CHAPTER 12

ARE A PEOPLE INSTRUCTED TO GATHER AND ORDER OUR LIVES AROUND CORPORATE READING AND TEACHING OF GOD'S WORD, FREELY GIVING OFFERINGS AND WORSHIP

- BUSINESS CAN PULL US AWAY FROM IT
- FORGETTING OUR DESIGN AND FUNCTION AS A BODY CAN AS WELL
- V45&46-MORE LINEAGE DAVID & ASAPH
 - ASAPH IS MENTIONED IN THE PROPHECY OF ZECHARIAH
 - PRAISE & THANKSGIVING
- V47-DECLARES EVERYONE SACRIFICED

- REMEMBRANCE, THANKSGIVING, AND GRATITUDE ALL ARE REQUIRED FOR JOY TO BE FULL
- PROMISES FULFILLED ARE CELEBRATION WORTHY
- NEHEMIAH DOESN'T END ON THIS HIGH NOTE, HOWEVER....
 - THE ENDING OF THE OLD TESTAMENT IS RATHER ANTICLIMACTIC
 - IT LEAVES US HUNGRY AND READY FOR THE COMING SAVIOR
 - IT CONFRONTS US WITH OUR NEED AS A PEOPLE
 - BOTH TRIUMPH AND FAILURE ARE REAL IN REVIVAL AND REFORMATION

I love to let old songs speak a fresh timeless truth to my soul... Today let's allow a new song to speak timeless truth over an old story. Close your eyes and let these lyrics wash over you as you picture this time in Nehemiah's day...

*You unravel me, with a melody
You surround me with a song
Of deliverance, from my enemies
Till all my fears are gone*

*I am surrounded
By the arms of the Father
I am surrounded
By songs of deliverance*

*I'm no longer a slave to fear
I am a child of God
I'm no longer a slave to fear
I am a child of God*

*We've been liberated
From our bondage
We're the sons and the daughters
Let us sing our freedom*

*From my mother's womb
You have chosen me
Love has called my name
I've been born again, into a family
Your blood flows through my veins*

*You split the sea
So I could walk right through it
My fears were drowned in perfect love
You rescued me
And I will stand and sing*

*I'm no longer a slave to fear
I am a child of God
I'm no longer a slave to fear
I am a child of God*

*I am the child of God
I'm no longer a slave to fear
I am a child of God
Yes, I am a child of God*

....and the JOY of Jerusalem was heard far away.