

Nehemiah: Servant to the King

“When God Makes His People Glad”

Nehemiah 12:27-13:3



Pastor Stephen Schultze / Sunday, April 7, 2013

Introduction:

The Significance of the Dedication:

The wall symbolized the beginning of a new era of worship, for the worship of God had been absent for years! *Scripture: Hebrews 13:14-16*

The Spirit of the Dedication: _____ of God!

- Gladness = Exceeding _____, _____ or _____.
- Thanksgiving = Expression of _____.
- Singing = Holistic _____ of _____.

Scripture: Psalm 92:4

The Preparation for the Dedication (v. 27-42)

- Leadership with a clear sense of purpose. (27, 31-42)
- Musicians with songs to sing. (v. 28-29, *Psalm 137:1-6*)
- Priests purifying the people and place. (v. 12:30, *1 John 1:9*)

When God Made His People Glad...

1. God's People _____ in the works of God. (12:43)

- The worship was _____.
 - While sin flows out of a heart overwhelmed by _____, joy & thanksgiving flow out of a heart overwhelmed by _____!
- The worship was _____.
 - God designed _____ to uniquely proclaim His worship.
- The worship was _____.
 - A man or woman who is _____ in Christ will be a beacon of light in a dark, complaining, unthankful world. (*Philippians 2:14-15; 4:4*)

2. God's people _____ in the work of God. (12:44-46)

- When you find _____ in someone or something you gladly _____ to it.

3. God's people _____ to the work of God. (12:47)

- "All Israel" gave. This tells us that the giving was both _____ and _____.
- Your giving is a revealing _____ of your _____ to God.
Scripture: 2 Corinthians 9:12

4. God's people _____ the Word of God. (13:1-3)

- Intermarriage allowed the deadly _____ of idolatrous cultures to _____ the hearts of the people of God.
- Two principles regarding the Word of God in worship:
 - a) When the Word of God ceases to be central to the _____ of God, then worship of God turns to _____.
 - b) When the Word of God is central to the worship _____ but not to the worship of the _____, they have set up _____ as their god.
(John 4:23-24; 14:23)

**God wants us to _____ Him and to _____ in HIM,
but too often we settle for _____ in _____
_____ Him.**

Conclusion:

Consider all that you have in Christ.

What stands in the way of your whole-hearted response of gladness?