

23 August



Break the ice

Write down what God is saying to you in today's message:

TOPIC: Nehemiah Chapter 12



Let's hear your story

1. Tell of a time when you were part of a massive worship event?
2. Can you name the three parts of worship according to Paul in Romans 11:36 – 12:1? (**Glory; dedication and sacrifice**).
3. What definition is used for when creation is worshipped instead of Creator, God? (**paganism**).
4. According to Romans 1:21 – 25, what is often the end result if you worship creation instead of Creator God? (**sexual sin**).



Let's go deeper

5. According to Nehemiah 12:31; How many choirs were appointment to march on top of the wall? (**Two great choirs**).
6. And what were these two great choirs doing on top of the walls according to verse 31? (**Giving thanks**).
7. According to v.43; what was heard from a far way? (**Joy and singing**).
8. How can we know the people were singing? (**There was gladness in their hearts; choirs; masses that are singing with instruments in their hands – cymbals, harps, liars, trumpets and giving thanks**).



Let's apply this

9. This chapter reminds us that we sing for two reasons:

1. Jesus Christ is worthy of worship. He is Creator God, no one and nothing else is worthy of worship.
2. We worship Jesus because ultimately, we become like that which we worship.

- Ask the Holy Spirit to reveal the glory of Jesus Christ to you in a greater measure.

SUMMARY:

Read: Nehemiah 12:1 – 47; Romans 11:36 – 12:1; Romans 1:21 – 25.

- **The book of Nehemiah chapter 12:**

Romans 11:36 – 12:1; Worship is three parts glory; dedication and sacrifice. Glory meaning that we hold someone or something in this position of importance, significance and centrality. And then we dedicate ourselves to those people and things that we hold in the position of glory, and then what we do is we make sacrifices. The problem is that we tend to worship the wrong thing – we tend to worship people and created things scripture says rather than the Creator Jesus Christ. God is Creator and He gave us creation to enjoy, when the opposite happens that is by definition paganism and paganism is when created things take the place of glory, dedication and sacrifice, and Creator God is overlooked, neglected and rejected all together.

Romans 1:21 – 25; The result is if you worship creation instead of Creator, the end result is often sexual sin, if you worship created things like the human body, the pinnacle of created things. God said in Gen.1 that everything was good, He created the human body and He said that is very good (verse 31). God leads to live and sin leads to death. If we worship anything outside of God it leads to death. When you worship Creator God it ends in joy and life, and when you worship creation it ends in pain and death.

Nehemiah 12:27 – 31; The dedication of the wall. Two great choirs marching around the top of the wall, when they went to rebuild the wall the critics mockingly said, if a fox would climb on the wall it will fall down, and now you have thousands of people marching on the wall and all of their enemies and critics surrounding the city see them marching on the wall praising God, in celebration.

v.32 – 43; Their joy was heard far away, for km's around they hear God being worshipped in Jerusalem in a way that He hasn't been worshipped for a very long time, they hear gladness in song and celebration because God's people have come to understand who God is and what He has done. In Nehemiah 12 they are not just dedicating themselves saying God I live for Your glory they are saying and the things that I possess the goods that are mine, I am also dedicating them to You for Your glory, they did that with walls, gates, neighbourhoods in their city, the same would be for you and me to make sure that not only are we dedicated to the Lord, but all the stuff in our life is also dedicated to the Lord. There is joy in their hearts, instruments in their hands and a song on their lips and they sing.

We sing for two reasons:

1. Jesus Christ is worthy of worship, He is Creator God, and worthy of worship.
2. We worship Jesus because ultimately, we become like that which we worship.