

Nehemiah 11 & 12



The eleventh chapter of Nehemiah could well be called "Moving In." With the walls built, the city was still sparsely occupied. Most people lived away from the city. For decades the city was defenseless and vulnerable to attacks. It wasn't safe in the city. Now that the walls were up, it was time to fill the city with residents. The leaders lived in the city and now, 1/10 of the citizens were to move in. This served as a sign that the city was safe and secure.

A. Throughout chapter 11 we find a list of names. This is the fourth of five listing of names in this book.

1. The numbers listed total only 2576.
2. There are some unique expressions among these names:

The Names fall into the following Order:

- People of Judah (4-6)
- People of Benjamin (7-9)
- Priests (10-14)
- Levites (15-18)
- Gatekeepers (19-21)

The Levites had an overseer (22)

- The second in command over the city (9)
- Valliant warriors (14)
- Leaders of the Levites (16) - who were in charge of the outside work of the house of God
- Leader in beginning the thanksgiving prayer (17)
- In charge of the temple servants (21)
- Singers in the service of God (22)

- Commandment from the king concerning the singers (23)
- The King had a representative concerning the people (24)

We find leaders and those involved with the Temple worship in this list of names

B. Chapter 12 begins with another list of names. These are the Levites and priests.

1. Starting in (27) a dedication of the walls takes place
 - Nehemiah returns to the pronoun "I" (31)
 - A massive assembly of singers were divided and marched around the top of the walls They were singing joyfully and thankfully (27)
 - Great sacrifices were made to God (43)
 - Great joy was heard far away (43)

Lessons Learned:

1. These chapters remind us that everyone has a r_____ and _____
2. With the leaders living within Jerusalem, it showed the people that the city was now s_____ and s_____.
3. It is important to honor God in celebration of great _____. The walls would never have gone up without God's help. We celebrate weddings and a life well lived in funerals. Congregationally, baptisms, the appointment of shepherds and deacons ought to be grand occasions for celebrations.
4. With all the people marching around the walls, the people would have further assurance of their _____.
5. The rejoicing was heard from afar (43). Great value in others hearing the _____ in our voices.
6. S_____ has been an important part of worship for a long time (46).
7. They realized that God had been _____ to them, as He has to us.

