

THE IMPORTANCE OF TRUE WORSHIP

Nehemiah 12:27-13:30, page 394

- I. Grateful celebration: The Jews gathered to joyfully celebrate the completion of the wall of Jerusalem (Nehemiah 12:27-47).
 - A. Worship leaders were gathered (27-30).
 - Levites played instruments and singers gathered.
 - Priests and Levites purified themselves and others.
 - B. Leaders and two worship choirs walked on top of the wall, meeting at the temple (31-39).
 - Ezra led one choir around the south end (31-37).
 - Nehemiah led the other around the north end (38-39).
 - C. At the temple everyone worshipped gratefully, joyfully and generously (40-47).
 - Gave thanks (40-42) sacrificed (43) celebrated joyfully (44).
 - Gave financially according to the Law (44, 47).
 - Worshipped in traditions from David and Solomon (45-46)

Point: Worship creates a life of gratitude, joy and generosity.
- II. Spiritual correction: Nehemiah enforced reforms to restore worship at the temple, in business and homes (Nehemiah 13).
 - A. Separated from ungodly Ammonites and Moabites (1-3).

- B. Removed Tobiah the Ammonite who was living at the temple and restored it to use for worship and tithing (4-14).
- C. Enforced Sabbath rules to re-establish worship (15-22).
- D. Rebuked marriages that compromised worship (13:23-30).

Point: My worship is revealed by my decisions and priorities.