

### *'The Celebration of God' Nehemiah 12-13*

"There is joy in the presence of God's angels when even one sinner repents." Luke 15:10

"God has ascended with a mighty shout. The Lord has ascended with trumpets blaring." Ps 47:5

Our lives as followers of Jesus ought to be celebrated with \_\_\_\_\_.

Your celebration of God should turn into a \_\_\_\_\_ to the Lord.

1. In your celebration of God, worship Him with \_\_\_\_\_ of heart

"For the dedication of the new wall of Jerusalem, the Levites throughout the land were asked to come to Jerusalem to assist in the ceremonies. They were to take part in the joyous occasion with their songs of thanksgiving and with the music of cymbals, harps, and lyres. The singers were brought together... they used musical instruments... many sacrifices were offered on that joyous day, for God had given the people cause for great joy. The women and children also participated in the celebration, and the joy of the people of Jerusalem could be heard far away." Nehemiah 12:27-28, 36, 43

Many Christians sing at church but look as if they're in the middle of a \_\_\_\_\_.

"When they said, 'Let's go to the house of God,' my heart leaped for joy." Psalm 122:1

"Shout with joy to the Lord, all the earth! Worship the Lord with gladness. Come before him, singing with joy. Acknowledge that the Lord is God! He made us, and we are his. We are his people, the sheep of his pasture. Enter his gates with thanksgiving; go into his courts with praise. Give thanks to him and praise his name." Psalm 100:1-4

\_\_\_\_\_?

"May you always be joyful in your union with the Lord. I say it again: rejoice!" Philippians 4:4

2. In your celebration of God, give Him \_\_\_\_\_

"Many sacrifices were offered on that joyous day for God had given the people cause for great joy... On that day men were appointed to be in charge of the storerooms for the offerings, the first part of the harvest, and the tithes. They were responsible to collect from the fields outside the towns the portions required by the Law for the priests and Levites. For all the people of Judah took joy in the priests and Levites and their work." Nehemiah 12:43-44.

God promises to \_\_\_\_\_ faithful givers.

"Give, and you will receive. Your gift will return to you in full—pressed down, shaken together to make room for more, running over, and poured into your lap. The amount you give will

determine the amount you get back." Luke 6:38; "I immediately confronted the leaders and demanded, "Why has the Temple of God been neglected... and once more all the people of Judah began bringing their tithes of grain, new wine, and olive oil to the Temple storerooms." Nehemiah 13:11-12

\_\_\_\_\_ ; what you give to Him is already His anyways.

"The earth is the Lord's, and everything in it. The world and all its people belong to him."

Psalms 24:1; "Who am I, and who are my people, that we could give anything to you?

Everything we have has come from you, and we give you only what you first gave us!"

1Chronicles 29:14

3. In your celebration of God, honor Him by being \_\_\_\_\_

"But now you must be holy in everything you do, just as God who chose you is holy. For the Scriptures say, "You must be holy because I am holy." 1Peter 1:15-16

"On that same day, as the Book of Moses was being read to the people, the passage was found that said no Ammonite or Moabite should ever be permitted to enter the assembly of God. For they had not provided the Israelites with food and water in the wilderness. Instead, they hired Balaam to curse them, though our God turned the curse into a blessing.. I learned about Eliashib's evil deed in providing Tobiah with a room in the courtyards of the Temple of God. I became very upset and threw all of Tobiah's belongings out of the room. Then I demanded that the rooms be purified, and I brought back the articles for God's Temple, the grain offerings, and the frankincense." Nehemiah 13:1-2, 8-9

The Lord wants \_\_\_\_\_ from us.