



“Nehemiah and the Holy City”

We are called to the **Holy City**

“Now the leaders of the people settled in Jerusalem. The rest of the people cast lots to bring one out of every ten of them to live in Jerusalem, the holy city, while the remaining nine were to stay in their own towns. ² The people commended all who volunteered to live in Jerusalem.” - Nehemiah 11:1-2 (NIV)

Expanding Holiness

City of **Faith**

²⁵ See to it that you do not refuse him who speaks. If they did not escape when they refused him who warned them on earth, how much less will we, if we turn away from him who warns us from heaven? ²⁶ At that time his voice shook the earth, but now he has promised, “Once more I will shake not only the earth but also the heavens.” ²⁷ The words “once more” indicate the removing of what can be shaken—that is, created things—so that what cannot be shaken may remain.

²⁸ Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us be thankful, and so worship God acceptably with reverence and awe, ²⁹ for our “God is a consuming fire.” - Hebrews 12:25-29 (NIV)

Only a select few will enter the Holy City

Nehemiah Series / week 9

Rev. Eugene “Freedom” Blackwell

July 7-8, 2012

A City of **Worship**

²⁷ At the dedication of the wall of Jerusalem, the Levites were sought out from where they lived and were brought to Jerusalem to celebrate joyfully the dedication with songs of thanksgiving and with the music of cymbals, harps and lyres.” - Nehemiah 12:27 (NIV)

The Community of **God**

⁴⁴ At that time men were appointed to be in charge of the storerooms for the contributions, first fruits and tithes. From the fields around the towns they were to bring into the storerooms the portions required by the Law for the priests and the Levites, for Judah was pleased with the ministering priests and Levites.” - Nehemiah 12:44 (NIV)

Small Group or Personal Reflection Questions

1. When you think of the City of God, what comes to mind?
2. Pastor Freedom spoke about several expansions of Holiness; discuss two elements of Holiness in the Old Testament.
3. Discover three ways in which you can incorporate worship in your every day living.
4. In Nehemiah 12:44, each resident of the Holy City had a responsibility. What responsibility has God given you for the new community of God?