

Designed to Party

Neh. 12:27 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. 28 The singers also were brought together from the region around Jerusalem—from the villages of the Netophathites, 29 from Beth Gilgal, and from the area of Geba and Azmaveth, for the singers had built villages for themselves around Jerusalem. 30 When the priests and Levites had purified themselves ceremonially, they purified the people, the gates and the wall.

Neh. 12:44 At that time men were appointed to be in charge of the storerooms for the contributions, firstfruits 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. 45 They performed the service of their God and the service of purification, as did also the singers and gatekeepers, according to the commands of David and his son Solomon. 46 For long ago, in the days of David and Asaph, there had been directors for the singers and for the songs of praise and thanksgiving to God. 47 So in the days of Zerubbabel and of Nehemiah, all Israel contributed the daily portions for the singers and gatekeepers. They also set aside the portion for the other Levites, and the Levites set aside the portion for the descendants of Aaron.

1. God _____ a good Party—in fact, he _____ it!
2. Jesus _____ his ministry at a Party!
3. Jesus will _____ with a Party!
4. God designed some of the best Party _____ - the Old Testament _____:

In fact, they are the _____ feasts, not Israel's!

| <i>Feast</i> | <i>Purpose</i> | <i>Observance</i> |
|-------------------------|----------------|-------------------|
| <i>Weekly Sabbath</i> | | |
| <i>Passover</i> | | |
| <i>Unleavened Bread</i> | | |
| <i>First Fruits</i> | | |

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|--------------------------|--|--|
| <i>Feast of Weeks</i> | | |
| <i>Feast of Trumpets</i> | | |
| <i>Day of Atonement</i> | | |
| <i>Tabernacles</i> | | |

Some of the Biblical Parties

What Makes a Great Party

1. They don't happen by _____
2. They _____ as many people as possible
3. They celebrate what we accomplish _____
4. They honor what _____ has done in our _____
5. They look _____ to what God has _____

The VERY Best Party takes place...

- When a person comes to _____ in Christ

Two Cautions Regarding Celebrating...

Some people won't _____ your party!

Matt. 11:19 "The Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, 'Behold, a gluttonous man and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!' Yet wisdom is vindicated by her deeds."

Celebrations can quickly _____ from *meaningful* to *mundane*!

Mark 2:27 Then he said to them, "The Sabbath was made for man, not man for the Sabbath. 28 So the Son of Man is Lord even of the Sabbath."

Take a moment to respond:

- 1.
- 2.