SUMMIT CHURCH The Notes

CHAZAQ
Part 9: "Thanks, But No Thanks"

November 22, 2026
Pastor Chris Jung

THE MOST CONVINCING EVIDENCE OF MY GRATITUDE IS THAT...

1. ...IT'S EASY _____ AND _____ IN MY LIFE.

"This is what happened when we dedicated the wall of Jerusalem to God. The people told the Levites to come to Jerusalem from the places where they lived. They wanted the Levites to help them to praise God with joy. The Levites would sing songs to thank God. They would make music with cymbals, harps and lyres. The temple singers came together from places near Jerusalem...I took the leaders of Judah to go and stand on top of the wall. I chose two large groups of singers to thank God with songs. I told the first group to walk along the wall to the south, in the direction of the Dung Gate. Hoshaiah and half of the leaders of Judah followed this group of singers...Some priests with trumpets went with them...These other people helped Zechariah...They all had musical instruments, as King David had told them. Ezra, the teacher of God's Law, led this group of people. When they arrived at the Fountain Gate they all went up the steps of the City of David. While they went up the steps, they passed King David's palace. Then they continued along the wall to the Water Gate, on the east side of the city. The second group of singers went in the

opposite direction. I followed them along the top of the wall, with half of the people. We went past the Tower of the Ovens and we continued to the Broad Wall. Then we went over the Gate of Ephraim and over the Jeshanah Gate. We went along to the Fish Gate, the Tower of Hananel, the Tower of the Hundred and the Sheep Gate. We stopped at the Gate of the Guards. Then the two groups of singers went to stand in the yard of God's temple. I went with them, together with half of the officers...Jezrahiah led the groups of singers, so that they sang loudly. On that day, the people offered many sacrifices to God. They were full of joy because God had caused them to be very happy. Men, women and children were all shouting with joy. Far away from the city, people could hear the noise!"

Nehemiah 12:27-43 (EASY)

"Celebrate always, pray constantly, and give thanks to God no matter what circumstances you find yourself in. (This is God's will for all of you in Jesus the Anointed.)" 1

Thessalonians 5:16-18 (TVB)

2. ...IT'S _____ IN MY _____.

"That same day, we appointed men to be in charge of the storerooms that held everyone's offerings—all their contributions, best offerings, and monetary tithes. These administrators were in charge of collecting from all of the villages the offerings set aside by the law for the priests and the Levites. Everyone was grateful to the priests and the Levites and were happy to contribute for all that they did. Just as David and his son Solomon instructed them to do, they served God and purified the people with the help of the singers and gatekeepers. It was during the united monarchy long ago, in the days of David and Asaph, that it became customary to have choir directors lead the singers

in songs of worship and thanksgiving to God. In these times of Zerubbabel and Nehemiah, the people of Israel also contributed a daily supply of food so that the singers and the gatekeepers had enough to eat. They also designated consecrated portions for the Levites' share, who set aside food for the priests—who are Aaron's descendants."

Nehemiah 12:44-47 *(TVB)*

"I also learned that the portion of the offering that belonged to the Levites had not been given to them. As a result, the Levites and singers who were responsible for leading God's people in worship returned to work on their farms instead. I went straight to the leaders responsible for this and confronted them, asking, 'Why are you neglecting God's temple?' I reassembled the leaders who had returned home and placed them back at their posts. This allowed the people of Judah to bring their tithes of grain, wine, and olive oil into the storehouses again. I placed trustworthy men in charge of the storerooms: Shelemiah the priest, Zadok the scribe, and a Levite named Pedaiah. I brought Hanan (Zaccur's son and Mattaniah's grandson) on as their assistant. It was their responsibility to make sure the daily rations were distributed to their relatives."

Nehemiah 13:10-13 (TVB)

"But I will say this to encourage your generosity: the one who plants little harvests little, and the one who plants plenty harvests plenty. Giving grows out of the heart—otherwise, you've reluctantly grumbled 'yes' because you felt you had to or because you couldn't say 'no,' but this isn't the way God wants it. For we know that 'God loves a cheerful giver.' You will be made rich in everything so that your generosity will spill over in every direction. Through us your generosity is at work inspiring praise and thanksgiving to God."

2 Corinthians 9: 6-7, 11 (TVB)

3. ...IT'S _____ ENOUGH TO _____.

"Some time before this, Eliashib the priest had been put in charge of the storerooms of The Temple of God. He was close to Tobiah and had made available to him a large storeroom that had been used to store Grain-Offerings, incense, worship vessels, and the tithes of grain, wine, and oil for the Levites, singers, and security guards, and the offerings for the priests. When this was going on I wasn't there in Jerusalem...I arrived in Jerusalem and learned of the wrong that Eliashib had done in turning over to him a room in the courts of The Temple of God. I was angry, really angry, and threw everything in the room out into the street, all of Tobiah's stuff. Then I ordered that they ceremonially cleanse the room. Only then did I put back the worship vessels of The Temple of God, along with the Grain-Offerings and the incense."

Nehemiah 13:4-9 (MSG)

"At that same time, I looked around Judah and saw men working the winepresses on the Sabbath. Others I found bringing large loads of grain to be loaded on donkeys. Wine, grapes, figs—they brought every kind of load into Jerusalem on the Sabbath no matter the season. I warned them about selling food on the Sabbath, just as they were doing it. There were men from Tyre living in Jerusalem. They also brought fish and all kinds of merchandise into Jerusalem and sold it to the people of Judah on the Sabbath, even in Jerusalem. I confronted the leaders of Judah, whom I held responsible for the public's actions."

Nehemiah 13:15-17 (TVB)