

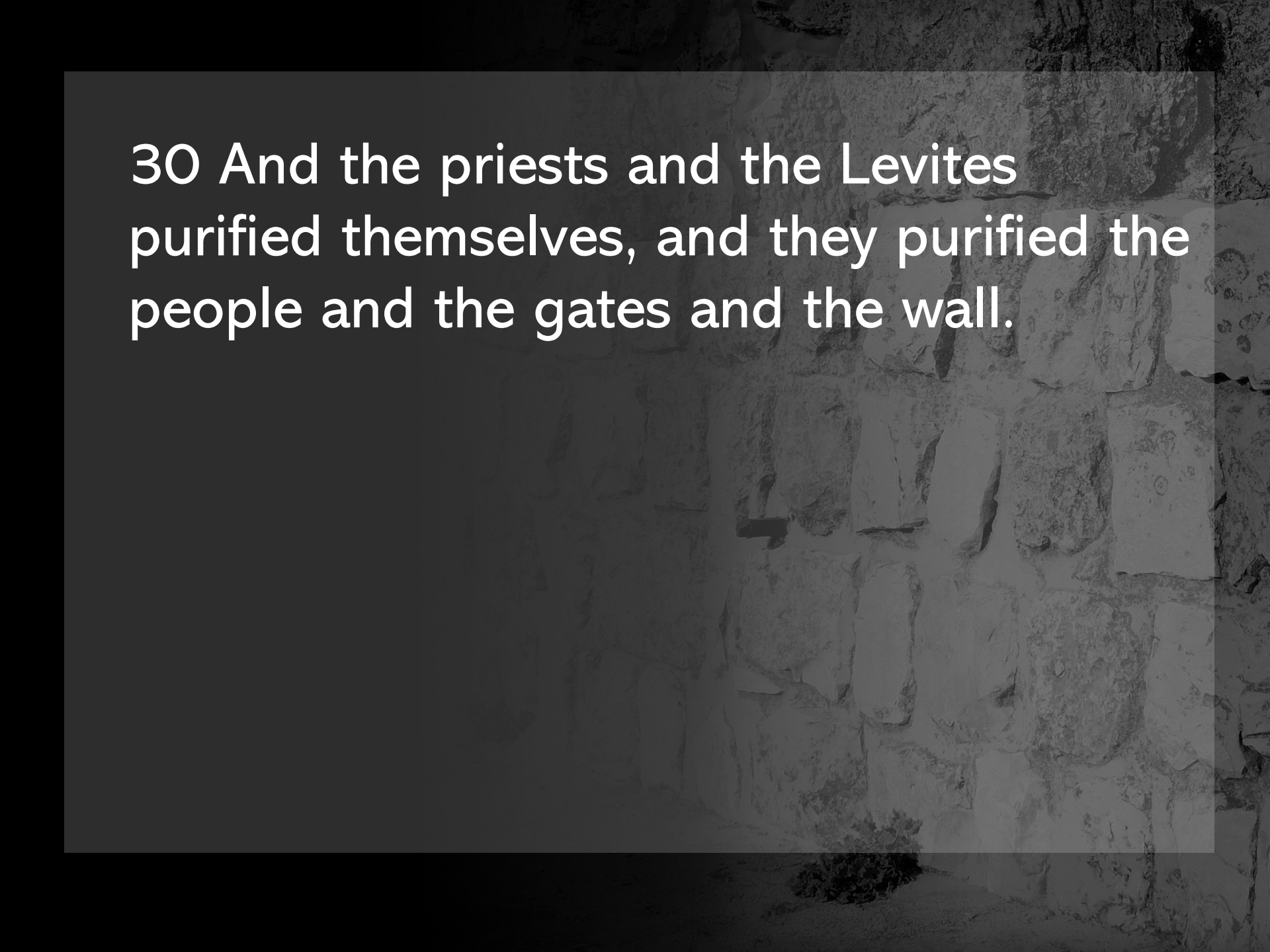
A photograph of a stone wall, likely made of limestone or a similar material, with a rough, textured surface. The wall is illuminated from the right, creating strong shadows and highlights. The text "Your Eyes" and "Nehemiah 12:27-47" is overlaid in white, sans-serif font on the left side of the image. The wall extends into the distance, and a small green plant is visible at the base of the wall in the lower right corner.

# Your Eyes

## Nehemiah 12:27-47

27 And at the dedication of the wall of Jerusalem they sought the Levites in all their places, to bring them to Jerusalem to celebrate the dedication with gladness, with thanksgivings and with singing, with cymbals, harps, and lyres.

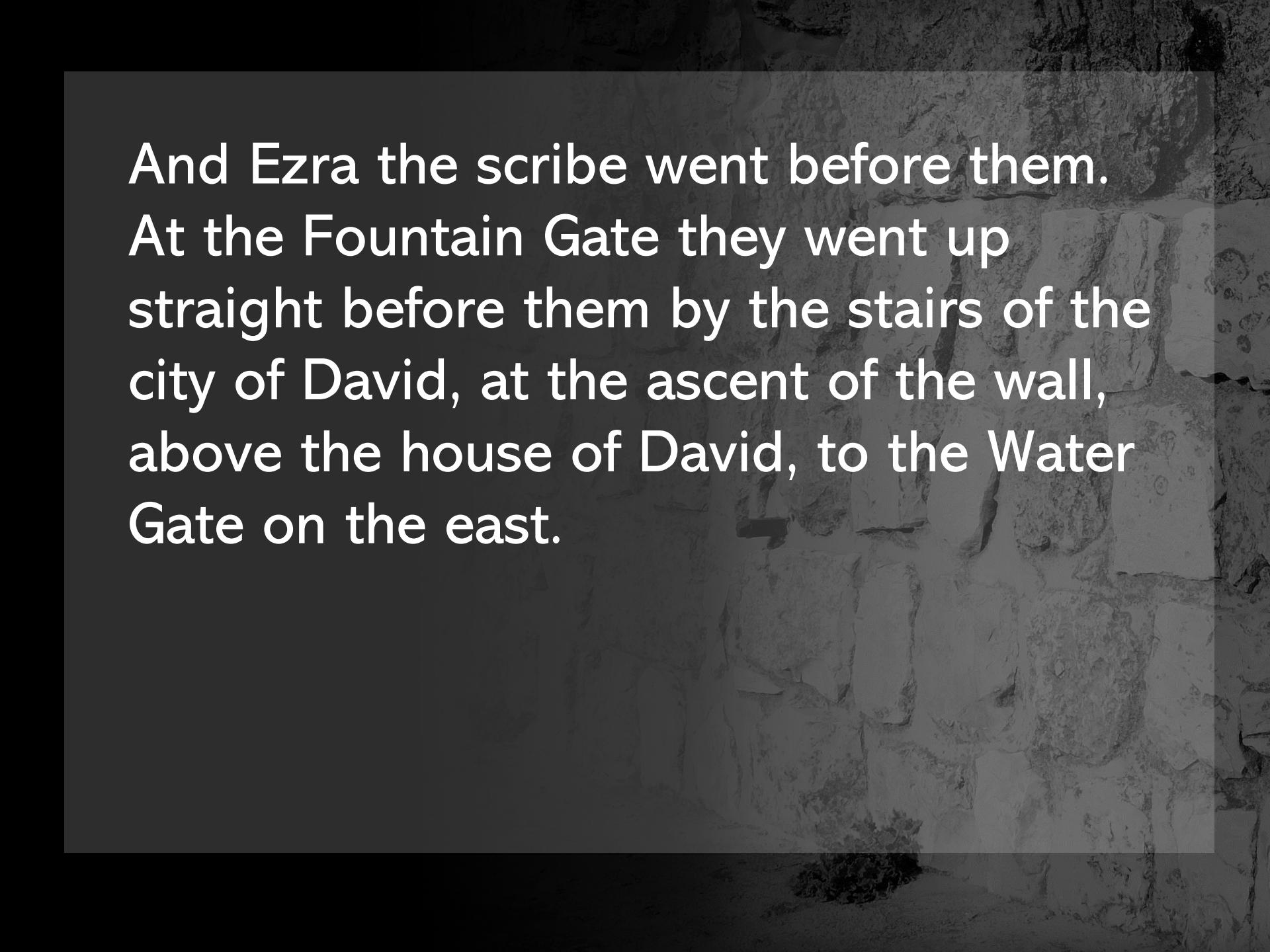
28 And the sons of the singers gathered together from the district surrounding Jerusalem and from the villages of the Netophathites; also from Beth-gilgal and from the region of Geba and Azmaveth, for the singers had built for themselves villages around Jerusalem.



30 And the priests and the Levites purified themselves, and they purified the people and the gates and the wall.

31 Then I brought the leaders of Judah up onto the wall and appointed two great choirs that gave thanks. One went to the south on the wall to the Dung Gate. And after them went Hoshaiah and half of the leaders of Judah, and Azariah, Ezra, Meshullam,

34 Judah, Benjamin, Shemaiah, and Jeremiah, and certain of the priests' sons with trumpets: Zechariah the son of Jonathan, son of Shemaiah, son of Mattaniah, son of Micaiah, son of Zaccur, son of Asaph; and his relatives, Shemaiah, Azarel, Milalai, Gilalai, Maai, Nethanel, Judah, and Hanani, with the musical instruments of David the man of God.



And Ezra the scribe went before them.  
At the Fountain Gate they went up  
straight before them by the stairs of the  
city of David, at the ascent of the wall,  
above the house of David, to the Water  
Gate on the east.

38 The other choir of those who gave thanks went to the north, and I followed them with half of the people, on the wall, above the Tower of the Ovens, to the Broad Wall, and above the Gate of Ephraim, and by the Gate of Yeshanah,



and by the Fish Gate and the Tower of Hananel and the Tower of the Hundred, to the Sheep Gate; and they came to a halt at the Gate of the Guard. So both choirs of those who gave thanks stood in the house of God, and I and half of the officials with me;

41 and the priests Eliakim, Maaseiah, Miniamin, Micaiah, Elioenai, Zechariah, and Hananiah, with trumpets; and Maaseiah, Shemaiah, Eleazar, Uzzi, Jehohanan, Malchijah, Elam, and Ezer. And the singers sang with Jezrahiah as their leader.

43 And they offered great sacrifices that day and rejoiced, for God had made them rejoice with great joy; the women and children also rejoiced. And the joy of Jerusalem was heard far away.

44 On that day men were appointed over the storerooms, the contributions, the firstfruits, and the tithes, to gather into them the portions required by the Law for the priests and for the Levites according to the fields of the towns, for Judah rejoiced over the priests and the Levites who ministered.

45 And they performed the service of their God and the service of purification, as did the singers and the gatekeepers, according to the command of David and his son Solomon. For long ago in the days of David and Asaph there were directors of the singers, and there were songs of praise and thanksgiving to God.

47 And all Israel in the days of Zerubbabel and in the days of Nehemiah gave the daily portions for the singers and the gatekeepers; and they set apart that which was for the Levites; and the Levites set apart that which was for the sons of Aaron.

Nehemiah 12:27-47

A photograph of a stone wall, likely made of limestone or a similar light-colored rock. The wall is composed of large, roughly-hewn blocks of stone, some of which are weathered and show signs of age. The lighting is dramatic, with the right side of the wall being brightly lit, while the left side is in deep shadow. The ground in the foreground is a mix of dirt and small stones. A small, green, leafy plant is growing from the ground near the base of the wall on the right side. The text "Your Eyes" and "Nehemiah 12:27-47" is overlaid in white, sans-serif font on the left side of the image.

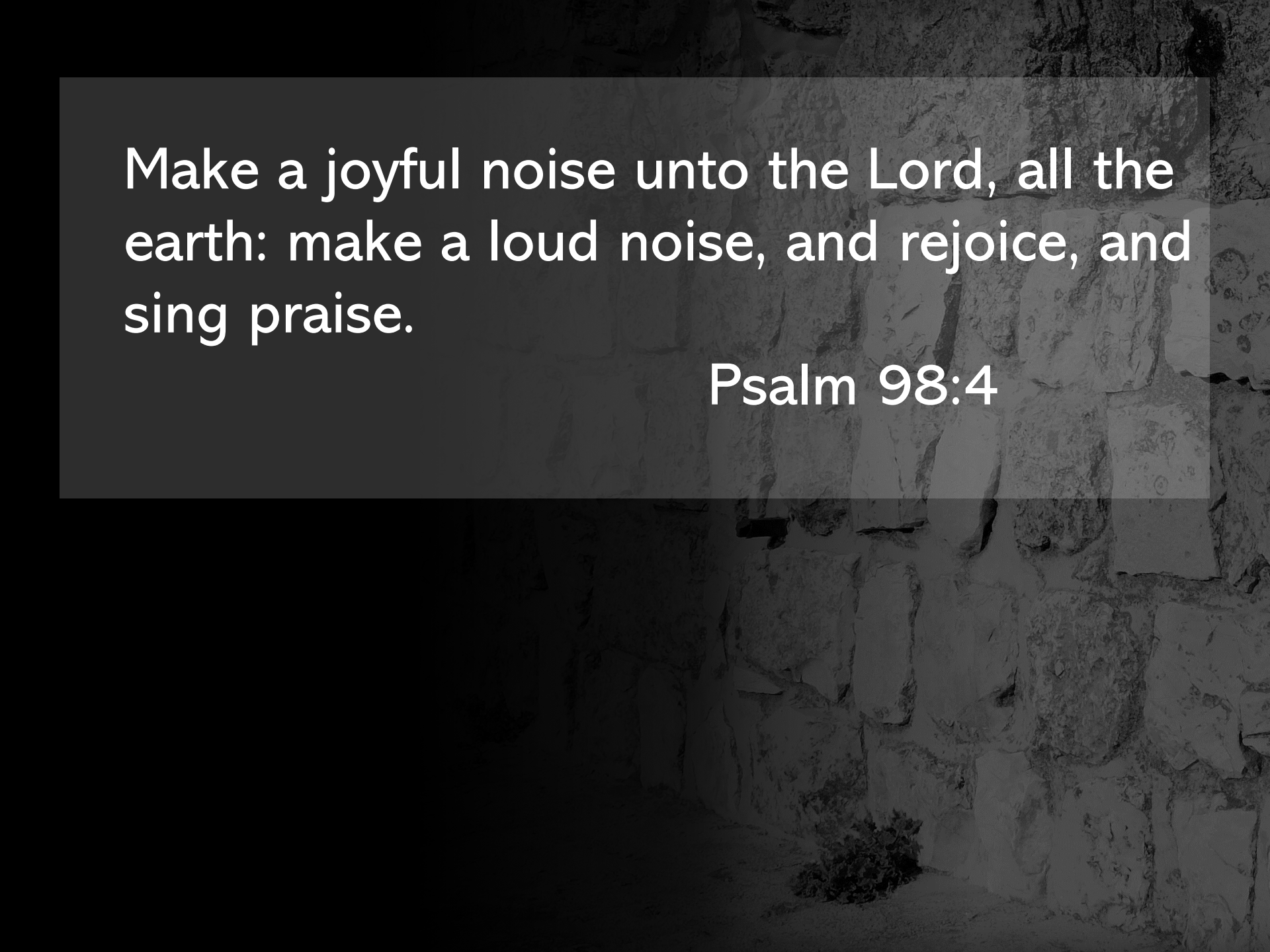
# Your Eyes

## Nehemiah 12:27-47

# The Dedication







Make a joyful noise unto the Lord, all the  
earth: make a loud noise, and rejoice, and  
sing praise.

Psalm 98:4

Through him then let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge his name.

Hebrews 13:15

The Dedication  
- Great joy!



# Ezra's South Wall Choir



A photograph of a stone wall, likely the South Wall of the Temple Mount in Jerusalem. The wall is constructed from large, irregular, light-colored stone blocks. The lighting is dramatic, with the right side of the wall brightly lit and the left side in deep shadow. The text is overlaid in white, bold, sans-serif font. At the bottom of the frame, a small green plant grows from the ground.

Ezra's South Wall Choir  
Nehemiah's North Wall Choir

Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise—the fruit of lips that openly profess his name. And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased.

Hebrews 13:15-16

The Dedication  
- Great joy!



A photograph of a stone wall made of irregular, light-colored stones. The wall is illuminated from the right, creating strong shadows and highlights. A small green plant is growing from the base of the wall on the right side. The background is dark, suggesting an interior or shaded area.

# The Dedication

- Great joy!

- Glad obedience



Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they are keeping watch over your souls, as those who will have to give an account. Let them do this with joy and not with groaning, for that would be of no advantage to you.

Hebrews 13:17













Leviticus 10:1-2



Melrose

Community

Church





# Killers of Great Joy and Glad Obedience

# Killers of Great Joy and Glad Obedience

## 1. Discouragement

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to comfort those who are in any affliction, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God.

2 Corinthians 1:3-4

# Killers of Great Joy and Glad Obedience

1. Discouragement

2. Shame

Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working.

James 5:16

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

1 John 1:9

# Killers of Great Joy and Glad Obedience

1. Discouragement
2. Shame
3. Falling away







# Killers of Great Joy and Glad Obedience

1. Discouragement

2. Shame

3. Falling away

4. Your Eye

Your eye is the lamp of your body. When your eye is healthy, your whole body is full of light, but when it is bad, your body is full of darkness. Therefore be careful lest the light in you be darkness. If then your whole body is full of light, having no part dark, it will be wholly bright, as when a lamp with its rays gives you light.”

Luke 11:34-36

A photograph of a stone wall made of irregular, light-colored stones. The wall is illuminated from the right, creating strong shadows on the left side. A small green plant is growing from the base of the wall in the lower right corner. The text "Great joy! Glad obedience" is overlaid in white, sans-serif font on the left side of the wall.

Great joy!  
Glad obedience