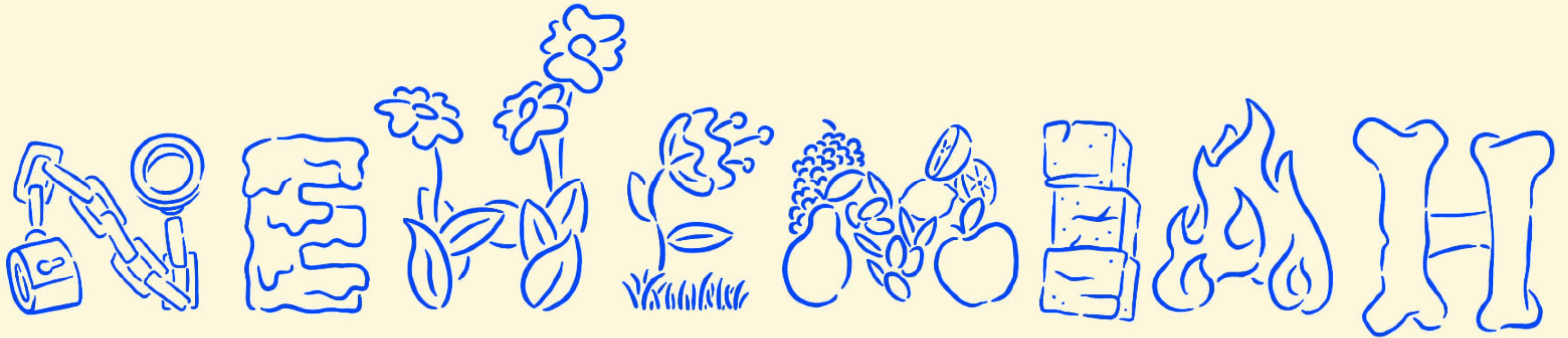




FLOURISHING IN THE MIDST OF OPPOSITION



CHAPTER 12 VERSES 27 - 43

Nehemiah 12:27 – 30

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 musicians 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 musicians 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.



Nehemiah 12:31, 38

31 I had the leaders of Judah go up on top of the wall. I also assigned **two large choirs** to give thanks. One was to proceed on top of the wall to the right

38 The second choir proceeded in the opposite direction. I followed them on top of the wall, together with half the people



Nehemiah 12:43

43 And on that day they offered great sacrifices, rejoicing because God had **given them great joy**. The women and children also rejoiced. The sound of rejoicing in Jerusalem could be heard far away.



The people didn't let their joy **go to waste.**



Nehemiah 12:44 – 47

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 musicians 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 musicians 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 musicians and the gatekeepers. They also set aside the portion for the other Levites, and the Levites set aside the portion for the descendants of Aaron. (N)

We often let our joy go to waste.



You'll receive **little joy** from the good things
God's doing that you pay **little attention to.**



Don't waste your joy.



Don't waste your joy.



Don't waste your joy.

We waste our joy when we stop **expressing gratitude.**



Don't waste your joy.

We waste our joy when we stop expressing gratitude.
We waste our joy when we stop **celebrating with one another.**





FLOURISHING IN THE MIDST OF OPPOSITION