



DAN HAMEL

Lead Pastor: The Creek







In the month of Kislev in the twentieth year (the year 445 BC), while I was in the citadel of Susa, Hanani, one of my brothers, came from Judah with some other men, and I questioned them about the Jewish remnant that had survived the exile, and also about Jerusalem.

Nehemiah 1:1-4

They said to me, "Those who survived the exile and are back in the province are in great trouble and disgrace. The wall of Jerusalem is broken down, and its gates have been burned with fire." When I heard these things, I sat down and wept...

Nehemiah 1:1-4

For some days I mourned and fasted
and prayed before the God of heaven.

Nehemiah 1:1-4

“If it pleases the king and if your servant has found favor in his sight, let him send me to the city in Judah where my ancestors are buried so that I can rebuild it.”

Nehemiah 2:5

And because the gracious hand of my God was on me, the king granted my requests.

Nehemiah 2:8



Susa

Jerusalem

"You see the trouble we are in: Jerusalem lies in ruins, and its gates have been burned with fire. Come, let us rebuild the wall of Jerusalem, and we will no longer be in disgrace."

Nehemiah 2:17-18

A stone wall with a dark grey banner containing the text "Here is horrible." The wall is made of rough, grey and tan stones. The banner is a solid dark grey rectangle with white text. The background is a light, hazy sky.

Here is horrible.

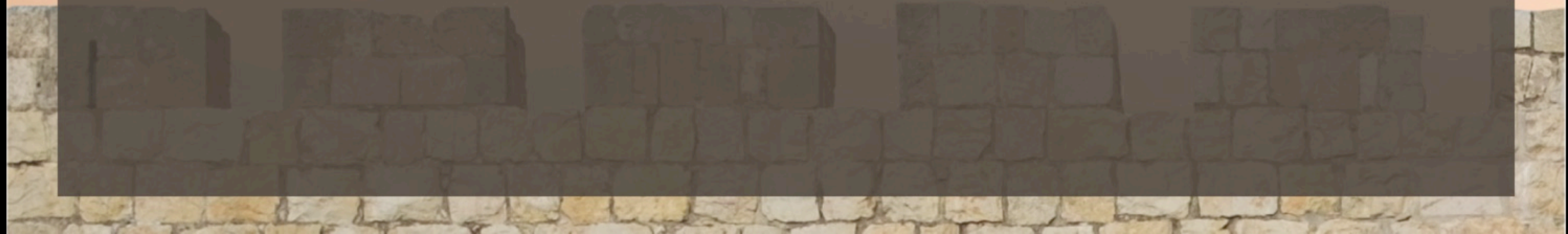
Eliashib the high priest and his fellow priests went to work and rebuilt the Sheep Gate. They dedicated it and set its doors in place, building as far as the Tower of the Hundred, which they dedicated, and as far as the Tower of Hananel.

Nehemiah 3:1-3

The men of Jericho built the adjoining section, and Zakkur son of Imri built next to them. The Fish Gate was rebuilt by the sons of Hassenaah. They laid its beams and put its doors and bolts and bars in place.

Nehemiah 3:1-3

3:19 Next to him, Ezer repaired
another section...



3:19 Next to him, Ezer repaired another section...

3:20 Next to him, Baruch zealously repaired another section...

3:19 Next to him, Ezer repaired another section...

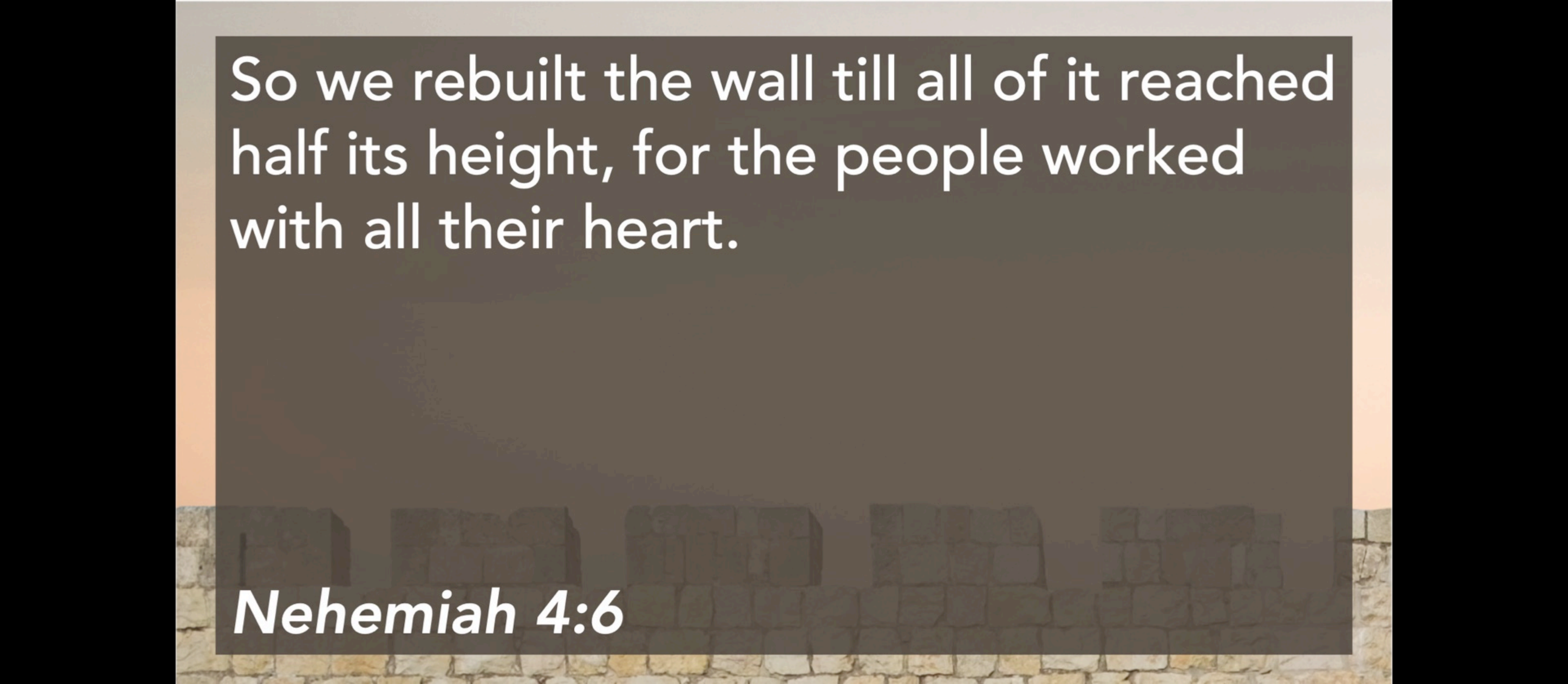
3:20 Next to him, Baruch zealously repaired another section...

3:21 Next to him, Meremoth repaired another section...

3:19 **Next to him,** Ezer repaired another section...

3:20 **Next to him,** Baruch zealously repaired another section...

3:21 **Next to him,** Meremoth repaired another section...

The background of the slide features a stone wall in the foreground, with a sunset sky in shades of orange and yellow behind it. A dark grey semi-transparent rectangle is overlaid on the top half of the image, containing white text.

So we rebuilt the wall till all of it reached
half its height, for the people worked
with all their heart.

Nehemiah 4:6

So we rebuilt the wall till all of it reached
half its height, for the people **worked**
with all their heart.

Nehemiah 4:6

But when Sanballat, Tobiah, the Arabs, the Ammonites and the people of Ashdod heard that the repairs to Jerusalem's walls had gone ahead and that the gaps were being closed, they were very angry.

Nehemiah 4:7-11

They all plotted together to come and fight against Jerusalem and stir up trouble against it. Our enemies said, "Before they know it or see us, we will be right there among them and will kill them and put an end to the work."

Nehemiah 4:7-11

But we prayed to our God and posted a guard day and night to meet this threat.

Nehemiah 4:9

But we prayed to our God and posted a guard day and night to meet this threat.

From that day on, half of my men did the work, while the other half were equipped with spears, shields, bows and armor.

Nehemiah 4:9,16

Distraction:

Four different invitations to have a meeting.

Response:

"I am doing a great work and cannot stop."

Slander:

False accusations of mutiny against the king.

Response:

"You are making that up out of your own head."

Discouragement:

Constant insults about growing weak and tired.

Response:

"O Lord, strengthen my hands."

False reports of danger:

“Let us meet together & close the doors, because men are coming to kill you.”

Response:

“Should a man like me run away?”

“The wall was completed on the twenty-fifth of Elul, in fifty-two days.”

Nehemiah 6:15

All the people came together as one in the square before the Water Gate. They told Ezra the teacher of the Law to bring out the Book of the Law of Moses, which the Lord had commanded for Israel.

Nehemiah 8:1-3

So on the first day of the seventh month Ezra the priest brought the Law before the assembly, which was made up of men and women and all who were able to understand.

Nehemiah 8:1-3

He read it aloud from daybreak till noon as he faced the square before the Water Gate in the presence of the men, women and others who could understand. And all the people listened attentively to the Book of the Law.

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Nehemiah 8:1-3

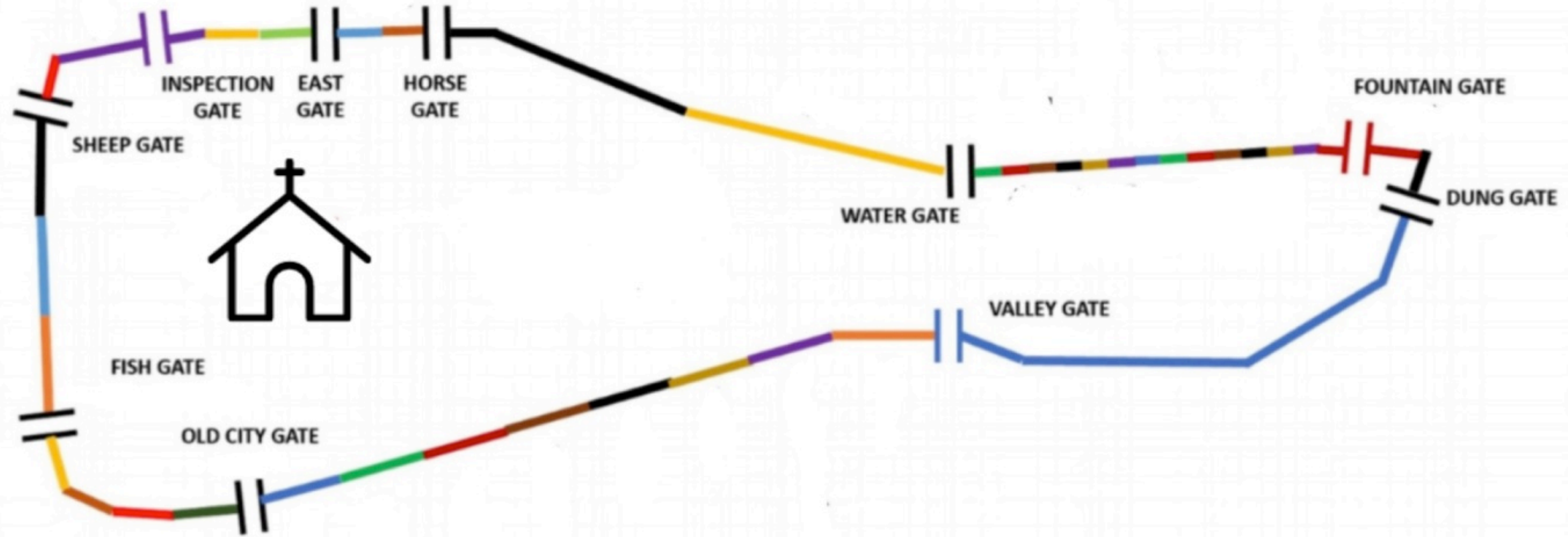
“Christians don't simply learn or study or use Scripture; we assimilate it, take it into our lives in such a way that it gets metabolized into acts of love, cups of cold water, missions into all the world, healing and evangelism and justice in Jesus' name,

Eugene Peterson

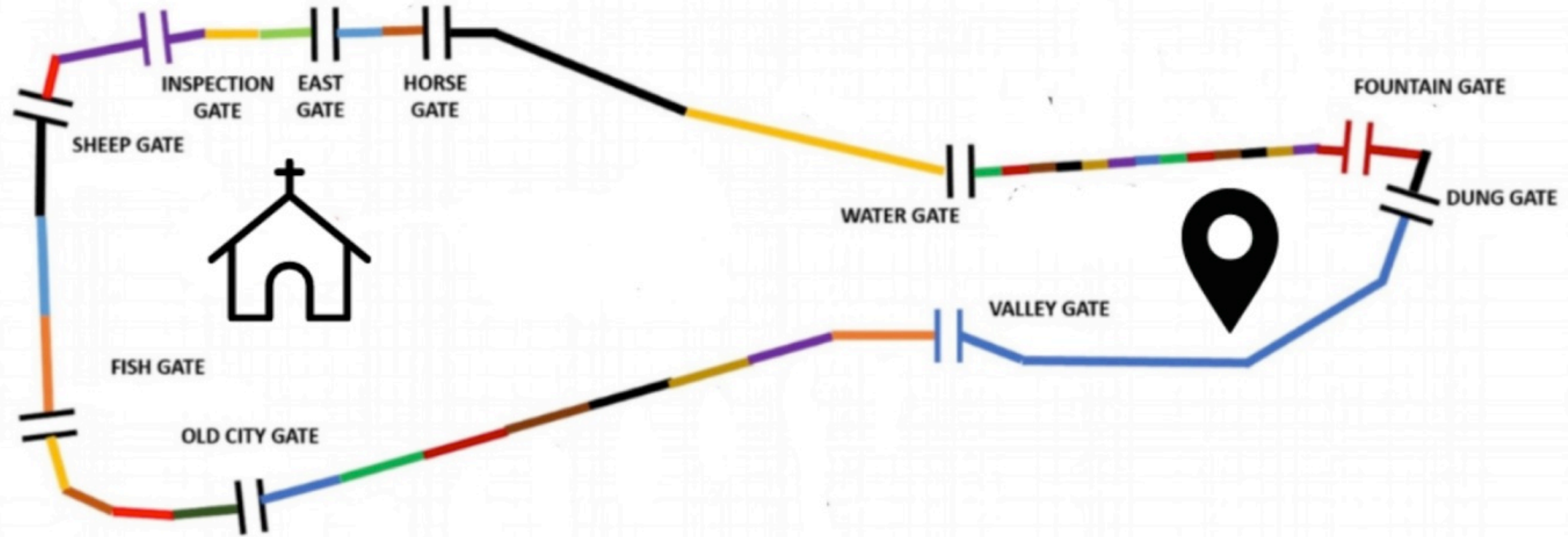
hands raised in adoration of the Father,
feet washed in company with the Son.”

Eugene Peterson

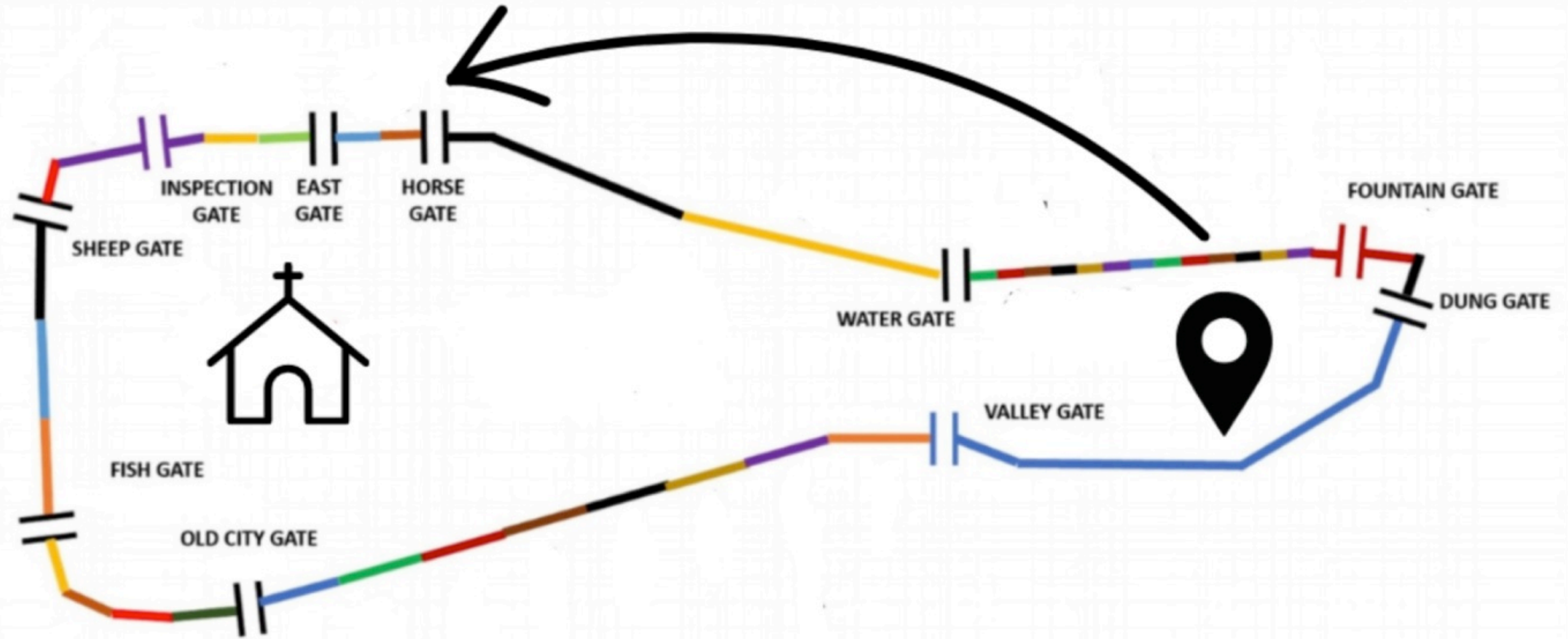




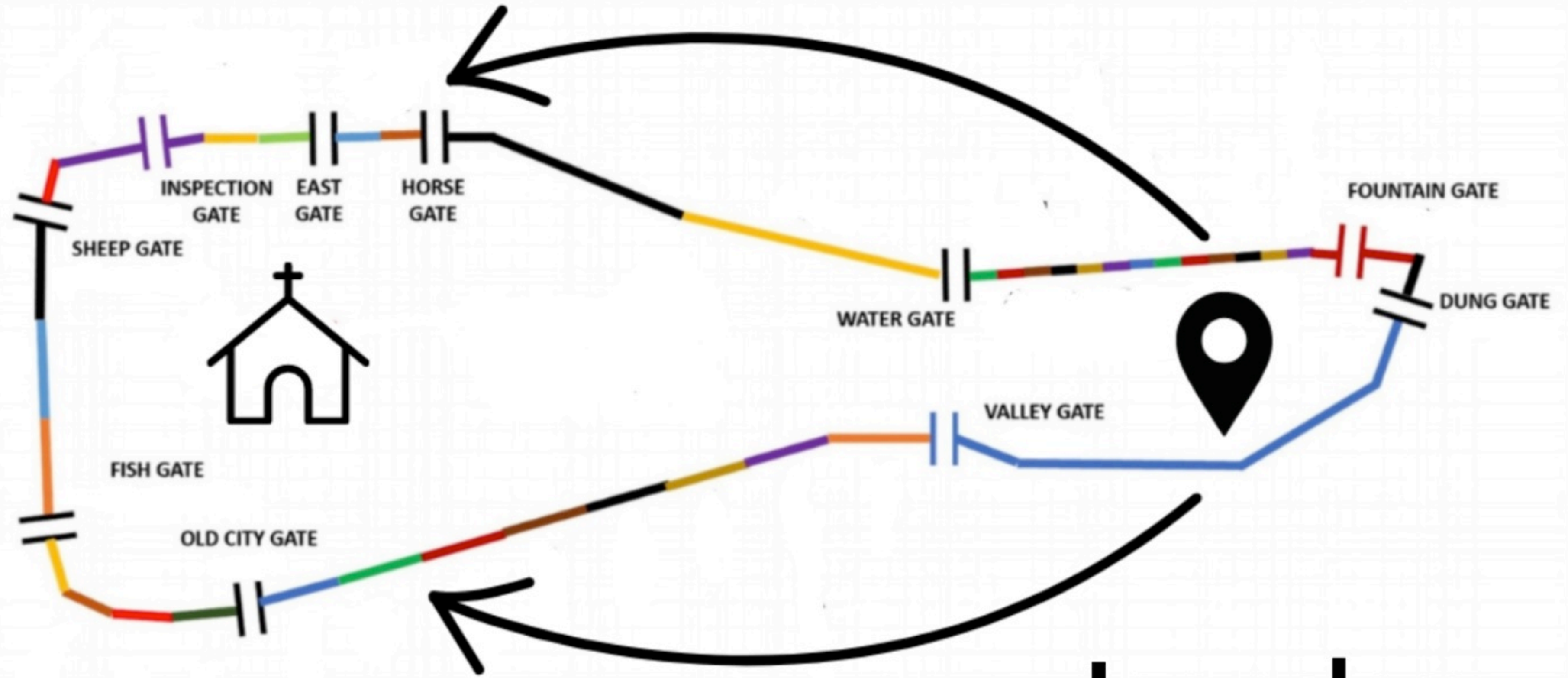
Jerusalem



Jerusalem



Jerusalem



Jerusalem

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.

Nehemiah 12:43



“I rebuked the nobles of Judah and said to them, ‘What is this wicked thing you are doing — desecrating the Sabbath day? Didn’t your ancestors do the same things, so that our God brought all this calamity on us and on this city?’

Nehemiah 13:17-18

Now you are stirring up more wrath
against Israel by desecrating the
Sabbath.'"

Nehemiah 13:17-18