



Alpha & Omega
Christian Worship Center
1110 39th St, Newport News, VA 23607

Fellowship

“The Joy Of the Lord is my Strength”

Pastor K. Franklin, Sermon Notes / Sunday, 25 January 2009
Outline is available at <http://www.alphaomegaworship.org/Resources.htm>
Listen to the sermon online at <http://www.alphaomegaworship.org/Audio.htm>

Nehemiah 8:

1. And all the people gathered themselves together as one man into the street that was before the water gate; and they spake unto Ezra the scribe to **bring the book of the law of Moses**, which the Lord had commanded to Israel.
2. And Ezra the priest brought the law before the congregation both of men and women, and all that **could hear with understanding**, upon the first day of the seventh month.
3. And he read therein before the street that was before the water gate from the morning until midday, before the men and the women, and **those that could understand**; and the ears of all the people were **attentive unto the book of the law**.
4. And Ezra the scribe stood upon **a pulpit of wood, which they had made for the purpose**; and besides him stood Mattithiah, and Shema, and Anaiah, and Urijah, and Hilkiah, and Maasejah, on his right hand, Pediah, and Mishael, and Malchiah, and Hashum, and Hashbadana, Zechariah, and Meshullam.
5. And Ezra **opened the book in the sight of all the people; (for he was above all the people;)** and when he opened it, **all the people stood up**;
6. And Ezra **blessed the Lord, the great God**. And all the people **answered, Amen, Amen**, with **lifting up their hands**; and they **bowed their heads**, and **worshipped the Lord with their faces to the ground**.
7. Also Jeshua, and Bani, and Sherebiah, Jamin, Akkub, Shabbethai, Hodijah, Maaseiah, Kelita, Aariah, Jozabad, Hanan, Pelaiah, and the Levites, **caused the people to understand the law**; and the people stood in their place.
8. So they read in the book in the law of God distinctly, and gave the sense, and caused them to **understand the reading**.
9. And Nehemiah, which is the Tirshatha, and Ezra the priest the scribe, and the Levites that taught the people, said unto all the people, This day is holy unto the Lord your God; mourn not, nor weep. For all the people wept, when they heard the words of the law.
10. Then he said unto them, Go your way, eat the fat, and drink the sweet, and send portions unto them for whom nothing is prepared: for this day is holy unto your Lord: neither be ye sorry; **for the joy of the Lord is your strength**.

1 John 1:

5. This then is the message which we have heard of him, and declare unto you, that **God is light**, and in him is no darkness at all.

1 John 4:



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8. He the loveth not knoweth not God; for **God is Love.**

John 4:

24. **God is a Spirit**; and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.

Hebrews 12:

29. For our **God is a consuming fire.**

Nahum 1:

2. **God is jealous**, and the Lord revengeth; the Lord revengeth, and is furious; the Lord will take vengeance on his adversaries, and the reserveth wrath for his enemies.

Psalms 84:

11. For the Lord **God is a sun and shield**: the Lord will give grace and glory: no good things will he withhold from them that walk uprightly.

It's not good for man to be alone.

What is that you want out of a relationship?

Are you looking for Joy, Peace, Love and fellowship?

What does it mean to be intimate with God?

Are you looking for the things that God is?

Or are you looking for the things that God does?

What do you want out of your relationship?

Some are looking for a maid.

Some are looking for daycare.

Some are looking for money.

Some are looking for a prostitute.

Some are looking for a slave (someone they can control)

Some are looking for a drug dealer // make me happy

In a relationship, you don't have what you need to be happy just as we can't be happy without God.

There was an empty place in the spirit of Man when God kicked him out of the garden just as there is an empty space in man when he is alone.

We look for things



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God created you, he knows who you are, he knows how you work
He knows what satisfies you, more than even you know yourself
The bible is the guide that will put you in the place where you can be totally fulfilled

We have been looking for things, but they don't satisfy, they fill, they leave us empty and wanting

God came to give us Joy, Peace, completeness, fulfillment, Life

He knows what it is will put you in that place of ultimate contentment. It is like an orgasm but it fills and never lets you feel empty

More people after they have money and things go looking for something to do, to give, to give fulfillment and purpose to their life.