

Believe His Promises Or Miss Out Big Time

Numbers 13:1 And the Lord spake unto Moses, saying, 2 Send thou men, that they may search the land of Canaan,

which I give unto the children of

Israel: of every tribe of their fathers shall ye send a man,

every one a ruler among them. 3 And Moses by the commandment of the Lord sent them from the wilderness of Paran: all those men were heads of the children of Israel.

16 These are the names of the men which **Moses sent to spy out the land.** And Moses called Oshea the son of Nun Jehoshua.

17 And Moses sent them **to spy out the land** of Canaan, and said unto them, Get you up this way southward, and go up into the mountain:

18 And see the land, what it is; and the people that dwelleth therein,

whether they be strong or weak, few or

many; 19 And what **the land** is that they dwell in,

whether it be **good or bad;** and what cities they be that they dwell in, whether in tents, or in strong holds; 20 And

what the land is, whether it be **fat or lean**, whether there be wood therein, or not. And **be ye of good**

courage, and bring of the fruit of the land. Now the time was the time of the firstripe grapes.

21 So they went up, and searched the land from the wilderness of Zin unto Rehob, as men come to Hamath. 22 And they ascended by the south, and came unto Hebron; where Ahiman, Sheshai, and Talmi, the children of Anak, were. (Now Hebron was built seven years before Zoan in Egypt.) 23 And they came unto the brook of Eshcol, and cut down from thence **a branch with one cluster of grapes**, and they **bare it between two upon a staff**; and they brought of the pomegranates, and of the figs. 24 The place was called the brook Eshcol, because of the cluster of grapes which the children of Israel cut down from thence.

25 And they **returned from searching of the land after forty days**. 26 And they went and came to Moses, and to Aaron, and to all the congregation of the children of Israel, unto the wilderness of Paran, to Kadesh; and

brought back word unto them, and unto all the congregation, and **shewed them the fruit of the land.** ²⁷ And they told him, and said, **We came unto the land whither thou sentest us, and surely it floweth with milk and honey; and this is the fruit of it.**

²⁸ **Nevertheless** ^{the} **people be strong** that dwell in the land, and the **cities are walled,** and very great: and moreover **we saw the children of Anak there.**

²⁹ The Amalekites dwell in the land of the south: and the Hittites, and the Jebusites, and the Amorites, dwell in the mountains: and the Canaanites dwell by the sea, and by the coast of Jordan.

³⁰ And **Caleb stilled the people** before Moses, and said, **Let us go up at once, and possess it; for we are well able to overcome it.**

31 But **the men that went up with him said,**
We **be not able to go up** against the people; for they
are stronger than we.

32 And they brought up an **evil report of the land**
which they had searched unto the children of Israel, saying,
The land, through which we have gone to search it, is **a**
land that eateth up the inhabitants
thereof; and all the people that we saw in it are **men of a**
great stature.

33 And there **we saw the giants,** the sons of Anak,
which come of the giants: and **we were in**
our own sight as
grasshoppers, and so we
were in their sight.

14:1 And **all the congregation lifted up their voice,** and cried; and **the people wept that night.**

2 And all **the children of Israel murmured** against Moses and against Aaron: and **the whole congregation said unto them,** Would God that we had died in the land of Egypt! or would God we had died in this wilderness!

3 And wherefore hath the Lord brought us unto this land, to fall by the sword, that our wives and our children should be a prey? **were it not better for us to return into Egypt?**

4 And they said one to another, **Let us make a captain, and let us return into Egypt.**

5 Then Moses and Aaron fell on their faces before all the assembly of the congregation of the children of Israel.

6 And **Joshua** the son of Nun, and Caleb the son of Jephunneh, which were of them that searched the land, rent their clothes:

7 And they spake unto all the company of the children of Israel, saying, The land, which we passed through to search it, is an **exceeding good land.**

8 **If the Lord delight in us, then he will bring us into this land, and give it us; a land which floweth with milk and honey.**

9 Only **rebel not ye against the Lord, neither fear ye the people of the land;** for they are

bread for us: their **defence is**

departed from them, and the Lord is with us:

fear them not.

10 But all the congregation bade stone them with stones. And **the glory of the Lord appeared in the tabernacle** of the congregation before all the children of Israel.

11 And the Lord said unto Moses, **How long will this people provoke me? and how long will it be ere they believe me, for all the signs which I have shewed among them?**

12 **I will smite them with the pestilence, and disinherit them,** and will make of thee a greater nation and mightier than they.

13 And **Moses said unto the Lord,** Then **the Egyptians shall hear it,** (for thou broughtest up this people in thy might from among them;)

14 And they will tell it to the inhabitants of this land: for they have heard that thou Lord art among this people, that thou Lord art seen face to face, and that thy cloud standeth over them, and that thou goest before them, by day time in a pillar of a cloud, and in a pillar of fire by night.

15 Now if thou shalt kill all this people as one man, then the nations which have heard the fame of thee will speak, saying,

16 **Because the Lord was not able** to bring this people into the land which he sware unto them, therefore he hath slain them in the wilderness.

17 And now, I beseech thee, let the power of my Lord be great, according as thou hast spoken, saying,

18 **The Lord is longsuffering, and of great mercy, forgiving iniquity and transgression, and by no means clearing the guilty, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation.**

19 **Pardon, I beseech thee,** the iniquity of this people according unto the greatness of thy mercy, and as thou hast forgiven this people, from Egypt even until now.

20 And the Lord said, I have pardoned according to thy word:

21 **But as truly as I live, all the earth shall be filled with the glory of the Lord.**

22 Because all those men which **have seen my glory, and my miracles, which I did in Egypt and in the wilderness,** and have tempted me now these ten times, and have not hearkened to my voice;

23 Surely **they shall not see the land** which I swear unto their fathers, neither shall any of them that provoked me see it:

24 But **my servant Caleb,** because he had another spirit with him, and hath followed me fully, him will I

bring into the land whereinto he went; and his seed shall possess it.

25 (Now the Amalekites and the Canaanites dwelt in the valley.) To morrow turn you, and get you into the wilderness by the way of the Red sea.

26 And the Lord spake unto Moses and unto Aaron, saying,

27 How long shall I bear with this evil congregation, which murmur against me? I have heard the murmurings of the children of Israel, which they murmur against me.

28 Say unto them, As truly as I live, saith the Lord, as ye have spoken in mine ears, so will I do to you:

29 Your carcasses shall fall in this wilderness; and all that were numbered of you, according to your whole number, from twenty years old and upward, which have murmured against me,

30 Doubtless ye shall not come into the land, concerning which I sware to make you dwell therein, save Caleb the son of Jephunneh, and Joshua the son of Nun.

31 But your little ones, which ye said should be a prey, them will I bring in, and they shall know the land which ye have despised.

32 But as for you, your carcasses, they shall fall in this wilderness.

33 And your children shall wander in the wilderness forty years, and bear your whoredoms, until your carcasses be wasted in the wilderness.

34 After the number of the days in which ye searched the land, even forty days, each day for a year, shall ye bear your iniquities, even forty years, and ye shall know my breach of promise.

35 I the Lord have said, I will surely do it unto all this evil congregation, that are gathered together against me: in this wilderness they shall be consumed, and there they shall die.

36 And the men, which Moses sent to search the land, who returned, and made all the congregation to murmur against him, by bringing up a slander upon the land,

37 Even those men that did bring up the evil report upon the land, died by the plague before the Lord.

38 But **Joshua the son of Nun, and Caleb** the son of Jephunneh, which were of the men that went to search the land, lived still.

39 And Moses told these sayings unto all the children of Israel: and the people mourned greatly.

40 And they rose up early in the morning, and gat them up into the top of the mountain, saying, Lo, we be here, and will go up unto the place which the Lord hath promised: for we have sinned.

41 And Moses said, Wherefore now do ye transgress the commandment of the Lord? but it shall not prosper.

42 Go not up, for the Lord is not among you; that ye be not smitten before your enemies.

43 For the Amalekites and the Canaanites are there before you, and ye shall fall by the sword: because ye are turned away from the Lord, therefore the Lord will not be with you.

44 But they presumed to go up unto the hill top: nevertheless the ark of the covenant of the Lord, and Moses, departed not out of the camp.

45 Then the Amalekites came down, and the Canaanites which dwelt in that hill, and smote them, and discomfited them, even unto Hormah.

1. God shows them the land He has promised to give them
13:1 And the Lord spake unto Moses, saying, **2** Send thou men, that they may search the land of Canaan, **which I give unto the children of Israel:** of every tribe of their fathers shall ye send a man, every one a ruler among them.

- a. Notice that He says that He is giving them the land
- b. He simply wants them to go search it out
- c. He wants them to see how good His gift is
- d. 12 men are chosen to check out the land
- e. They are to see what the land looks like
- f. They will see how the people are that live there
- g. But all the time that they are there they are to be of good courage, encouraged, trusting, believing that God is giving them this land **13:20** And what the land is, whether it be **fat or lean**, whether there be wood therein, or not. And **be ye of good courage**, and bring of the fruit of the land. Now the time was the time of the firstripe grapes.

h. Everything was exactly like He said it would be [13:23](#) And they came unto the brook of Eshcol, and cut down from thence **a branch with one cluster of grapes,** and they **bare it between two upon a staff;** and they brought of the pomegranates, and of the figs. [13:27](#) And they told him, and said, **We came unto the land whither thou sentest us, and surely it floweth with milk and honey; and this is the fruit of it.**

2. Instead of seeing the goodness of God and what He was doing they saw the problems and obstacles [13:28](#)

Nevertheless the **people be strong** that dwell in the land, and the **cities are walled,** and very great: and moreover **we saw the children of Anak there.**

a. They knew that they were not able to conquer such a great country [13:31](#) But **the men that went up with him said,** We **be not able to go up** against the people; for they **are stronger than we.** [32](#) And they brought up an **evil report of the land** which they had searched unto the children of Israel, saying, The land, through which we have gone to search it, is **a land that eateth up the inhabitants** thereof; and all the people that we saw in it are **men of a great stature.** [33](#) And there **we saw the giants,** the sons of Anak, which come of the giants: and **we were in our own sight as grasshoppers, and so we were in their sight.**

- i. They knew that they were unable
- ii. They saw men that were stronger than them
- iii. The men were all big
- iv. The land would just swallow them up
- v. They saw giants
- vi. They saw themselves as small
- vii. They knew the people of the land thought of them as nothing also

b. On the verge of great blessing the people are distraught

14:1 And **all the congregation lifted up their voice,** and cried; and **the people wept that night.**

c. They would rather be dead than run such a risk **14:2** And

all **the children of Israel murmured** against Moses and against Aaron: and **the whole congregation said unto them,** Would God that we had died in the land of Egypt! or would God we had died in this wilderness!

d. They wanted to go back to their old lives **14:3** And **wherefore hath the Lord brought us unto this land, to fall**

by the sword, that our wives and our children should be a prey? **were it not better for us to return into Egypt?**

- i. They would rather be slaves
 - ii. They would rather watch their children be killed
- e. They decide to rebel against God and their spiritual leadership 4 And they said one to another, **Let us make a captain, and let us return into Egypt.**

3. Caleb and Joshua stand for truth in the face of their fellow servants

- a. Caleb stood first 13:30 And **Caleb stilled the people** before Moses, and said, **Let us go up at once, and possess it; for we are well able to overcome it.**
- b. Moses and Aaron are in shock, on their faces before the people 14:5 Then Moses and Aaron fell on their faces

before all the assembly of the congregation of the children of Israel.

- c. Joshua and Caleb are broken hearted **14:6** And **Joshua** the son of Nun, and Caleb the son of Jephunneh, which were of them that searched the land, rent their clothes:
- i. They saw that God was giving them a wonderful gift **14:7** And they spake unto all the company of the children of Israel, saying, The land, which we passed through to search it, is an **exceeding good land.**
- ii. They knew that God could give them anything He wanted if He loved them **14:8** **If the Lord delight in us, then he will bring us into this land, and give it us; a land which floweth with milk and honey.**

iii. They begged them not to rebel against God **14:9 Only rebel not ye against the Lord, neither fear ye the people of the land;** for they are **bread for us:** their **defence is departed** from them, and the Lord is with us: **fear them not.**

iv. They told them that God would make it easy for them to take the promised land **14:9 Only rebel not ye against the Lord, neither fear ye the people of the land;** for they are **bread for us:** their **defence is**

departed from them, and the Lord is with

us: **fear them not.**

1. It would be as easy as eating bread
2. They had nothing to defend them
3. The Lord was with Israel
4. They shouldn't be afraid

4. God is now angry with them for not believing Him
 - a. The people want to kill Joshua and Caleb **14:10** But all the congregation bade stone them with stones. And **the glory of the Lord appeared in the tabernacle** of the congregation before all the children of Israel.
 - b. God wants to know what He has to do to get the people to believe Him **14:11** And the Lord said unto Moses, **How long will this people provoke me? and how long will it be ere they**

believe me, for all the signs which I have shewed among them?

c. God is ready to get rid of them and make a new people

12 I will smite them with the pestilence, and disinherit them, and will make of thee a greater nation and mightier than they.

5. Moses begins praying for the nation of Israel

a. Moses doesn't want God's reputation hurt **14:13** And

Moses said unto the Lord, Then **the Egyptians shall hear it,** (for thou broughtest up this people in thy might from among them;)

b. Moses reminds God that the lost world will say that He couldn't do what He said that He could **14** And **they**

will tell it to the inhabitants of this land:
for **they have heard that thou** Lord art among
this people, that thou Lord art seen face to face, and that
thy cloud standeth over them, and that thou goest before
them, by day time in a pillar of a cloud, and in a pillar of
fire by night. 15 Now if thou shalt kill all this people as
one man, then **the nations which have**
heard the fame of thee will speak, saying, 16
Because the Lord was not able to bring
this people into the land which he sware unto them,
therefore he hath slain them in the wilderness.

- c. He reminds the Lord of how good He is 14:17 And now, I
beseech thee, let the power of my Lord be great,
according as thou hast spoken, saying, 18 **The Lord**
is longsuffering, and of great mercy,
forgiving iniquity and transgression,
and by no means clearing the guilty,
visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon

the children unto the third and fourth generation.

d. **He asked for God to forgive them 14:19 Pardon, I beseech thee,** the iniquity of this people according unto the greatness of thy mercy, and as thou hast forgiven this people, from Egypt even until now.

e. God says He will forgive and that Moses can be sure that they whole world will be filled with His glory 14:20 **And the Lord said, I have pardoned according to thy word: 21**

But as truly as I live, all the earth shall be filled with the glory of the Lord.

f. God says that He will forgive but that there will still be consequences for their sins 14:22 **Because all those men which have seen my glory, and my**

miracles, which I did in Egypt and in the wilderness, and have tempted me now these ten times, and have not hearkened to my voice; 23

Surely **they shall not see the land** which I swore unto their fathers, neither shall any of them that provoked me see it:

g. God will take care of those that have been faithful 14:24

But **my servant Caleb,** because he had another spirit with him, and hath followed me fully, him will I bring into the land whereinto he went; and his seed shall possess it. 14:30 Doubtless ye shall not come into the land, concerning which I swore to make you dwell therein, save Caleb the son of Jephunneh, and Joshua the son of Nun. 14:38 But **Joshua the son of Nun, and Caleb** the son of Jephunneh, which were of the men that went to search the land, lived still.

h. Now they will turn away from what God had promised them 14:25 (Now the Amalekites and the Canaanites

dwelt in the valley.) To morrow turn you, and get you into the wilderness by the way of the Red sea.

- i. God says that since they murmured and didn't trust Him that they will die in the wilderness **14:29** Your carcasses shall fall in this wilderness; and all that were numbered of you, according to your whole number, from twenty years old and upward, which have murmured against me,
- j. The children they used as an excuse will get the promise **14:31** But your little ones, which ye said should be a prey, them will I bring in, and they shall know the land which ye have despised.
- k. The children would suffer because of their parents sin **14:33** And your children shall wander in the wilderness forty years, and bear your whoredoms, until your carcasses be wasted in the wilderness.
- l. The bad witnesses died immediately **14:36** And the men, which Moses sent to search the land, who returned, and made all the congregation to murmur against him, by bringing up a slander upon the land, **37** Even those men that did bring up the evil report upon the land, died by the plague before the Lord.

6. It was too late to repent **14:39** And Moses told these sayings unto all the children of Israel: and the people mourned greatly. **40** And they **rose up early** in the morning, and gat them up into the top of the mountain, saying, **Lo, we be here, and will go up unto the place which the Lord hath promised: for we have sinned.**

a. Moses told then that it was too late to try to do what they had been told **41** And Moses said, Wherefore now do ye transgress the commandment of the Lord? but **it shall not prosper.** **42** Go not up, for the Lord is not among you; that ye be not smitten before your enemies. **43** For the Amalekites and the Canaanites are there before you, and ye shall fall by the sword: because ye are turned away from the Lord, therefore the **Lord will not be with you.**

b. They decided they would do what they thought was best

44 But they **presumed to go up** unto the hill top: nevertheless the ark of the covenant of the Lord, and Moses, departed not out of the camp. 45 Then the Amalekites came down, and the Canaanites which dwelt in that hill, and smote them, and discomfited them, even unto Hormah.

c. They failed.

7. Lessons we have to learn

a. We must believe God's promises and act on them

i. If you fail to believe and act you will rob yourself of His blessing

ii. It will also hurt your children

iii. Are you trusting God with your money

iv. Are you trusting God with your family

v. Do you believe God and risk whatever to obey Him

b. Do you see God as great or your enemies, problems, and obstacles as greater than God

c. You can be forgiven but still have to deal with the consequences to your sins

- d. We should stop making excuses about why we do not do the will of God
- e. We do not always get a second chance
- f. We shouldn't wait until something really bad happens to believe God and do what He wants us to do
- g. Sometimes you will be faced with decisions that will be irreversible and they will adversely affect your children
- h. You must choose to believe the Word of God or all the lies the devil and the world can tell you
- i. We must praise God instead of complaining which is like praising the devil
- j. Complaining is an attitude
 - i. It is resentment thinking that someone has done us wrong
 - ii. It is being dissatisfied because we do not get what we want
 - iii. We aren't happy
 - iv. We accuse others of having done something wrong
- k. Instead of complaining we are to be praising and thanking God