

Be Strong In The LORD!

KJV Numbers 13:17-18 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;

Moses sends the leaders of the people to spy out the land and see if the people who live there are strong or weak, many or few.

The word strong Moses uses means “**having the power to resist us**”!

KJV Numbers 13:27-28 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.

The leaders come back and said the people are “**fierce**” meaning **wild, untamed and violent**!

Question: what made the people of the land strong or fierce, wild and violent?

Was it their great size? They were the children Anak—were a giant clan that descended from the *Nephilim* of Gen chapter 6.

It is said the *Nephilim* taught man science, magic and metallurgy among other things. This is how some explain the building of the Pyramids and other structures of antiquity!

Remember last Sunday I told you **the Philistines had iron weapons** that no other tribes had during that time and how David wasn’t concerned with Goliath’s size but talked about his weapons.

Their strength was in their **wickedness**! Not their size!

What makes drug cartels and gangs powerful is their ability to do what others won't! They don't outnumber the people in those countries!

They're desire to stop at nothing to get what they want—they'll maim, murder and destroy anyone and anything in their way!

Their strength is in their wickedness!

Just as in **Gen 6** God said there would be no end to how far they would go!

➤ The strength of Satan is his **LIES!**

There is no limit to **what he will say** to oppose God and His people.

NIV John 8:44 You belong to your father, the devil, and you want to carry out your father's desire. He was a murderer from the beginning, not holding to the truth, for there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks his native language, for he is a liar and the father of lies.

Lying and murdering go hand in hand! Anyone who won't obey The Truth of God's Word is a liar and will stop at nothing to get what they want!

KJV Deuteronomy 11:8 Therefore shall ye keep all the commandments which I command you this day, that ye may be strong, and go in and possess the land, whither ye go to possess it;

➤ **God says the strength of His people is His TRUTH** that manifest through **righteousness** which is our obedience to The Word of God!

This is why Moses tells Joshua to have the strength to obey The Word!

KJV Joshua 1:7 Only be thou strong and very courageous, that thou mayest observe to do according to all the law, which Moses my servant commanded thee: turn not from it to the right hand or to the left, that thou mayest prosper whithersoever thou goest.

The only power great enough to overcome evil is The Word of God

*NIV **Proverbs 14:34** Righteousness exalts a nation, but sin is a disgrace to any people.*

Righteousness makes any nation **strong** and sinful practices removes us from the grace of God!

I didn't say removes God's grace from us, but rather moves us away from God's grace—because grace is a person The Lord Jesus Christ!