

# The Report of the Spies

Numbers 13; 14



The Israelites had passed through the desert and reached Kadesh Barnea, near Canaan. Canaan is the land that the Lord promised to give to the Israelites a long time ago, and they were soon to enter that land. The Lord said to Moses,

**“Send one person from each of the twelve tribes to explore the land of Canaan.”**

Moses followed the Lord’s command and sent a group of twelve spies to Canaan. In this group were Joshua and Caleb. They spied out the land for forty days and brought back some good grapes, pomegranates, and fig. They reported,

**“It is a good land, but the problem is the people are much bigger and stronger than we are.”**

Then Caleb, one of the spies, came forward and said,

**“We should go up and take the land, for we can certainly do it. But the other ten spies said, No, we can’t attack those people; they are stronger than us. We looked like grasshoppers, even in our own eyes!”**

Now the just shall live by faith; But if anyone draws back, My soul has no pleasure in him.

Hebrews 10:38



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After hearing this, the Israelites cried all night long. They grumbled against Moses and said, “If only we had died in Egypt! Or in this desert! Why is the Lord bringing us to this land only to let us to be killed? We should choose a leader and return to Egypt.”

Then Joshua and Caleb said before all the people,

“The land Canaan we explored is exceedingly good. If the Lord is pleased with us, He will lead us into that land. Just do not rebel against the Lord. And do not be afraid of the people of the land, because we will surely overcome them. The Lord is with us.”

But the people of Israel did not want to hear anymore and were going to stone them instead. Then the glory of the Lord appeared. He was sad with all their unbelief. Besides Joshua and Caleb, the group of spies died of a plague before the Lord. And the Israelites were made to wander around the desert for forty more years, right before the land of Canaan.





## Today's Study

1. After the exploring the land, the spies had some different thoughts and opinions. Read the sentences below and circle the people who said them.



• We will overcome the Canaanites!  
(Joshua and Caleb / The Ten Other Spies)

• We were like grasshoppers, even in our own eyes!  
(Joshua and Caleb / The Ten Other Spies)



• We can't attack those Canaanites.  
(Joshua and Caleb / The Ten Other Spies)

• We can take the land because the Lord is with us.  
(Joshua and Caleb / The Ten Other Spies)

In the end, the ten spies who gave a poor, doubtful report of the land died before the Lord while Joshua and Caleb were promised to be able to enter the land.

2. At first, every Israelite was promised to enter Canaan, but out of them, only Joshua and Caleb made it into Canaan. What kind of faith did Joshua and Caleb have? Circle the right answers.

- ① They were not afraid of people and just relied on the Lord.
- ② They believed the Lord would keep His promise.
- ③ They followed the Lord wholeheartedly.
- ④ They made their own judgments based on what they saw.

**"But my righteous one will live by faith. And if he shrinks back, I will not be pleased with him"**  
(Hebrews 10:38)

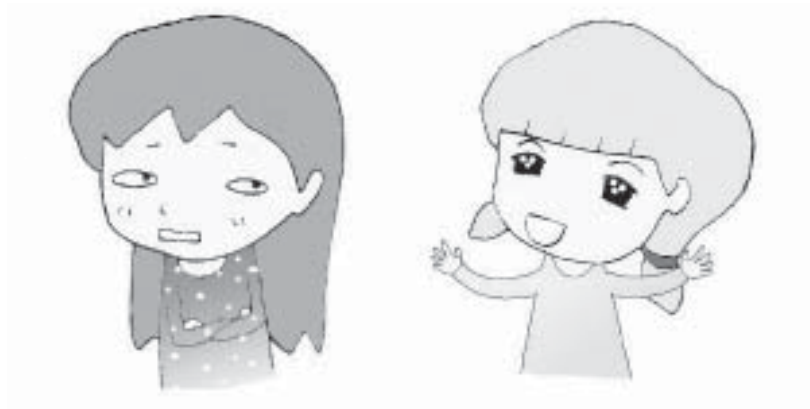


## Today's Lesson

### Like the faith of Joshua and Caleb

Joshua and Caleb boldly spoke what they believed, that God promised them the land and would definitely give it to them, before all the Israelites, who did not believe in God and His promise but instead grumbled against Him. The Israelites did not listen to what Joshua and Caleb tried to say but tried to kill them instead. But the Lord protected Joshua and Caleb and promised them that they would definitely enter Canaan.

God saved us from this sinful world and promised us eternal life in heaven. We listened to and were able to understand and believe in His promise. Now that we're saved, we want to, and should, and must speak to everyone we know so that they can enter heaven as well, and not die in hell by themselves. Just like Joshua and Caleb, let's all be strong and tell our friends and family about heaven and the wonderful love of God.



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"And now, Lord, take note of their threats, and grant that Your bond-servants may speak Your word with all confidence," (Acts 4:29)



## Did you know?

### \* Don't Be Afraid

Washington D.C is where the Bible that Abraham Lincoln used to read is kept right now. His Bible has finger marks on certain pages because that's where he pressed his fingers so often. One of those parts is Psalms 34:4

I sought the LORD, and He answered me, And delivered me from all my fears.

Lincoln lived his life overcoming his difficulties throughout the Civil War with the belief that the Lord was always with him and saved him from every trouble.

Teacher

Parents