

Numbers 13–14

1 And the Lord spoke to Moses, saying, 2 “Send men to spy out the land of Canaan, which I am giving to the children of Israel; from each tribe of their fathers you shall send a man, every one a leader among them.”

3 So Moses sent them from the Wilderness of Paran according to the command of the Lord, all of them men who were heads of the children of Israel. 4 Now these were their names: from the tribe of Reuben, Shammua the son of Zaccur; 5 from the tribe of Simeon, Shaphat the son of Hori; 6 from the tribe of Judah, Caleb the son of Jephunneh; 7 from the tribe of Issachar, Igal the son of Joseph; 8 from the tribe of Ephraim, Hoshea the son of Nun; 9 from the tribe of Benjamin, Palti the son of Raphu; 10 from the tribe of Zebulun, Gaddiel the son of Sodi; 11 from the tribe of Joseph, that is, from the tribe of Manasseh, Gaddi the son of Susi; 12 from the tribe of Dan, Ammiel the son of Gemalli; 13 from the tribe of Asher, Sethur the son of Michael; 14 from the tribe of Naphtali, Nahbi the son of Vophsi; 15 from the tribe of Gad, Geuel the son of Machi.

16 These are the names of the men whom Moses sent to spy out the land. And Moses called Hoshea the son of Nun, Joshua.

17 Then Moses sent them to spy out the land of Canaan, and said to them, “Go up this way into the South, and go up to the mountains, 18 and see what the land is like: whether the people who dwell in it are strong or weak, few or many; 19 whether the land they dwell in is good or bad; whether the cities they inhabit are like camps or strongholds; 20 whether the land is rich or poor; and whether there are forests there or not. Be of good courage. And bring some of the fruit of the land.” Now the time was the season of the first ripe grapes.

21 So they went up and spied out the land from the Wilderness of Zin as far as Rehob, near the entrance of Hamath. 22 And they went up through the South and came to Hebron; Ahiman, Sheshai, and Talmi, the descendants of Anak, were there. (Now Hebron was built seven years before Zoan in Egypt.) 23 Then they came to the Valley of Eshcol, and there cut down a branch with one cluster of grapes; they carried it between two of them on a pole. They also brought some of the pomegranates and figs. 24 The place was called the Valley of Eshcol, because of the cluster which the men of Israel cut down there. 25 And they returned from spying out the land after forty days.

26 Now they departed and came back to Moses and Aaron and all the congregation of the children of Israel in the Wilderness of Paran, at Kadesh; they brought back word to them and to all the congregation, and showed them the fruit of the land. 27 Then they told him, and said: “We went to the land where you sent us. It truly flows with milk and honey, and this is its fruit. 28 Nevertheless the people who dwell in the land are strong; the cities are fortified and very large; moreover we saw the descendants of Anak there. 29 The Amalekites dwell in the

land of the South; the Hittites, the Jebusites, and the Amorites dwell in the mountains; and the Canaanites dwell by the sea and along the banks of the Jordan.”

30 Then Caleb quieted the people before Moses, and said, “Let us go up at once and take possession, for we are well able to overcome it.”

31 But the men who had gone up with him said, “We are not able to go up against the people, for they are stronger than we.” 32 And they gave the children of Israel a bad report of the land which they had spied out, saying, “The land through which we have gone as spies is a land that devours its inhabitants, and all the people whom we saw in it are men of great stature. 33 There we saw the giants (the descendants of Anak came from the giants); and we were like grasshoppers in our own sight, and so we were in their sight.”

14:1 So all the congregation lifted up their voices and cried, and the people wept that night. 2 And all the children of Israel complained against Moses and Aaron, and the whole congregation said to them, “If only we had died in the land of Egypt! Or if only we had died in this wilderness! 3 Why has the Lord brought us to this land to fall by the sword, that our wives and children should become victims? Would it not be better for us to return to Egypt?” 4 So they said to one another, “Let us select a leader and return to Egypt.”

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

6 But Joshua the son of Nun and Caleb the son of Jephunneh, who were among those who had spied out the land, tore their clothes; 7 and they spoke to all the congregation of the children of Israel, saying: “The land we passed through to spy out is an exceedingly good land. 8 If the Lord delights in us, then He will bring us into this land and give it to us, ‘a land which flows with milk and honey.’ 9 Only do not rebel against the Lord, nor fear the people of the land, for they are our bread; their protection has departed from them, and the Lord is with us. Do not fear them.”

10 And all the congregation said to stone them with stones. Now the glory of the Lord appeared in the tabernacle of meeting before all the children of Israel.

11 Then the Lord said to Moses: “How long will these people reject Me? And how long will they not believe Me, with all the signs which I have performed among them? 12 I will strike them with the pestilence and disinherit them, and I will make of you a nation greater and mightier than they.”

13 And Moses said to the Lord: “Then the Egyptians will hear it, for by Your might You brought these people up from among them, 14 and they will tell it to the inhabitants of this land. They have heard that You, Lord, are among these people; that You, Lord, are seen face to face and Your cloud stands above them, and You go before them in a pillar of cloud by day and in a pillar of fire by night.

15 Now if You kill these people as one man, then the nations which have heard of Your fame will speak, saying, 16 ‘Because the Lord was not able to bring this people to the land which He swore to give them, therefore He killed them in the wilderness.’ 17 And now, I pray, let the power of my Lord be great, just as You have spoken, saying, 18 ‘The Lord is longsuffering and abundant in mercy, forgiving iniquity and transgression; but He by no means clears the guilty, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children to the third and fourth generation.’ 19 Pardon the iniquity of this people, I pray, according to the greatness of Your mercy, just as You have forgiven this people, from Egypt even until now.” 20 Then the Lord said: “I have pardoned, according to your word; 21 but truly, as I live, all the earth shall be filled with the glory of the Lord—22 because all these men who have seen My glory and the signs which I did in Egypt and in the wilderness, and have put Me to the test now these ten times, and have not heeded My voice, 23 they certainly shall not see the land of which I swore to their fathers, nor shall any of those who rejected Me see it. 24 But My servant Caleb, because he has a different spirit in him and has followed Me fully, I will bring into the land where he went, and his descendants shall inherit it. 25 Now the Amalekites and the Canaanites dwell in the valley; tomorrow turn and move out into the wilderness by the Way of the Red Sea.” 26 And the Lord spoke to Moses and Aaron, saying, 27 “How long shall I bear with this evil congregation who complain against Me? I have heard the complaints which the children of Israel make against Me. 28 Say to them, ‘As I live,’ says the Lord, ‘just as you have spoken in My hearing, so I will do to you: 29 The carcasses of you who have complained against Me shall fall in this wilderness, all of you who were numbered, according to your entire number, from twenty years old and above. 30 Except for Caleb the son of Jephunneh and Joshua the son of Nun, you shall by no means enter the land which I swore I would make you dwell in. 31 But your little ones, whom you said would be victims, I will bring in, and they shall know the land which you have despised. 32 But as for you, your carcasses shall fall in this wilderness. 33 And your sons shall be shepherds in the wilderness forty years, and bear the brunt of your infidelity, until your carcasses are consumed in the wilderness. 34 According to the number of the days in which you spied out the land, forty days, for each day you shall bear your guilt one year, namely forty years, and you shall know My rejection. 35 I the Lord have spoken this. I will surely do so to all this evil congregation who are gathered together against Me. In this wilderness they shall be consumed, and there they shall die.’ ” 36 Now the men whom Moses sent to spy out the land, who returned and made all the congregation complain against him by bringing a bad report of the land, 37 those very men who brought the evil report about the land, died by the plague

before the Lord. 38 But Joshua the son of Nun and Caleb the son of Jephunneh remained alive, of the men who went to spy out the land.

39 Then Moses told these words to all the children of Israel, and the people mourned greatly. 40 And they rose early in the morning and went up to the top of the mountain, saying, "Here we are, and we will go up to the place which the Lord has promised, for we have sinned!"

41 And Moses said, "Now why do you transgress the command of the Lord? For this will not succeed. 42 Do not go up, lest you be defeated by your enemies, for the Lord is not among you. 43 For the Amalekites and the Canaanites are there before you, and you shall fall by the sword; because you have turned away from the Lord, the Lord will not be with you."

44 But they presumed to go up to the mountaintop. Nevertheless, neither the ark of the covenant of the Lord nor Moses departed from the camp. 45 Then the Amalekites and the Canaanites who dwelt in that mountain came down and attacked them, and drove them back as far as Hormah.

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

Main idea: The Lord is as He says He is and does as He says He will. If you do not trust this by His grace, then you will suffer the truth of it under His wrath.

Introduction: Three days' journey from Sinai, and they're ready for the conquest to begin. How did it become 40 years?

The Lord's invitation to faith and obedience (13:1–20)

The verbal report of the land, and the implicit report of the people and their "leaders," (13:21–33)

The murderous and rebellious boldness of the cowards (14:1–10)

The intercession of faith: "glorify Yourself as You have promised and declared!" (14:11–19)

The Lord's faithful answer: gracious pardoning but just discipline (14:20–45)

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2024.06.09 p.m. Songs & Sermon

Songs: b32AB, b1, b45B, b15, b44A, r130B, r434, b119E, b119F, b119G, b22C, b32B

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Caleb the son of Jephunneh; 7 from the tribe of Issachar, Igal the son of Joseph; 8 from the tribe of Ephraim, Hoshea the son of Nun; 9 from the tribe of Benjamin, Palti the son of Raphu; 10 from the tribe of Zebulun, Gaddiel the son of Sodi; 11 from the tribe of Joseph, that is, from the tribe of Manasseh, Gaddi the son of Susi; 12 from the tribe of Dan, Ammiel the son of Gemalli; 13 from the tribe of Asher, Sethur the son of Michael; 14 from the tribe of Naphtali, Nahbi the son of Vophsi; 15 from the tribe of Gad, Geuel the son of Machi.

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36 Now the men whom Moses sent to spy out the land, who returned and made all the congregation complain against him by bringing a bad report of the land, 37 those very men who brought the evil report about the land, died by the plague before the Lord. 38 But Joshua the son of Nun and Caleb the son of Jephunneh remained alive, of the men who went to spy out the land.

39 Then Moses told these words to all the children of Israel, and the people mourned greatly. 40 And they rose early in the morning and went up to the top of the mountain, saying, “Here we are, and we will go up to the place which the Lord has promised, for we have sinned!”

41 And Moses said, “Now why do you transgress the command of the Lord? For this will not succeed. 42 Do not go up, lest you be defeated by your enemies, for the Lord is not among you. 43 For the Amalekites and the Canaanites are there before you, and you shall fall by the sword; because you have turned away from the Lord, the Lord will not be with you.”

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(The following is a machine-generated transcription. Please be aware of—and patient with—transcribing errors. If there is something confusing or obviously erroneous, you are invited to listen to the audio recording via hopewellarp.org)

Number is 13 and 14. These are God's words. And Yahweh spoke to Moses saying, send men to spy out the land of Canaan.

Which I am giving to the children of Israel from each tribe of their fathers. You shall send a man, everyone a leader among them. So, Moses sent them from the Wilderness of Qaran, according to the command of Yahweh, all of them men who were heads of the children of Israel, Now, these were their names from the tribe of Reuben, shamua, the son of zakur.

From the tribe of Simeon, shafat the son of Hori. From the tribe of Judah. Caleb, the son of jefuna. From the tribe of issachar egausan of Joseph. From the time of Ephraim hoshea, son of nun, from the tribe of Benjamin, palti, son of Rafu. From the tribe of zebulun gadiel.

The son of Saudi From the tribe of Joseph, that is from the tribe of Manasseh, Gaddy. The son of Susie. From the tribe of Dan amiel, the son of gamali. From the tribe of Ash Asher, sethur, the son of Michael From the tribe of naftali, not be the son of vafshi.

From the tribe of God gayuel, the son of Maki. These are the names of the men who measure sent to spy out the land and Moses called hashaya. The son of noon Joshua. Then Moses sent them to spy out the land of Canaan and said to them. Go up this way into the South and go up to the mountains and see what the land is like.

Whether the people who dwell in, it are strong or weak, few or many, Whether the land they dwell in is good or bad. Whether the cities they inhabit, are like camps or strongholds. Whether the land is Rich or poor, And whether there are forests there or not, Be of good courage.

And bring some of the fruit of the land. Now, the time was the season of the first ripe grapes. So they went up and spied out the land from the Wilderness of Zinn as far as Rahab near the entrance of Hamat and they went up through the South and came to Hebron ahiman and talmal.

The descendants of anarch were there. Now, Hebron was built seven years before zoad in Egypt. Then they came to the fat Valley of escal and there, cut down a branch with one cluster of grapes and carried it, between two of them on a pole. They also brought some of the pomegranates and figs.

The place was called the valley of eshkel because of the cluster. Which the men of Israel cut down there. And they returned from spying out the land after 40. Now, they departed and came back to Moses and Aaron and all the congregation of the children of Israel in the wilderness of Paran at Kadesh.

They brought backwards to them and to all the congregation and shed them the fruit of the land. Then they told them and said, we went to the land where you sent us, it truly flows with milk and honey, and this is its fruit. Nevertheless, the people who dwell in the land are strong, the cities are fortified and very large.

Moreover, we saw the descendants of anarch there. The amalegates dwell on the land of the South. The Hittites, the jebusites and the amorites, dwell on the mountains. The Canaanites dwell by the Sea along the banks of the Jordan Then Caleb quieted the people before Moses and said, let us go up at once and take possession for we are.

Well able to overcome it. But the men who had gone off with him said, We are not able to go up against the people for they are stronger than we And they gave the children of Israel, a bad report of the land which they had spied at saying. The land through which we have gone, a spies as a land that devours its inhabitants.

And all the people whom we saw in it are men of great stature there. We saw the Giants. The descendants of an act came from the Giants. And we were like grasshoppers in our own sight and so we were in their sight. So, all the congregation lifted up their voices and cried, And the people wept that night.

And all the children of Israel complained against Moses and Darren, and the whole congregation said to them, if only, we had died in the land of Egypt, or if only we had died in this Wilderness, Why has Yahweh brought us to this land to Fall by the sword that our wives and children should become victims.

Would it not be better for us to return to Egypt? So they said to one another, let us select a leader and return to Egypt. Then Moses and Aaron fell on their faces. Before all the Assembly of the congregation. Of the children of Israel. But Joshua, the son of Nun and Caleb.

The sons of Jafun who are among those who had spied out the land, tore their clothes. And they spoke to all the congregation of Israel saying the land, we passed through to spy out is an exceedingly good land. If you all had the hearts of the leaders, then they will bring us into this land and give it to us a land which flows with milk and honey.

Only did not rebel against Yahweh, nor fear the people of the land. For they are our bread, their protection has departed from them and Yahweh is with us. Do not fear them. And all the congregations said to stand them with stones. Now, the glory of Yahweh appeared. In the Tabernacle of meeting before the children before, all the children of Israel.

Then you always said to Moses. How long will these people? Reject me. And how long will they not believe me? With all the signs, which I have performed among them. I will strike them with the pestilence and disinherit them. I don't make of you a nation greater and mightier than they.

And Moses said to Yahweh. Then the Egyptians will hear it. For by your might you brought these people up from among them. And they will tell it to the inhabitants of this land. They have heard that you Yahweh are among these people that you Yahweh are seen face to face and your cloud stands above them and you go before them in a pillar of cloud by day and in a pillar of fire by night, If you kill these people as one man.

Than the Nations, which have heard of your Fame will speak saying, because Yahweh was not able to bring this people to the land, which he swore to give them. Therefore he killed them in the wilderness. And now I pray. Let the power of my Lord be great. Just as you have spoken saying Yahweh is long-suffering and abundant in Mercy forgiving iniquity and transgression.

But here by no means clears, the guilty. Visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children to the third and fourth generation. Pardon the iniquity of this people. I pray, according to the greatness of your mercy. Just as you have forgiven, this people from Egypt until even until now Then you always said.

I have pardoned according to your word. But truly, as I live all the Earth shall be filled with the glory of Yahweh. Because all these men who have seen my glory in the signs, which I did in Egypt, and in the wilderness, have put me to the test. Now, these 10 times and have not heeded, my voice.

They certainly shall not see the land. Of which I swore to their fathers. Nor so, any of those who rejected me, see it, But my servant Caleb because he has a different spirit in him and has followed me. Fully, I will bring into the land where he went and his descendants shall inherit it.

The Amalekites and the Canaanites dwell in the valley. Tomorrow, turn and move out into the Wilderness by the way of the Red Sea. Then Yahweh spoke to Moses and Aaron saying How long shall I bear with this evil congregation? Who complain against me? I have heard the complaints with the which the children of Israel make against me.

Say to them. As I live, says Yahweh, just as you have spoken in my hearing. So I will do to you. The carcasses of you who have complained against me. Shall fall in this Wilderness. All of you who are numbered according to your entire number from 20 years old and above Except for Caleb, the son of Jafun.

And Joshua the son of noon. You shall by no means. Enter the land, which I swore I would make you dwell in But your little ones whom you said would be victims. I will bring in. And they shall know the land, which you have despised. But, as for you, your carcasses shall fall in this Wilderness, And your sons shall be shepherds in the wilderness 40 years.

And bear the brunt of your infidelity. Until your carcasses are consumed in the wilderness. According to the number of the days in which you spied out the land, 40 days, For each day you saw bear your guilt one year. Namely, 40 years. And you shall know my rejection. I Yahweh have spoken this.

I will surely do so to all this evil congregation. Who are gathered together against me in this Wilderness. They shall be consumed and there. They shall die. Now, the men who Moses sent to spy out the land who returned and made all the congregation complain against him by bringing a bad report of the land.

Those very men who brought the evil report about the land died by the plague. Before y'all. But Joshua, the son of noon and Caleb son of jefuna remained alive. Of the men who went to spy out the land. Then Moses told these words to all the children of Israel.

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But they presumed to go up to the Mountaintop. Nevertheless, neither the Ark of the Covenant of Yahweh, nor Moses departed from the camp. And the amalekites and the Canaanites who dwelt in that mountain came down and attacked them and drove them back. As far. That's hormone. Sends this reading.

Of Gods inspired and inerent worked. Well, back in chapter 10 when they were setting out from Uh, from Sinai. It was to be a three days journey paran is a three days journey. From Sinai. And from paran, you're on the doorstep, you're ready to enter. But, Uh, it took 40 days to make the three days Journey, 40 or so.

A week for Miriam's leprosy. And A month for eating the, the quail that the meat that they had complained for And the three days journeying. And then the spying out of the land takes another 40 days. And then, as a consequence, Three days. Ends up being 40 years. Before they enter the land.

And so, there's That is, of course. Uh, well known to us and famous to us. But as we come through the book of numbers, The Lord sets before us this afternoon. How Did it become 40 years? How did it come to be that they all fell in the wilderness?

It's an important question for you and me. Because remember, First Corinthians, 10 says these things all came upon them but they were written down for our instruction. Upon whom the ends of the ages have come. And that if we think we stand, we should take heed of this native of, especially the Book of Numbers.

Lest we? And perhaps you've memorized that verse, And forgotten. That the word fall, there is directly connected to falling in the wilderness. And so there are several things in this particular

account. That that grab our attention. If we think we stand and if we are receiving God's instruction to take heed, lest we fall.

The first is that when the Lord gives us to prepare, For something when the Lord gives us to train for something or to investigate or learn something, we are not to start, putting our hope in our preparation or our study or our training. It is when we start depending not upon the god, whom we trust to use us and to use his means.

But when we start, depending upon ourselves and upon the means that he Has appointed apart from him. It is then that we fall into the subtle atheism. Into which the nation of Israel. And the ten spies fell. God didn't need surveillance. Of the land of Canaan. He knew that the amalekites dwelt in the South.

And then the Canaanites, dwelt on the coast and in the Valley of the Jordan And that the jebusites and Hittites and amorites dwelt in the Hill Country up. Up in the mountains. He knew what the land was like. He knew that they didn't just have camps that they had cities that they had strongholds.

In fact, Israel should have known all of these things. Especially that the land was flowing with milk and honey and that it was full of produce and good cultivated grapes. With Orchards and Vineyards and that they and Fields that they did not have to make fertile or plow, or And with cities that they didn't have to build with with strong walls and houses that they didn't have to build and Wells, they didn't have to dig.

Why should Israel have known? That this is how it would be. Well, because that's what the Lord had promised them. And so Moses. Uh, here. The people out at the command of Yahweh because the Lord is giving the people to go and shaped by the word of God. To see that things are as he had said.

And so, Whereas, on the face of it, It's a mission to spy out the land. For us as we read it and consider. That they did find the land as the Lord had described including Great, big fortified cities. And people who had survived another 430 years. From the time that the Lord said that, that's how long they would be there.

They see that things are as the Lord had said, but the interpretation becomes very different And so we see that often in God's Providence, it spies out to us as it were the condition of our hearts. That's really the information that is revealed here. The condition of the hearts.

Of the nation of Israel. This mission for them to spy up, the land was an invitation to To believing his word to seeing. That his word is indeed, true. This is something that That many of you have done with. Scientific study or things that we have discovered with. Historical study.

That. You find out that things are as God has said in his word. Now, you don't believe Because science confirms, it does Whatever the Bible says, or Archaeological. Research digging Discovery. Keeps proving. All of the things that the Liberals said, Were not historically true in the late 1900s and or late 18.

19th century in the early 20th century late, 1800s and early 1900s. And they've been humiliated over and over again and so they've kind of backed off of that because we keep we keep discovering that it's all true. We don't believe the Bible because of those things. We believe in the Bible because God spoke the Bible.

And as we And as we live, whether we're talking about the Bible generally speaking like that, or in our own lives. And the keeping of his word and attending upon his means independence

upon him. And we keep finding him faithful. And when there's a problem, we know that, it's not because of something.

That is wrong with what he has said, or that what he has said, doesn't work. We realize, of course, the problem isn't us. And we're brought to repentance and faith and further repentance and further faith. And And, Uh, he uh, he gives us Blessing and he gives us fruit and sometimes he lets us walk in darkness for a long time.

But his Providence, invites us. To trust him. To obey him. Well. The invitation does not end up being taken, does it? They go and and they spy and They come back. And basically, Uh, what they've seen? Is that which gets reported factually up to the end of verse 29.

Um, They bring this one cluster of grapes on a pole between two men. Uh, and Apparently they at first obeyed the command in verse 20, to be of good courage. But it doesn't seem to be the spying out of the land. That shook. The 10, quote-unquote leaders. That's very important.

A bunch of our text is spent on naming these leaders, these heads of the children of Israel. Uh, who had gone these 12 men? And they come back and they, They give their report. And you notice, In their report, it was, or at least that which is described. By Moses in verse 22 and we assume that he got this from their report, although it could have come directly by the Holy Spirit, they saw exactly.

Uh, Anakin In the land. They saw few enough that they were named by name, the three giant men. The land was not full of giants. Okay, so They come and Uh, they give the report. And, The land flows with milk and honey. Just like God had promised them, that it would, and the people who dwell on the land are strong, their cities are fortified and very large.

In fact, Hebron one of the great cities that they had seen were was not just large and fortified, and excavation has shown walls that were 24. I forget. Now if it was feet or meters, that makes a big difference, I think it was meters. Thick. But it was even seven years older.

Than Zoan, one of the chief cities of Egypt. Uh, and so Here. And this relates, of course, to the way that they had complained, About being taken out of Egypt. You remember the last time they said, oh, if things were only like they were in Egypt when we had cucumbers and melons and leeks and fish, and it was all free of charge, never mind that we were in bondage, and the price was Our forced labor that made us cry out to God in agony.

You remember what the Lord had done? They wanted it to be like, Egypt and so he sent a plague. Before they finished eating the quail. You want Egypt? Or you can have Egypt, have a plague similar thing. Is going to happen. In our passage this afternoon. And so they give this this verbal report that is Um, Pretty much just factual it ends with The surveillance of the locations of who lives.

Where The end of verse 29. But there's a clue as to why the tone of the report of the spies changes. And unfortunately for us in our, in our English version here, A couple of the words are translated with that tone that nevertheless. Uh, in verse 28 is much more of an adversative.

You know, it's really, they're just continuing to give their report there in verse 28. But you get an idea. Of how verse 30 begins. Of why the other 10? Begin to speak the way they do in verse 31. Apparently, As the 12 men were reporting, that the land is exactly like the Lord said good produce, strong cities established people, the cities are strong, the houses are strong, the fields are cultivated, uh, it's Uh, it's not a A rundown mess.

The Lord would bring his people, he said into a land. Where everything was already prepared for them. They wouldn't be starting from scratch. When he brought them into the promised land. So it turns out exactly as the Lord had said, but what did the people hear? The people considered themselves, the people consider the land, the people considered the current inhabitants of the land.

Whom did they not consider children? Whom did they forget? They forgot the Living. Isn't that crazy? Aren't we? Very often crazy. Because we think about our circumstances. And we think about ourselves and we think about our resources and we think about the other people involved and then we start to worry or we start to fret or even sometimes in a great self-deception, not having thought about God, we we start to feel confident like we got this without even thinking about the Lord himself and hoping that it is by his power and by his Mercy

So we're all over the map.

From from Pride to dismay. And it's really atheistic, isn't it? It's atheistic. It's atheism. Not to calculate the Living God. As you look into this week, as you think about this week, there may be things that you yourself. Feel are too, great insurmountable. Things, maybe even that God has called you.

Like obeying your mom and dad. Which yes, I agree. It's impossible. But praise God, he doesn't say children obey, your parents and yourselves. For this is right. Even though it's impossible for you. No he says children obey your parents The Lord. Don't forget the Lord. When you're going to obey your parents, And you dear parents.

You say, I've been trying the instruction. I've been trying the discipline and it just doesn't work. And it's too much and we can't do it. Well. It is too much. But whose discipline is it? To be the Lord and it's not like the Lord says, here you go. Take my discipline and use it.

It'll work. You know, wash his hands. Here you go. Take my instruction and use it on your kids. It'll work. Is because you're the Lord's appointed agent. Dear Mom and Dad. He is the one. Who's teaching your children and training your children and disciplining your children. He is the one.

He's promised to be God to you and to your children. He's promised that he will use. These means to bring them to Faith. It's he who is going to do it. This can happen. The discouragement the atheism, it can happen in the work of ministry. It can happen in being a citizen in a country where you are to seek its welfare and pray for its good.

Where you are? To pray for those in high position and especially in a nation where you have a voice, you say, well it won't do any good. And, Uh and the the culture is gone and it's under the wrath of God, you're right. The things that are celebrated this month, in our culture are not just things that provoke.

The wrath of God, there are things that are a display of being in the end stage. Of being under the wrath of God. But is it not the Lord who has appointed to us the times and the boundaries of our living? And he has, he not appointed you. And given you by faith in Jesus Christ, a hope that is imperishable and undefiled.

That is in heaven. That cannot be taken from you a hope with which you are so to live, That even those who persecute you. Inquire, as to the The Source, the foundation of this hope that is in you So that you are always having Sanctified the Lord in your heart, consecrated him as holy, not forgotten him.

Consecrated him as holy remembered him, first of all, and foremost in all of your life. To be ready to give an answer for your hope. Well. The people have this atheistic response. And then you see, The leaders. And we had to put the The fear quotes or the Uh, the qualification quotes.

The point on your little outline that we fit after all that scripture text, we put the air quotes the leaders Leaders do not listen. Or ought not listen. To the way that the people are thinking. And then respond in kind. There are two leaders here. Out of the 12 leaders.

Caleb and Joshua. They know the Lord, they remember the Lord, they do not become fearful in the face of the people, it's interesting, the tens, the other 10 spies don't seem to have been fearful in the face of the Canaanites. But it's when there's such a Ruckus. Among the people in response to the initial report that Caleb in order to speak and he's the first of the spies, who speaks He quiets the people down.

And he takes the lead. He says let us go up at once and take possession for. We are. Well able to overcome it. But the men who had gone up with him said, and listen to how the report changes We're not able to go up against the people that are stronger than we they gave and they gave the children of Israel, a bad report of the land.

Which they had spied out the land through which we have gone aspired as a land that devours, its inhabitants. Really. It doesn't even make sense, does it? The people there are a strong people, but the land, they live, and devours, its inhabitants, which one of those two is. It can't both, they can't both be true.

Can they children? Sometimes you do this with Mom or Dad when you're telling a lie you should never. Tell a lie. Well, sometimes you're exposed in your law, aren't you? Because you end up saying two things that can't both be true. And then we know, And then we're able to see the sin that's coming out of your heart and address it with God's means.

But don't you hear the 10 spies telling their lies? Because they say two things that can't be true. Can't both be true. Either the land devours, its inhabitants and the people are being devoured by their land, or the people are strong. And the land doesn't actually devour its inhabitants.

And then, Whereas, Verse 22 had told us, there were three anakim so few that they're named for us by name. They say. All the people we whom we saw in it are men of great stature there. We saw the Giants. The descendants of anach came from the Giants and they use the word Nephilim they say.

These are the Genesis six people. That you heard about the great ones that God wasn't impressed with the greatness of their stature. God was impressed with the greatness of their wickedness and that's why he sent the flood. But they would have this this almost mythical folklore greatness. In the eyes and the minds of the people.

And they say the descendants of anach came from the Nephilim. There's only one problem. From whom is everyone after the flood descended. They're descended from Noah. So yes, there are Anakim But they're not descended from the Nephilim, unless Noah was a Nephilim. Was Noah. One of these who came from.

The mixed marriages of the line of The Godly from Seth and the line of Cain. No. He wasn't. And so that too, is a lie.

Leaders have to lead the people. They do not take straw poles, they do not measure to see which way the wind is blowing. If they do then how will a people who are thinking atheistically and failing to trust in and believe and obey the Lord be led?

Well, we see what got spied out of the people's hearts. Now, notice that. Um they're bold when they want to be and this really shows their atheism chapter 14 verses 1 through 10. Because they decide that they're going to execute Moses and Aaron. This is why Moses and Aaron fall on their faces before the people.

It's a very key point there. They don't fall on their faces before the Lord. They fall on their faces before the people. You see when the people said, you know, let's get another leader and go back to Egypt. They weren't saying let's vote them out of office, we think their term is done and give them a nicer retirement package and appoint a Secret Service detail for them.

No, that is. That's not how leadership change was done. In the ancient near East. When they appointed another, when they said, let's get ourselves another leader and go back to Egypt. They had basically sentenced Moses and Aaron to death. Which is one of the reasons why Caleb and Joshua hurry up and they say stop being atheistic.

Don't you remember? The Lord told Father Abraham that these people would have these 430 years because the sins of the amorites were not complete. That's the reason they've been strong until this point, their protection is removed from them. Now, they will be like our food now. Strength does not come.

From the power of a man's strength comes from the Providence of the Living. God, And so Caleb, Caleb and Joshua fill in the correct Doctrine. In response to this determination that the that the people have made, how do the people respond to that. And all the congregation said to Stone them with stones.

They were so atheistic. Just like, you remember when Aaron and Miriam had raised themselves up against Moses. And and the Lord said, why weren't you afraid? To speak against my servant Moses. Well, atheists are not afraid of Christians. Atheistic children are not afraid of their parents. You should be.

Your parents are the Lord's servants appointed to you. Atheistic congregations. Do not respect or fear to speak against or rise up and rebel against their Godly Elders. Not that all elders are Godly. But it is an atheism. To not be afraid. These people were afraid of a ghost story.

But they weren't afraid. With the cloud hovering. And the Tabernacle there and all that they had seen, They weren't afraid to sentence, Moses, and Aaron to death, and then Joshua and Caleb for standing up for them. Which, by the way. Don't be atheistic. There are going to be the Lord barring the what we have seen in his Providence trending.

There are going to be times when there are people who are spoken against and condemned. That, if you stand up for them, you will be condemned with them. Well, someone who believes in the Lord. And believes that one man with God is a majority. Someone who believes that overcoming by the word of your testimony and the blood of the lamb.

Sometimes means not loving your life even unto death. You will not fail to speak up just because you might be Um, you might be turned upon As well. And so you have this murderous and rebellious boldness of the cowards. All boldness is not necessarily good. There is a boldness that comes from forgetting that you are before the face of God.

And not taking into account. The authorities that are raised up even Wicked authorities. You remember what Jude tells us? That even when speaking against Satan. The Archangel Michael said, the Lord rebuke you. Because he had a healthy respect before the face of God. For the powers. That.

So, the Lord does intervene the, the glory of Yahweh. Appears. Now not just the cloud and the fire which they already had one wonders, what this display of his glory was, When the Lord first addresses, Moses. Uh, and He basically offers Moses the same thing that he had done and the golden cow incident to start over just with Moses.

But Moses prays, and pleads intercedes not so much for the people for the people as for the glory of God. And notice verse 5, sorry verse 15. Now if you kill these people as one man. The Nations which have heard of your Fame will speak. Same because Yahweh was not able to bring the people to the land, which he swore to give them.

He says your power. Your power has begotten. This nation. Your power has brought them this far. Your power has forgiven them. The language of. Of bringing these people up verse 13. Put that together with the language in verse 19. Pardon the iniquity of this people. I pray according to the greatness of your mercy.

Just as you have forgiven, this people from Egypt, even until now you hear what Moses is saying here. The whole trip. So far from Egypt to Sinai from Sinai to paren. The whole thing has been a continually having to forgive this wicked people. And he remembers God's Own word.

Remember the land was exactly as God had said, it would be Well, now, Moses's prayer is basically to God, that God would be exactly as he says he is. Do you remember in the other incident when God was going to kill all the all of Israel and start over with Moses at the incident, with the golden calf, and Moses prayed for them, and the Lord listened to him and, and Moses prayed that And the Lord would would go with them.

And And then, in the wake of all of that, Moses asked to see God's glory. And God hid him in the Rock and he made the greatness of his glory passed by and he got to see the tail end of it. Do you remember the greatest display of God's glory to Moses on that day?

It wasn't something. Moses saw wasn't. It was something Moses. Yahweh proclaimed, his name. To Moses there in Exodus 34. Yahweh. Y'all may God merciful So when Moses said, Lord, show me how great your glory is God came especially by his word and announced how great his mercy is, how great his patience is how great his forgiveness is.

And that in all of this he is still just and righteous and holy and he doesn't clear. The guilty, isn't this what you saw if you were following along in the Romans preaching or attend the midweek meetings in Romans chapter 9 where I said, what if God willing to make his power and wrath known?

On vessels prepared for Destruction. Patiently endures. Sorry willing to make us power in wrath mode. Patiently endures. Vessels prepared for Destruction. So that he might show the riches of his glory, how? And vessels prepared beforehand for Mercy. And so Moses comes and he prays to the Lord to be himself according to his word.

Now I pray. Let the power of my Lord be great just as you have spoken saying Yahweh has long-suffering and abundant in Mercy forgiving iniquity and transgressions May by. No means clears, the guilty visiting the iniquity of the fathers and the children to the third and fourth generation. When you come to God.

And you pray for mercy and you pray for forgiveness. You're asking the Lord to be as he said he is. You're not wishing for something that is in doubt. You must lay hold of his word about himself and desire that he would glorify himself by showing you that Mercy and by showing you that forgiveness.

And of course the Lord is just as he said he is. But the Lord is as he says, he is both in Mercy and forgiveness, and Injustice and wrath. He still killed that entire generation. He just did it slowly. He didn't kill them as one man. Which was what Moses prayed that he wouldn't do verse 15.

So, Yahweh said, I have pardoned according to your word God listens to the voice of a man who prays according to the word of God. But he says, you said, if only we had died in Egypt, if only we had died in the wilderness, and what does the Lord say to Israel?

You wish you had died in the wilderness. Well, your wish is granted. Your carcasses are going to fall in the wilderness. But your children whom you said would be victims. The only thing. They're a victim of is your unfaithfulness. They're going to have to be Shepherds for 40 years.

When a bunch of them could have gone into, Into grapes, or Uh, Some other. Trade in the land. Now, they're gonna have to be Shepherds for 40 years in the wilderness. And perhaps some of their wives. Also, he says your wives and your children. But all the men who are numbered in the census, they're going to fall, aren't they?

All except Caleb. And Joshua. Because the Lord is Holy and just like he says he is He is not subject to the wishes and desires of of men who will say well I can't believe in a God who would send people to hell. Well, you're right, you can't believe in the living and true God, you need resurrecting regenerating Grace to believe in the true and living God, but he's not subject to your word.

He is as just and holy and righteous and full of Wrath against sin as he says he is But he also is. As merciful and patient and long-suffering and abundant in Mercy and compassionate. And forgiving as he says he is,

And, The Lord. Is as he says he is and he does As he says, he will. Which means that if you are, Outside of Christ. You will, you will. Die in your sin. And you will suffer the wrath of God forever. There is there is zero chance do not think to yourself?

Well there's a chance. These people are wrong and it seems like such a no The one who made all of this who made you. In Whose image, you are whose Glory, you have sinned against He is the one who has told you of this wrath and it is sure.

And he is the one who has told you. Of his salvation in Jesus Christ, and it is sure. And he has made you many, many promises. If you are in Christ, Yeah. He who began the work and you will bring it to completion. There is no condemnation for you who are in Christ Jesus.

Why do all things work together for the good of those who love God? Because the only way you came to love, God was because you were called according to his purpose. And he who did not spare his own son, but gave him up for you will most certainly together with him freely, give you all things, his grace is sufficient for you.

Her strength is made perfect in weakness. In the world, you will have trouble, but he has overcome the world. Surely Jesus is with you. By his Spirit, the father and the son are with you, even with you always even to the end of the age. Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today

and forever, because Jesus Christ is Yahweh in the flesh, all of these things are certainties They are to be calculated into how you think about your life.

And how you think about your week and how you think about your calling And how you live as a member of the church and how you live as a citizen. Of this country.

And so these things happen to them. That they were written down for our instruction. Upon whom the ends of the edges would come. Let those who think they fall. Take heat. And let them remember that the Lord is as he says he is. And he will do all that, he has said, That he will do.

Amen, let's pray.

Help us father. Warm and latent. We are tired but here we are in our weakness. Grant that. And your spirits Almighty work, your grace would be sufficient. For us. Grant that we would. Remember the difference between what the flesh sees? And what Faith sees? Grant that we would believe all that your word says.

Because indeed, you are the one who have said it and you will do it. Make us to cling to Christ. In whom your promises are not yes, and no. But in whom all of your promises are yes and amen. And give us. To not only believe that you are faithful, but to be faithful.

By your grace. For, we ask it in Jesus name. Amen.