

GIVE ME THIS MOUNTAIN

JOSHUA 14

Text: Joshua 14:12

(Joshua 14:12) "Now therefore give me this mountain, whereof the LORD spake in that day; for thou heardest in that day how the Anakims were there, and that the cities were great and fenced: if so be the LORD will be with me, then I shall be able to drive them out, as the LORD said."

Introduction:

Caleb, is one of the greatest characters in the Bible. He was one of the chief spies sent out by Moses. He was courageous and preserved when the other spies became discouraged. He was invincible in driving out giants, completely devoted to God and vigorous in old age. Six times it is recorded of Caleb, "he hath fully followed the Lord."

His concentration was thorough. What magnificent adverbs are used to describe Caleb.

Notice:

1. REPUTATION

A. Honest (vs 7)

(Joshua 14:7) "Forty years old was I when Moses the servant of the LORD sent me from Kadeshbarnea to espy out the land; and I brought him word again as it was in mine heart."

1. His heart was right with God.

(Proverbs 16:23) "The heart of the wise teacheth his mouth, and addeth learning to his lips."

a. The man with his heart so fixed on the Lord is not afraid of evil tidings.

(Psalms 112:7-8) "He shall not be afraid of evil tidings: his heart is fixed, trusting in the LORD. {8} His heart is established, he shall not be afraid, until he see his desire upon his enemies."

B. Courageous

(Numbers 13:25-33) "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 showed 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."

(Numbers 14:1-11) "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 showed among them?"

1. The giants did not disturb him.
2. The grunts did not disrupt him.

C. His standards were high

1. Was not content with mediocrity

2. REMEMBRANCE

A. Remembers God's promise to him

(Joshua 14:6-9) "Then the children of Judah came unto Joshua in Gilgal: and Caleb the son of Jephunneh the Kenezite said unto him, Thou knowest the thing that the LORD said unto Moses the man of God concerning me and thee in Kadeshbarnea. {7} Forty years old was I when Moses the servant of the LORD sent me from Kadeshbarnea to espy out the land; and I brought him word again as it was in mine heart. {8} Nevertheless my brethren that went up with me made the heart of the people melt: but I wholly followed the LORD my God. {9} And Moses sware on that day, saying, Surely the land whereon thy feet have trodden shall be thine inheritance, and thy children's for ever, because thou hast wholly followed the LORD my God."

1. He believed God Word

(Numbers 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."

a. He not only believed God's Word but he also trusted in God's Word.

2. We can stand of the promises of God

B. He remembers his commitment to the Lord

(Joshua 14:8-9) "Nevertheless my brethren that went up with me made the heart of the people melt: but I wholly followed the LORD my God. {9} And Moses swore on that day, saying, Surely the land whereon thy feet have trodden shall be thine inheritance, and thy children's for ever, because thou hast wholly followed the LORD my God."

1. He wholly followed the Lord

C. He remembers God's faithfulness to him

(Joshua 14:10-11) "And now, behold, the LORD hath kept me alive, as he said, these forty and five years, even since the LORD spake this word unto Moses, while the children of Israel wandered in the wilderness: and now, lo, I am this day fourscore and five years old. {11} As yet I am as strong this day as I was in the day that Moses sent me: as my strength was then, even so is my strength now, for war, both to go out, and to come in."

1. He was thankful for God's faithfulness.

(Joshua 14:10) "And now, behold, the LORD hath kept me alive, as he said, these forty and five years, even since the LORD spake this word unto Moses, while the children of Israel wandered in the wilderness: and now, lo, I am this day fourscore and five years old."

a. Have you thanked God for keeping you alive?

2. He was thankful for God's goodness.

(Joshua 14:11) "As yet I am as strong this day as I was in the day that Moses sent me: as my strength was then, even so is my strength now, for war, both to go out, and to come in."

3. He was thankful for God's power.

(Joshua 14:12) "Now therefore give me this mountain, whereof the LORD spake in that day; for thou heardest in that day how the Anakims were there, and that the cities were great and fenced: if so be the LORD will be with me, then I shall be able to drive them out, as the LORD said."

4. We too have so much to be thankful for.

(1 Corinthians 15:57) "But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ."

3. REQUEST (VS 12)

(Joshua 14:12) "Now therefore give me this mountain, whereof the LORD spake in that day; for thou heardest in that day how the Anakims were there, and that the cities were great and fenced: if so be the LORD will be with me, then I shall be able to drive them out, as the LORD said."

A. His request was not one of ease, but rather one of difficulty.

1. Caleb was a man of altitudes.
2. Caleb was interested in the high road.
3. He was not content with the average or commonplace.
4. He never thought in terms of fences or walled cities.
5. It was the heights for Caleb.

B. The mountain that he wanted was filled with hostile Anakims, he refused defeat and claims his inheritances.

C. We are living a day that so many want to take the easy, instant way.

1. Instant ministries
2. Instant churches
3. Instant bus routes
4. Instant Sunday school classes.

D. But anything worth having is work the work in order to see it come to pass.

Illustration:

If we don't get any more help on the property, and building it still worth the effort to see it come to pass. We need not be content with the mundane, average, commonplace, holding pattern.

4. RESULTS (13-14)

(Joshua 14:13-14) "And Joshua blessed him, and gave unto Caleb the son of Jephunneh Hebron for an inheritance. {14} Hebron therefore became the inheritance of Caleb the son of Jephunneh the Kenezite unto this day, because that he wholly followed the LORD God of Israel."

Close:

The song writer words should be our desire

I'm pressing on the upward way,
New heights I'm gaining every day
Still praying as I'm onward bound
Lord plant my feet on higher ground

My heart has no desire to stay
When doubts arise and fears dismay
Thou some may dwell where these abound
My prayer my aim is higher ground

I want to live above the world
Thou Satan's darts at me are hurled
For faith has caught the joyful sound
The song of saints on higher ground

I want to scale the up-most height
And catch a gleam of glory bright
But still I'll pray till Heaven I've found
Lord lead me on to higher ground

Lord lift me up - and let me stand
By faith on Heavens table land
A higher place than I have found
Lord plant my feet on higher ground.