

THE REWARD OF A RIGHT SPIRIT

JOSHUA 14

Text: Joshua 14:12

Introduction:

When Caleb was 40 years old he traveled with 11 men to spy out the land of Canaan. They came back bearing the news of richness, a land flowing with milk and honey

But the report was marred by the testimony of the spies regarding the size and fierceness of the people. Only two of the 12 spies felt that they could conquer the land with the help of the Lord - Joshua and Caleb. So they wandered in the wilderness for another 40 years.

Finally after 40 years they enter Canaan. They conquered the land, and when all was subdued, Caleb asked for a special part of the conquered land.

He told his story; 45 years earlier he a visited Canaan, and now he comes requesting a portion of Canaan.

(Josh 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."

1. CALEB WAS A MAN OF COURAGE

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

When the spies returned from Canaan fearing the Giants, it was Caleb that said "We are well able to overcome it."

Following the Lord gives a life of untold adventure. It is the most exciting life that can be lived.

- A. Uncertainty of the way.
- B. The enemy is on the way.
- C. The presence of the Lord is on the way.

(Rom 8:31) "What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us?"

(Rom 8:35-37) "Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? {36} As it is

written, For thy sake we are killed all the day long; we are accounted as sheep for the slaughter. {37} Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us."

2. CALEB WAS A MAN THE COMMITTED TO GOD

A. He announced it

(Josh 14:8) "Nevertheless my brethren that went up with me made the heart of the people melt: but I wholly followed the LORD my God."

B. Moses agreed with it.

(Josh 14:9) "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."

C. God acknowledged it.

(Josh 14:14) "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."

Many today are weak in this area.

1. Many have no courage.
2. Many have little faith today.
3. Many have little determination to move forward.

Illustration: Paul

(Phil 3:13-14) "Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, {14} I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus."

3. CALEB WAS A MAN WITH CLEAR VISION

- A. He saw the mountain.
- B. He saw the enemy.
- C. He saw the victory.

Close:

Where is our power today over our giants? We need to wholly follow the Lord. See our weakness and inability's, and trust the Lord with them.