

Caleb

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I. Introduction.

A. Numbers 13.

B. Background.

1. Moses chose mature people like Caleb to scout the land.
2. This promised life is the land flowing with milk and honey - a really good place.
3. The people there were strong to defeat.

II. Caleb had a different Spirit - he was following the Lord.

A. When we are following the Lord we either see problems or promises - Caleb saw the latter.

1. Caleb had the right timing - we ought to learn God's timing. (Ecclesiastes 8:5)
2. The other scouts skewed the view of the threat. (1 Chronicles 12:32)
3. Results of a wrong view.
 - a. Complaint against leadership.
 - b. Crying.
 - c. Praying to God for things we wished we had not.
 - d. Griping brings discouragement. (Proverbs 15:4)
 - e. They were defeated by their own false view. (2 Corinthians 10:4-5)
 - f. They believed falsely that God would not protect the women and children.
4. The people were only to be obedient to the Lord but they failed to claim God's promises because they did not believe the Word of God. (Joshua 2)
5. The people did not believe that God took care of children and were not allowed to enter the land. (Matthew 18)
6. God's justice grinds slowly but exceedingly fine.

B. Caleb lived his life completely before God and not according to the pressures around him. (Joshua 14)

1. Caleb reviews the problems, God's promises and God's faithfulness to him.

2. Caleb was confident that he could drive out the giants in Hebron and claimed the promise from Joshua.

3. Caleb did not rely on any special help in the battle in his old age - only the opportunity.

a. Caleb had the same enthusiasm that he had in the beginning.

b. God will keep you when you are facing those giants. (Luke 9:62, Psalm 25)

c. God does not change - we can take God by his Word and walk purely with Him.

d. God loves us enough that He will not let us go astray.

e. God will help us face those giants.

Application questions

1. How did Caleb handle adversity that is different from how most handle it?

2. How does Caleb model the right attitude to have in old age?

3. What challenges are you currently facing? How can you rely on God's strength to get you through it?
