

Caleb

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I. Introduction.

A. Text: Numbers 13.

B. Subject: a man with a different spirit.

C. Background.

1. Joshua and Caleb were spies in the land of Canaan.
2. Canaan symbolizes the victorious Christian life.
3. We were saved from the penalty of sin by the cross of Jesus (Ephesians 1:7), we are being saved from the power of sin through the life of Jesus (Romans 10), and we will be saved from the presence of sin. (1 Peter 1:5)
4. God had already given the promise of victory in this life.
5. God would lead the people to the land of milk and honey - a fruitful land.
6. God told the Israelites to take the land, but the people doubted because of the giants present in the land. They failed, and they murmured against the leadership.

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. The other scouts skewed the view of the threat.
 - a. They blamed their leadership.
 - b. They prayed for death when they should not have.
 - c. They doubted that God would take care of their children. We reap what we sew. (Matthew 18, Galatians 6:7-8)
 - d. God will meet every need - be not deceived.
2. Joshua trusted God for what He provided when the people did not. (Joshua 2)

B. Caleb lived his life completely before God and not according to the pressures around him. (Joshua 14:6)

1. Caleb was faithful in helping others, but he did not ask for anything special for himself aside from what the Lord would provide.

2. Caleb did not rely on any special help in the battle in his old age—only the opportunity—because he was a man with another spirit.

3. The giants in the land.

- a. Doubt.
- b. Despair.
- c. Distrust.
- d. Death.
- e. Disappointment.
- f. Despondence.

4. Take the Word and walk in victory day by day.

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?
