

Wholeheartedness

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complete, full, entire, sincere commitment

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Joshua 14:5-14 (niv)

⁵ So the Israelites divided the land, just as the Lord had commanded Moses.

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⁶ Now the people of Judah approached Joshua at Gilgal, and Caleb son of Jephunneh the Kenizzite said to him, "You know what the Lord said to Moses the man of God at Kadesh Barnea about you and me.

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⁷ I was forty years old when Moses the servant of the Lord sent me from Kadesh Barnea to explore the land. And I brought him back a report according to my convictions,

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⁸ but my fellow Israelites who went up with me made the hearts of the people melt in fear. I, however, followed the Lord my God wholeheartedly.

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⁹ So on that day Moses swore to me, 'The land on which your feet have walked will be your inheritance and that of your children forever, because you have followed the Lord my God wholeheartedly.'

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¹⁰ "Now then, just as the Lord promised, he has kept me alive for forty-five years since the time he said this to Moses, while Israel moved about in the wilderness. So here I am today, eighty-five years old!

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¹¹ I am still as strong today as the day Moses sent me out; I'm just as vigorous to go out to battle now as I was then.

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¹² Now give me this hill country that the Lord promised me that day. You yourself heard then that the Anakites were there and their cities were large and fortified, but, the Lord helping me, I will drive them out just as he said."

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¹³ Then Joshua blessed Caleb son of Jephunneh and gave him Hebron as his inheritance.

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¹⁴ So Hebron has belonged to Caleb son of Jephunneh the Kenizzite ever since, because he followed the Lord, the God of Israel, wholeheartedly.

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3 Witnesses of Caleb's wholeheartedness.

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1.) Caleb

⁸ *but my fellow Israelites who went up with me made the hearts of the people melt in fear. I, however, followed the Lord my God wholeheartedly.*

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2.) MOSES

⁹ *So on that day Moses swore to me, 'The land on which your feet have walked will be your inheritance and that of your children forever, because you have followed the Lord my God wholeheartedly.'*

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3.) THE LORD

Numbers 14:24 - *But because my servant Caleb has a different spirit and follows me wholeheartedly, I will bring him into the land he went to, and his descendants will inherit it.*

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These 3 testimonies suggest 3 great motives or reasons:

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++1.) That God may be glorified

++2.) That others may be edified

++3.) That I may be satisfied

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What does it mean to follow the Lord with wholeheartedness?

1.) It implies concentration

2.) It implies completeness

3.) It implies constancy

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What is the secret to wholeheartedness in following the Lord?

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John 14:16-17

¹⁶ And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another advocate to help you and be with you forever—

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¹⁷ the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you.

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Wholeheartedness!