

I. Waiting: The Timing of Caleb’s Breakthrough (6a)

“Then the people of Judah came to Joshua at Gilgal. And Caleb the son of Jephunneh the Kenizzite said to him...”

- A. It had been a time of Wavering - most chose not to believe and enter the promised land
- B. It had been a time of Wandering - the sentence for unbelief is living in barrenness until death
- C. It had been a time of Waiting - those who did believe God were forced to live among those who doubted
- D. It had been a time of Warring - once they came close to the place of blessing, the battle intensified

II. Warring: The Testing of Caleb’s Breakthrough (6b-9)

A. God had appointed Caleb (6b-7a) - “You know what the LORD said to Moses the man of God in Kadesh-barnea concerning you and me. 7 I was forty years old when Moses the servant of the LORD sent me from Kadesh-barnea to spy out the land...”

B. Caleb had faithfully responded (7b, 8b) - “...and I brought him word again as it was in my heart...I wholly followed the LORD my God.”

C. Obstacles arose along the path (8a) - “...But my brothers who went up with me made the heart of the people melt.”
These types of people are frequently in the majority

D. God had promised reward (8b-9) - “And Moses swore on that day, saying, ‘Surely the land on which your foot has trodden shall be an inheritance for you and your children forever, because you have wholly followed the LORD my God.”

III. Winning: The Triumph of Caleb’s Breakthrough (10-15)

A. The long delay before obtaining the blessing (10) - “And now, behold, the LORD has kept me alive, just as He said, these forty-five years since the time that the LORD spoke this word to Moses, while Israel walked in the wilderness. And now, behold, I am this day eighty-five years old.”

B. The lasting desire to receive the blessing (11) - “I am still as strong today as I was in the day that Moses sent me; my strength now is as my strength was then, for war and for going and coming.”
He had not lost his vision, desire, nor confidence!

C. The lifelong dependence to gain the blessing (12) - “So now give me this hill country of which the LORD spoke on that day, for you heard on that day how the Anakim were there, with great fortified cities. It may be that the LORD will be with me, and I shall drive them out just as the LORD said.”

D. The long-awaited deposit of the blessing (13-15) - “Then Joshua blessed him, and he gave Hebron to Caleb the son of Jephunneh for an inheritance. 14 Therefore Hebron became the inheritance of Caleb the son of Jephunneh the Kenizzite to this day, because he wholly followed the LORD, the God of Israel.”