MARCH 19, 2023

- Numbers 13:1–3 (NIV) 1 The Lord said to Moses, 2 "Send some men to explore the land of Canaan, which I am giving to the Israelites. From each ancestral tribe send one of its leaders." 3 So at the Lord's command Moses sent them out from the Desert of Paran. All of them were leaders of the Israelites.
- God's First Option Would Be –
  Go In And Take It -- I Have Given It To You
- The Lord Allows For His People To Explore The Land

- The Spies Are Chosen
- They Receive Their Assignment In v. 17-20
- Their Assignment: Look At The Land; Look At The People
- Look At The Society And Culture
- Are The People Ready For War ?

THEIR DISCOVERIES IN CANAAN ARE INCREDIBLE – v. 21-25

- A Period Of 40 Days Of Testing And Discovery
- They Found A People Given To Treachery; Strong And Fearless
  With Corrupt Pagan Lifestyles And Values; Violent & Evil

This Was The Land Of Giants

- WHERE DID THESE GIANTS COME FROM?
- Genesis 6:1-2 (NIV) <sup>1</sup> When men began to increase in number on the earth and daughters were born to them, <sup>2</sup> the sons of God saw that the daughters of men were beautiful, and they married any of them they chose
- WHO ARE THE "Sons of God" THEY ARE ANGELS
- WHO ARE THE "Daughters of Men"
- THE "daughters of Adam"

- They Sire Superhuman Offspring
- Genesis 6:4 (NIV) The Nephilim were on the earth in those days--and also afterward--when the sons of God went to the daughters of men and had children by them. They were the heroes of old, men of renown.
- The Nephilim = "the fallen ones": "Fallen Angels" Hebrew Nephal: to fall, be cast down, to fall away, desert
- Also, Hebrew; Ha Gibborim = "the mighty ones."
- These Fallen Angels... Corrupted The Race Of Humanity... And Brought Their Rebellious Thinking To The Earth

- This Rebellion, Sin And Wickedness Has Pretty Much Affect The Entirety Of Creation... Except For One Family...
- Genesis 6:9 (NIV) This is the account of Noah. Noah was a righteous man, blameless among the people of his time, and he walked with God.
- THE KEY WORD HERE IS "BLAMELESS" or "PERFECT" Hebrew tamiyn = without blemish, sound, healthful, without spot, unimpaired. This term is always used of *physical* blemishes, not moral ones.

- The New Testament Confirms This...
- Jude 1:6-7 (NKJV) <sup>6</sup> And the angels who did not keep their proper domain (PRINCIPALITY, POSITIONS OF AUTHORITY), but left their own abode (HABITATION, PROPER DWELLING PLACE), He has reserved in everlasting chains under darkness for the judgment (AND DOOM) of the great day; <sup>7</sup> as Sodom and Gomorrah, and the cities around them in a similar manner to these, having given themselves over to sexual immorality (FORNICATION AND PERVERSION, UNNATURAL VICE, SENSUAL PERVERSITY) and gone after strange flesh, are set forth as an example, suffering the vengeance (PUNISHMENT) of eternal fire
- 2 Peter 2:4 (NKJV) For if God did not spare the angels who sinned, but cast them down to hell (TARTARUS) and delivered them into chains of darkness, to be reserved for judgment;

- The 12 Spies From Israel Had Left A Land Of Slavery In Egypt
- Now Arrived At A Land Of Giants In Their Promised Land

After 40 Days They Returned From Exploring The Land

40 Days In Scripture Is A Time Of Testing.

After 40 Days The Spies Return With Their Report V. 26-33

The Fruit Is Mammoth – But So Are The People

The People Are Strong

They Are Huge, They Are Giants

- We Have To Consider The Force Behind The Nephilim And Their Blatant Rebellion And Evil
- It Was A Strategy Of Satan To Disrupt And Destroy God's Plan To Redeem Fallen Mankind

• In The Old Testament He Wanted To Destroy The Line Of The Messiah... In The New Testament He Tried To Destroy The Messiah Himself

- The Nephilim Their Purpose Was The Corruption Of Adam's Lineage -- So That Messiah Could Not Come
- It Was Full Fledged Rebellion To God's Plan
- And This Is Why God Sent The Flood -- To Stop The Wickedness That Had Set In

- They Looked At The Giants They Forgot To Look At God
- v.30 Caleb: "We Can Take The Land God Will Do Great Things!"
- He Wants To Change The Narrative
- He Wants To Find A Way To Face & Defeat The Giants

- In Chapter 14 They Have Heard From Both Sides And Must Now Decide
- 10 Spies Told Them: "No Way, In Fear"
- 2 Spies Said "100% Yes We Can Do This By Faith"

- It Is Time To Decide Whether They Will Possess The Land Or Refuse To Enter
- Their Fear Robbed Them Of Their Faith:
- We Are Going To Die and Be Wiped Out
- Why Did You Bring Us Here?
- They Questioned The Entire Plan Of God
- And His Promise Of A Land Set Aside For Them

- What Did Moses Do Next? He Prayed
- Read: Numbers 14:5-6

- THE ANTIDOTE FOR FEAR, DOUBT & UNBELIEF IS FAITH
- "But without faith it is impossible to please God" (Heb. 11:6).
- "For whatever is not of faith is sin" (Rom. 14:23)

- THE DOUBTERS NEEDED TO LISTEN TO JOSHUA & CALEB
- They Urged Them To Trust In God Declaring That He Will Provide –
  He Will Fulfill His Promises Don't Doubt But Believe

- IF GOD HAS SAID IT-- LET US BELIEVE IT!
- There Is No Place For Murmuring, Complaining, or Lack Of Faith In The Promised Land

w/o Faith There Is No Usefulness In The Promised Land –
 Where Literally Everything Is Accessed By Faith

- AS MOSES INTERCEDED THE LORD RELENTED V. 13-19
- Moses' plea is heard: the LORD said, 'I have pardoned, according to your word' (20). The divine pardon does not mean Israel will escape all punishment for their sin, only that they will not suffer the total annihilation they deserve Wenham, G. J. (1981). Numbers: an introduction and commentary (Vol. 4, pp. 137–138). InterVarsity Press.

- God's Judgment On Them Is A Great Lesson For All Believers
- To Trust God At His Word
- To Believe Without Doubt In What He Says
- Galatians 6:7 (NIV) 7 Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. A man reaps what he sows.
- Numbers 14:38 (NIV) Of the men who went to explore the land, only Joshua son of Nun and Caleb son of Jephunneh survived

- LIFE LESSONS
- #1) Believe God And Obey Him Even If No One Else Does -- God Always Rewards Those Who Obey Him
- #2) God's Rewards May Be Hard To Fathom And They May Be A Long Time In Coming, But Don't Lose Heart, God Will Always Keep His Promise
- Mandel, D. (2007). In The Ultimate Who's Who in the Bible (p. 106). Bridge-Logos.

• #3) Truth For Today—The Majority Is Not Always Right

- #4) A Leader Must Be Strong Or Else He Will Be Overpowered By "Mob Rule" And Thwarted In His Attempt To Lead. The Teacher's Bible Commentary (Pp. 101–102). Broadman And Holman Publishers.
- #5) We Need To See Things With Eyes Of Faith, Not Fear

• #6) Battle Basics:

Battle Basic: You Must Face Giants To Defeat Them

Battle Basic: You Must Have Faith To Defeat Giants

• #7) Faith Is The Victory -- Giants Are Overcome By Faith In One Bigger And More Powerful Than They Are

- OUR IMPERATIVE
- Ephesians 6:10 (NIV) Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power.
- Ephesians 6:11 (NIV) Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes.
- Ephesians 6:12 (NKJV) For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places.
- Ephesians 6:13 (NIV) Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand.

- Your Action Plan
  - Get Serious.
  - Get Equipped.
    - Repair Any Holes In Your Armor Now.
    - Practice With Your Sword.
    - Sharpen Your Intelligence Sources.
    - Be Obedient
- Talk With God
- Walk With God
- Connect With God's Purspose & Plan