



Are You Marching or Wandering?

Scripture Reading

Numbers 14:30-38 (NKJV)

30 Except for Caleb the son of Jephunneh and Joshua the son of Nun, you shall by no means enter the land which I swore I would make you dwell in. 31 But your little ones, whom you said would be victims, I will bring in, and they shall know the land which you have despised. 32 But as for you, your carcasses shall fall in this wilderness. 33 And your sons shall be shepherds in the wilderness forty years, and bear the brunt of your infidelity, until your carcasses are consumed in the wilderness. 34 According to the number of the days in which you spied out the land, forty days, for each day you shall bear your guilt one year, namely forty years, and you shall know My rejection. 35 I the LORD have spoken this. I will surely do so to all this evil congregation who are gathered together against Me. In this wilderness they shall be consumed, and there they shall die.' "

36 Now the men whom Moses sent to spy out the land, who returned and made all the congregation complain against him by bringing a bad report of the land, 37 those very men who brought the evil report about the land, died by the plague before the LORD. 38 But Joshua the son of Nun and Caleb the son of Jephunneh remained alive, of the men who went to spy out the land.

Introduction

Deliverance is something that God wants for all of His children. He doesn't want us to be stuck in patterns awaiting something other than what He has already said to us. If we are not careful, we can apply our own wisdom and logic to things that God has already applied His favor. And as a result, we

become disobedient and we do not walk in the fullness of what opened up for us.

The Summary

- 12 spies went into Caanan
- They spent 40 days spying out the land
- After their return, 2 spies (Joshua and Caleb) confirmed the Lord's promise and said, "we can possess this land by the Hand of the Lord."
- 10 spies said "it is too difficult for us" "we are grasshoppers and they are giants"
- The people believed the report of the 10 (the majority) instead of believing Joshua and Caleb who confirmed and echoed what The Lord had said
- Numbers 14:34 The Lord's judgement against the people of Israel was that they would wander in the wilderness for 40yrs. 1 year for every 1 day the spies were in the land

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The Grace

While Israel wandered in the wilderness God still

- Fed them with manna
- Herded quail to them for food
- Protected them during wars and conflict against other kings and armies
- Allowed their herds and flocks to grow
- Preserved their sandals and clothes

The Appearance

To the nations observing Israel:

- It may have appeared that Israel was racking up a body count and victory tour by taking the long route to get to Caanan
- Their past victories looked like their current reputation when in fact Israel's had veered from the Lord and they were walking in punishment and not victory

- Their sandals and robes were preserved but the bodies of the disobedient ones were wasting away

The Lesson

Joshua 6:3-5 (NKJV)

3 You shall march around the city, all you men of war; you shall go all around the city once. This you shall do six days. 4 And seven priests shall bear seven trumpets of rams' horns before the ark. But the seventh day you shall march around the city seven times, and the priests shall blow the trumpets. 5 It shall come to pass, when they make a long blast with the ram's horn, and when you hear the sound of the trumpet, that all the people shall shout with a great shout; then the wall of the city will fall down flat. And the people shall go up every man straight before him."

- God would teach them how to circle  something in 1 week what they had neglected for 40yrs.
 - this time they circled in obedience
 - this time they circled with no murmuring or complaining
 - this time they circled as worship went before them
 - this time the Ark went before them
 - this time they were focused
 - ◆ they knew what the objective was
 - ◆ they knew who the enemy was
 - ◆ they knew what the outcome would be if they obeyed the Lord