

HANDOUT PART 3: CONSECRATION “The Character of Caleb” Numbers 14:24

READ PHIL 2:12-13 READ ROMANS 12:1-2

KEY: God Desire’s We Move Beyond Being Converted To Being “CONSECRATED”!...AND A CONSECRATED LIFE IS A SACRIFICIAL LIFE!

This Means that Every Possession Is Christ’s...NOT YOURS! It Means that EVERY MOMENT is Christ’s...NOT YOURS! And EVERY EFFORT of Your Life is Christ’s...NOT YOURS!

KEY: If We Refuse to Do what God Wants, Evil Begins to Show its Face in Our Lives.

It’s a Simple Case of Cause and Effect...The Closer We Are To God, The More We Look Like Him. The Further You are From God, the Less You Look like Him and the More at Home You are With Darkness.

We Must Understand is That God Wants to Bless US...But Having that Blessing Requires Full Surrender to Him...And For US that Will Always be a Daily Struggle!!!

READ NUMBERS 14:24: The verse speaks of Caleb having “Another Spirit”...When we look at Numbers Chapter 13 we find what is Meant by “ANOTHER SPIRIT”.

Reports on the Exploration of the Promise Land: Read Chapter 13:27-30

KEY: CALEB’S EYES WERE ON GOD...A “SPIRIT” OF TRUST AND OBEDIENCE!

READ NUMBERS 14: 20-25

- Everyone Suffered Because Of The Disbelief And The Disobedience of these 10 MEN!

From God’s Estimate of Caleb...We Learn 3 Things that Lead to Consecration! 1. The Spirit Caleb Possessed. 2. The Course Caleb Adopted. 3. The Distinctions Caleb Received.

The SPIRIT Caleb Possessed.God Himself called it, "A Different Spirit..." Than The Other 10...

- **Caleb had A spirit of FAITH and HOPE...Which Lead to...OBEDIENCE!**
- **KEY-1 Obedience is the Vital Element Needed for Consecration to GOD!!**
- Obedience is An Act of Worship! While the Bible Places Strong Emphasis on Obedience...
Remember...Believers are NOT Justified (Made Righteous) by Our Obedience. Salvation is a “FREE GIFT of GOD”, and We Can Do Nothing to Merit It.
- True Christian Obedience Flows from a “HEART of GRATITUDE” for the GRACE We have Received from the Lord.

Obedience to God Proves Our Love! READ 1 JOHN 5:2–3:

Obedience to God Demonstrates Our Faith! READ 1 JOHN 2:3–6; READ 1 Samuel 15:22

- The 10 Spies and the People Had Neither.They had NO FAITH to trust God in the face of Giants, or Walled Cities, or Armies, or the obvious problems...Instead of Having Faith they were Cowards.
- They had No Hope to Believe that the Invisible God Would do things They Could Not Imagine.
- **They Had NO HOPE to TRUST GOD for the UNKNOWN!**

READ NUMBERS 14:5-7 Caleb and Joshua showed them Hope "*The Land Is Exceedingly Good*" Yet theirs was a “Spirit of Disbelief” - they Accused God of Tricking them. And theirs was a “Spirit of Hopelessness” - WE CAN NOT!!

APPLICATION: When You are Faced with an Adversity...Which is Your Spirit?

Consecration to God Requires A Spirit of Obedience! Caleb Understood that the Fight Might be Fierce, the Battle Might last Long, there May Be Pain and Suffering. But those were secondary to obeying God.

- Unlike the others Caleb was Willing to Deny Himself and Suffer to Obey God...The 10 were Not Willing to Deny or Suffer-Therefore They Were Not Obedient...Like Caleb

POINT: They Wanted the REST Without the Journey; the REWARD Without the Labor; the VICTORY Without the Warfare. Consecration is Obedience to GOD...Throughout the Journey...During the Labor and...In the Midst of the Warfare!

A Consecrated Spirit is Consistent...IT DOES NOT WAVER with ALL Life's Problems!

KEY: The People around You and Me Can tell the difference If we are Just a Sunday Christian... Or...If We have the Spirit of Caleb!

- It is this Obedient and Consecrated Life that Will Draw them to Jesus Christ!

Second...Caleb Chose the PATH of CONSECRATION. *"He Followed the Lord Fully."*

KEY: Caleb's Spirit was one of Consecration to God...His Mind, Heart and Everything else was Consecrated, Given, Dedicated to the Service, Obedience and Glorification of God.

Making Any Decision, Caleb said, "I Belong to God...What Would He Have Me Do?" So...When it came to Entering the Promised Land... it was a NO Brainer...God said "GO", So We Go.

- As Others Brought Up the Problems...The Impossibilities...the Hurdles...Caleb Focused on Obeying and Glorifying God...For Caleb Life was Simple, Obey God!

Caleb Understood: "In All Things God Wants Me to TRUST and OBEY!"

Lastly We See the DISTINCTIONS Caleb Received...Divine Approval And Praise!

- God Approved Caleb. and Publicly Commended him. God gave him the Highest Designation Ever Used of Anyone Except His Son, Jesus...That of SERVANT!
- God did this for very few men, Publicly Proclaiming them to be His Servant... Moses Joshua, Caleb, Job...and some others...

One Day, When We Stand Before God's Throne, We will want to Hear, "WELL DONE, GOOD AND FAITHFUL SERVANT!"

But that Requires that We Choose to Live for God...Moment By Moment

- Daily...Placing Your Hope...Alone in God! Daily...Keeping Your Eyes on God Instead of the Problems You Face...And Daily... Choosing to Obey Whatever God Would Ask You to Do!
- Daily Having a "Different Spirit" than those Without Christ!

Galatians 5:24-25 "Those who belong to Christ Jesus have Crucified the Flesh with its Passions and Desires. Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit.

Consecration is Saying NO to Our Own Passions and Desires and Just Like Caleb, Following God Even When the Path Seems Difficult!

Luther: The problem of our flesh will not be finally dealt with until we are Resurrected. Until then, We are to Constantly "Nail it to the Cross," so that it hangs there, Alive yet Powerless Over Us. "To Resist the Flesh is to Nail it to the Cross. Although the Flesh is still Alive it Cannot very well Act Upon its Desires Because it is Bound and Nailed to the Cross."

"LIFE" POINT: MAY I DAILY RESIST THE FLESH NAILING IT TO THE CROSS!