

¹THE LORD SPOKE TO MOSES, SAYING, ²"SEND MEN TO SPY OUT THE LAND OF CANAAN, WHICH I AM GIVING TO THE PEOPLE OF ISRAEL. FROM EACH TRIBE OF THEIR FATHERS YOU SHALL SEND A MAN, EVERY ONE A CHIEF AMONG THEM." ³SO MOSES SENT THEM FROM THE WILDERNESS OF PARAN, ACCORDING TO THE COMMAND OF THE LORD, ALL OF THEM MEN WHO WERE HEADS OF THE PEOPLE OF ISRAEL.... ¹⁷MOSES SENT THEM TO SPY OUT THE LAND OF CANAAN AND SAID TO THEM, "GO UP INTO THE NEGEB AND GO UP INTO THE HILL COUNTRY, ¹⁸AND SEE WHAT THE LAND IS, AND WHETHER THE PEOPLE WHO DWELL IN IT ARE STRONG OR WEAK, WHETHER THEY ARE FEW OR MANY, ¹⁹AND WHETHER THE LAND THAT THEY DWELL IN IS GOOD OR BAD, AND WHETHER THE CITIES THAT THEY DWELL IN ARE CAMPS OR STRONGHOLDS,

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²⁰AND WHETHER THE LAND IS RICH OR POOR, AND WHETHER THERE ARE TREES IN IT OR NOT. BE OF GOOD COURAGE AND BRING SOME OF THE FRUIT OF THE LAND." NOW THE TIME WAS THE SEASON OF THE FIRST RIPE GRAPES.... ²¹AND THEY CAME TO THE VALLEY OF ESHCOL AND CUT DOWN FROM THERE A BRANCH WITH A SINGLE CLUSTER OF GRAPES, AND THEY CARRIED IT ON A POLE BETWEEN TWO OF THEM; THEY ALSO BROUGHT SOME POMEGRANATES AND FIGS. ²⁴THAT PLACE WAS CALLED THE VALLEY OF ESHCOL, BECAUSE OF THE CLUSTER THAT THE PEOPLE OF ISRAEL CUT DOWN FROM THERE... ²⁷AND THEY TOLD HIM, "WE CAME TO THE LAND TO WHICH YOU SENT US. IT FLOWS WITH MILK AND HONEY, AND THIS IS ITS FRUIT." —NUMBERS 13:1-3, 17-20, 23-24, 27

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²⁸"HOWEVER, THE PEOPLE WHO DWELL IN THE LAND ARE STRONG, AND THE CITIES ARE FORTIFIED AND VERY LARGE. AND BESIDES, WE SAW THE DESCENDANTS OF ANAK THERE"... ³⁰BUT CALEB QUIETED THE PEOPLE BEFORE MOSES AND SAID, "LET US GO UP AT ONCE AND OCCUPY IT, FOR WE ARE WELL ABLE TO OVERCOME IT." ³¹THEN THE MEN WHO HAD GONE UP WITH HIM SAID, "WE ARE NOT ABLE TO GO UP AGAINST THE PEOPLE, FOR THEY ARE STRONGER THAN WE ARE." ³²SO THEY BROUGHT TO THE PEOPLE OF ISRAEL A BAD REPORT OF THE LAND THAT THEY HAD SPIED OUT... ³³"...WE SEEMED TO OURSELVES LIKE GRASSHOPPERS, AND SO WE SEEMED TO THEM." —NUMBERS 13:28, 30-32a, 33b

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I. THE POSITION THEY WERE IN

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¹THEN ALL THE CONGREGATION RAISED A LOUD CRY, AND THE PEOPLE WEPT THAT NIGHT. ²AND ALL THE PEOPLE OF ISRAEL GRUMBLED AGAINST MOSES AND AARON. THE WHOLE CONGREGATION SAID TO THEM, "WOULD THAT WE HAD DIED IN THE LAND OF EGYPT! OR WOULD THAT WE HAD DIED IN THIS WILDERNESS! ³WHY IS THE LORD BRINGING US INTO THIS LAND, TO FALL BY THE SWORD? OUR WIVES AND OUR LITTLE ONES WILL BECOME A PREY. WOULD IT NOT BE BETTER FOR US TO GO BACK TO EGYPT?" ⁴AND THEY SAID TO ONE ANOTHER, "LET US CHOOSE A LEADER AND GO BACK TO EGYPT." —NUMBERS 14:1-4

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- THEY DETERMINED TO LIVE BY SIGHT AND NOT BY FAITH
- THEY COMPLAINED ABOUT GOD'S PROVISION IN THEIR LIVES
- THEY UNDERMINED THE LEADERSHIP GOD HAD GIVEN THEM
- THEY THREATENED TO ABANDON GOD AND RUN FROM THEIR CALLING

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NOW THESE THINGS TOOK PLACE AS EXAMPLES FOR US,
THAT WE MIGHT NOT DESIRE EVIL AS THEY DID.
—1 CORINTHIANS 10:6

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FOR WHATEVER WAS WRITTEN IN FORMER DAYS WAS WRITTEN FOR
OUR INSTRUCTION, THAT THROUGH ENDURANCE AND THROUGH THE
ENCOURAGEMENT OF THE SCRIPTURES WE MIGHT HAVE HOPE. —ROM. 15:4

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²¹THEN YOU SHALL SAY TO YOUR SON, "WE WERE PHARAOH'S
SLAVES IN EGYPT, AND THE LORD BROUGHT US OUT OF EGYPT
WITH A MIGHTY HAND. ²²AND THE LORD SHOWED SIGNS AND
WONDERS, GREAT AND GRIEVOUS, AGAINST EGYPT AND AGAINST
PHARAOH AND ALL HIS HOUSEHOLD, BEFORE OUR EYES.
²³AND HE BROUGHT US OUT FROM THERE, THAT HE MIGHT BRING
US IN AND GIVE US THE LAND THAT HE SWORE TO GIVE TO OUR
FATHERS. ²⁴AND THE LORD COMMANDED US TO DO ALL THESE
STATUTES, TO FEAR THE LORD OUR GOD, FOR OUR GOOD ALWAYS,
THAT HE MIGHT PRESERVE US ALIVE, AS WE ARE THIS DAY.
²⁵AND IT WILL BE RIGHTEOUSNESS FOR US, IF WE ARE CAREFUL
TO DO ALL THIS COMMANDMENT BEFORE THE LORD OUR GOD,
AS HE HAS COMMANDED US." —DEUTERONOMY 6:21-25

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¹⁰FOR IF WHILE WE WERE ENEMIES WE WERE RECONCILED
TO GOD BY THE DEATH OF HIS SON, MUCH MORE, NOW THAT
WE ARE RECONCILED, SHALL WE BE SAVED BY HIS LIFE.

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¹¹MORE THAN THAT, WE ALSO REJOICE IN GOD THROUGH
OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, THROUGH WHOM WE HAVE NOW
RECEIVED RECONCILIATION. —ROMANS 5:10-11

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2. THE PRINCIPLES WE NEED

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2. THE PRINCIPLES WE NEED

- FEAR IS A CONTAGIOUS DISEASE

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HAVE I NOT COMMANDED YOU? BE STRONG AND COURAGEOUS.
DO NOT BE FRIGHTENED, AND DO NOT BE DISMAYED. FOR THE
LORD YOUR GOD IS WITH YOU WHEREVER YOU GO." —JOSHUA 1:9

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2. THE PRINCIPLES WE NEED

- FEAR RELIES ON THE WRONG AUTHORITY

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THERE IS A WAY THAT SEEMS RIGHT TO A MAN,
BUT ITS END IS THE WAY TO DEATH.

—PROVERBS 14:12

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2. THE PRINCIPLES WE NEED

- FEAR DISTRACTS/DISTORTS GOD'S PURPOSE
IN YOUR LIFE

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"ALL GOD'S GIANTS HAVE BEEN WEAK MEN AND WOMEN
WHO HAVE GOTTEN HOLD OF GOD'S FAITHFULNESS."

—HUDSON TAYLOR

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"FOCUS ON GIANTS—YOU STUMBLE.
FOCUS ON GOD—GIANTS TUMBLE."
—MAX LUCADO

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2. THE PRINCIPLES WE NEED

- FAITH IS FORGED ONE STEP OF OBEDIENCE AT A TIME

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FOR THE EYES OF THE LORD RUN TO AND FRO THROUGHOUT
THE WHOLE EARTH, TO GIVE STRONG SUPPORT TO THOSE
WHOSE HEART IS BLAMELESS TOWARD HIM. —2 CHRON. 16:9

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2. THE PRINCIPLES WE NEED

- UNBELIEF HAS CONSEQUENCES

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⁷THEREFORE, AS THE HOLY SPIRIT SAYS, "TODAY, IF YOU HEAR
HIS VOICE, ⁸DO NOT HARDEN YOUR HEARTS AS IN THE REBELLION,
ON THE DAY OF TESTING IN THE WILDERNESS, ⁹WHERE YOUR FATHERS
PUT ME TO THE TEST AND SAW MY WORKS FOR FORTY YEARS.
¹⁰THEREFORE I WAS PROVOKED WITH THAT GENERATION, AND SAID,
'THEY ALWAYS GO ASTRAY IN THEIR HEART; THEY HAVE NOT KNOWN
MY WAYS.' ¹¹AS I SWORE IN MY WRATH, 'THEY SHALL NOT ENTER
MY REST.'" ¹²TAKE CARE, BROTHERS, LEST THERE BE IN ANY OF YOU
AN EVIL, UNBELIEVING HEART, LEADING YOU TO FALL AWAY
FROM THE LIVING GOD. ¹³BUT EXHORT ONE ANOTHER EVERY DAY,
AS LONG AS IT IS CALLED "TODAY," THAT NONE OF YOU
MAY BE HARDENED BY THE DECEITFULNESS OF SIN. ¹⁴FOR WE
HAVE COME TO SHARE IN CHRIST, IF INDEED WE HOLD
OUR ORIGINAL CONFIDENCE FIRM TO THE END. —HEBREWS 3:7-14

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