

Caleb

“The Faithful”



“flowing with milk and honey.”

“Because my servant Caleb has a different spirit and follows me wholeheartedly, I will bring him into the land he went to, and his descendants will inherit it”

Numbers 14:24

In the above verse, we read that God said Caleb not only followed him but that he had a “different spirit.” God continues by saying that he and his descendants will inherit a special land, but not so fast! When the Israelites were led out of bondage by Moses, they were taken to the borders of the land of Canaan. It was described as a land “flowing with milk and honey.” Moses chose twelve men, one from each of the tribes, to scout out the land and see if it was safe for them to enter. For forty days they went through the land and then reported that it was a beautiful

land. It did indeed flow with milk and honey and it had fruit so large it took two men to carry a single cluster of grapes slung on a pole between them. They also took back huge pomegranates and figs. BUT there was one big drawback. The men were so large they felt like grasshoppers next to them and they were very strong warriors. The spies scared the people so bad they cried into the night in fear. The people wanted to kill Moses and Aaron and said they would be better back in slavery in Egypt.

Caleb saw it differently. He believed that God would do what he promised. He interrupted the people and said “Let’s go up and take the land—now. We can do it.” Numbers 13:30 The Bible tells us that God was angry with the people because they were faithless. Moses pleaded with God not to do what he threatened to do to these chosen people who were being offered a beautiful land. Caleb and Joshua tried to settle them down, but they threatened to stone them. Finally God appeared to them in a tent meeting. No matter how much Caleb and Joshua promised that God would be with them, they would not listen.

Eventually Joshua and Caleb were the only two that were allowed to go into the promised land, but that was another 40 years of wandering around in the desert. Researchers believe Caleb was about 40 years old when he was one of the spies to see the beautiful land, but by the times they had wandered in the



The words of kindness are more healing to a drooping heart than balm or honey.

Sarah Fielding

desert, he was 85 years old and still as dedicated to God as he had been at 40.

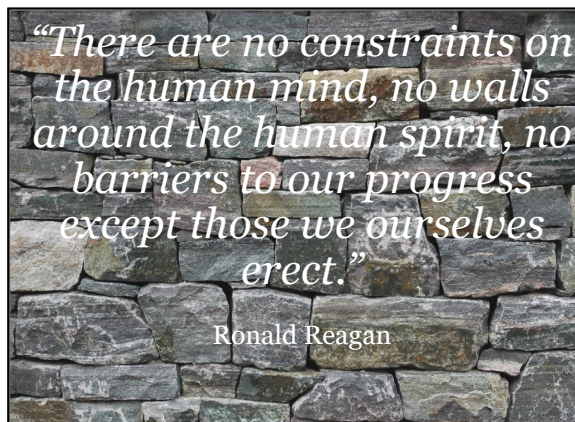
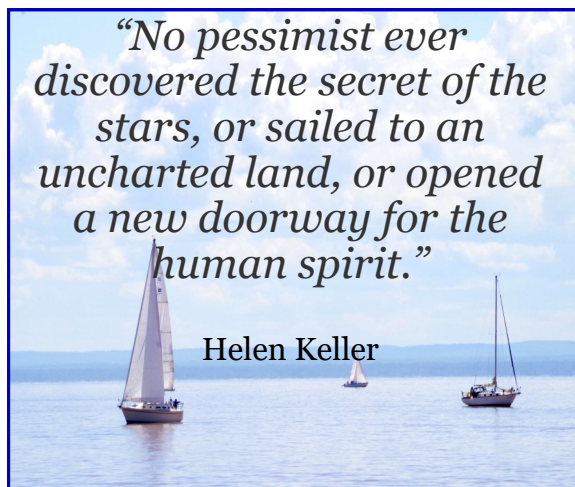
From the accounts of the life of Caleb, we see a faithful man who trusted God to fulfill His promises when others allowed their fears to override their small faith. Forty five years is a long time. Many of us would have retired to the rocking chair a long time ago, but not Caleb. He even wanted to work for the land when it was finally given to him.

Today, we need to stand up for what we know is God’s truth and talk with those who don’t realize that things don’t always happen quickly. Faithfulness has a wonder reward. We may not always see it on this earth, but we know God does not forsake his people.

Caleb was given first choice for the part of the land that he wanted. Do we sometimes receive rewards like that today? I think we do if we are faithful. Our prayers are answered, maybe not in the way we want them answered, but they are answered in the way God thinks is best.

Unfortunately the story of the Israelites wandering in the desert for years and eventually dying before they got there is very sad. If we think about their problems, we can see they brought it on themselves. We do the same thing and then blame God many times.

We can't prevent many things that happen in our lifetimes and we can't prevent death when the Lord calls us to His kingdom, but we certainly make many decisions through our free will to know our Lord and Savior and know what is best for us here on earth if we follow His plan. We know enough that if we seek to follow God's plan, we will someday hear *"Well done, good and faithful servant; thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord."* Matthew 25:23



Prayer: Father, help us to have the correct spirit to accept the many blessings You have given us and realize that You know what is best for us. Hear our prayer that You can make us a new person. The old life is gone. A new life has begun. Amen

1. Think on this quote "We must let go of the life we have planned, so as to accept the one that is waiting for us." How does it apply to Caleb, to you?
2. Why were the men afraid to trust Caleb and Joshua?
3. What makes us afraid to trust people sometimes even when we think in our mind they are right?
4. Does trusting others sometimes involve a commitment we don't want to make? Of self? Of time?

rgscripts
info@rgscripts.com

