

## The Reward for Remaining Faithful

Joshua 14:7-12

<sup>7</sup> I was forty years old when Moses, the servant of the Lord, sent me from Kadesh-Barnea to explore the land of Canaan. I returned and gave an honest report, <sup>8</sup> but my brothers who went with me frightened the people from entering the Promised Land. For my part, I wholeheartedly followed the Lord my God. <sup>9</sup> So that day Moses solemnly promised me, 'The land of Canaan on which you were just walking will be your grant of land and that of your descendants forever, because you wholeheartedly followed the Lord my God.'

<sup>10</sup> "Now, as you can see, the Lord has kept me alive and well as he promised for all these forty-five years since Moses made this promise—even while Israel wandered in the wilderness. Today I am eighty-five years old. <sup>11</sup> I am as strong now as I was when Moses sent me on that journey, and I can still travel and fight as well as I could then. <sup>12</sup> So give me the hill country that the Lord promised me. You will remember that as scouts we found the descendants of Anak living there in great, walled towns. But if the Lord is with me, I will drive them out of the land, just as the Lord said."

George Mallory said, "Because it's there."

**What Does Caleb Mean? Caleb is a Hebrew name that means "faithful," "wholehearted," "bold," or "brave."**

Numbers 13:2

"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."

Numbers 13:28, 33

The people who live there are powerful, and the cities are fortified and very large. We even saw descendants of Anak there. We seemed like grasshoppers in our own eyes, and we looked the same to them."

Numbers 13:30

"Then Caleb silenced the people before Moses and said, 'We should go up and take possession of the land, for we can certainly do it.'"

Numbers 14:7-9

"The land we passed through and explored is exceedingly good. If the LORD (Yahweh) is pleased with us, he will lead us into that land, a land flowing with milk and honey, and will give it to us. Only do not rebel against the LORD. And do not be afraid of the people of the land, because we will swallow them up. Their protection is gone, but the LORD is with us. Do not be afraid of them.'"

## **1. He Remained Positive in the Midst of Negativity.**

## **2. He Resolved to Walk in Faith.**

Hebrews 11:1

Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.

Hebrews 11:32-35

**32** How much more do I need to say? It would take too long to recount the stories of the faith of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, David, Samuel, and all the prophets.

**33** By faith these people overthrew kingdoms, ruled with justice, and received what God had promised them. They shut the mouths of lions, **34** quenched the flames of fire, and escaped death by the edge of the sword. Their weakness was turned to strength. They became strong in battle and put whole armies to flight. **35** Women received their loved ones back again from death.

George Seaton – Faith is believing in things when common sense tells you not to.

## **3. He Refused to Forget God's Promise.**

Romans 8:37 – Yet in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us.

## **4. He Relentlessly Pursued God's Promise.**

## **5. His Faithfulness Resulted in Reward.**

Joshua 14:10-12

<sup>10</sup> “Now, as you can see, the Lord has kept me alive and well as he promised for all these forty-five years since Moses made this promise—even while Israel wandered in the wilderness. Today I am eighty-five years old. <sup>11</sup> I am as strong now as I was when Moses sent me on that journey, and I can still travel and fight as well as I could then. <sup>12</sup> So give me the hill country that the Lord promised me. You will remember that as scouts we found the descendants of Anak living there in great, walled towns. But if the Lord is with me, I will drive them out of the land, just as the Lord said.”

Proverbs 19:21 (NIV)

Many are the plans in a person's heart, but it is the Lord's purpose that prevails.