

CALEB AND THE ANAKIMS — FACING OUR FEARS

Joshua 11:21-22

(Josh 11:21-22), “And at that time came Joshua, and cut off the **ANAKIMS** from the mountains, from Hebron, from Debir, from Anab, and from all the mountains of Judah, and from all the mountains of Israel: Joshua destroyed them utterly with their cities. {22} There was none of the **ANAKIMS** left in the land of the children of Israel: only in Gaza, in Gath, and in Ashdod, there remained.”

(Josh 14:12-15), “Now therefore give me this mountain, whereof the LORD spake in that day; for thou heardest in that day how **THE ANAKIMS** were there, and that the cities were great and fenced: if so be the LORD will be with me, then I shall be able to drive them out, as the LORD said. {13} And Joshua blessed him, and gave unto Caleb the son of Jephunneh Hebron for an inheritance. {14} Hebron therefore became the inheritance of Caleb the son of Jephunneh the Kenezite unto this day, because that he wholly followed the LORD God of Israel. {15} And the name of Hebron before was Kirjatharba; which Arba was a great man among **THE ANAKIMS**. And the land had rest from war.”

(Josh 15:13-14), “And unto Caleb the son of Jephunneh he gave a part among the children of Judah, according to the commandment of the LORD to Joshua, even **THE CITY OF ARBA THE FATHER OF ANAK, WHICH CITY IS HEBRON**. {14} And Caleb drove thence **THE THREE SONS OF ANAK**, Sheshai, and Ahiman, and Talmi, **THE CHILDREN OF ANAK**.”



1 CORINTHIANS 10 SUMMARIZES THE O.T. WILDERNESS

WANDERINGS:

(1 Cor 10:1-5), “Moreover, brethren, I would not that ye should be ignorant, how that all our fathers WERE UNDER THE **CLOUD**, and all PASSED THROUGH **THE SEA**; {2} And were all baptized unto Moses in the cloud and in the sea; {3} And did all eat the **SAME SPIRITUAL MEAT**; {4} And did all drink the **SAME SPIRITUAL DRINK**: for they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them: and that Rock was Christ. {5} But with many of them God was not well pleased: for **THEY WERE OVERTHROWN** in the wilderness.”

(V. 6), “Now these things were **OUR EXAMPLES**, to the intent we should not lust after evil things, as they also lusted.”

(V. 11), “Now all these things happened unto them **FOR EXAMPLES**: and they are written **FOR OUR ADMONITION . . .**”

S **THE STORIES OF GOD’S PEOPLE WERE RECORDED IN THE BIBLE FOR OUR EXAMPLE**. In their stories we discover **THEIR VICTORIES** and **DEFEATS** paint portraits for **our direction** and **wisdom**. THIS IS ONE REASON WHY **BIBLE STUDY** IS SO IMPORTANT.

S **ONE SUCH STORY RECORDED FOR OUR BENEFIT DEALS WITH the ANAKIMS**:

(Josh 14:12), “. . . **THE ANAKIMS WERE THERE . . .**”

S **THE ANAKIMS WERE GIANTS** in the land of Canaan at the time of Israel’s conquest. The giants in the land were called by different Hebrew names:

(1) **NEPHILIM** (nef'i-lim)

(Num 13:33), "And there we saw **THE GIANTS** (Nephilim), the sons of **ANAK** (the source for **Anakims**), which come of the giants: and we were in our own sight as grasshoppers, and so we were in their sight."

THE **NEPHILIM** were first mentioned in

(Gen 6:4), "There were **GIANTS** in the earth in those days. . ."

(2) **REPHAIM** (ref'a-im)

(Josh 13:12), "All the kingdom of **OG IN BASHAN**, which reigned in Ashtaroth and in Edrei, who remained of the remnant of the **GIANTS** (ref'a-im): for these did Moses smite, and cast them out."

THE **MOST FAMOUS REPHAIM** WAS NAMED "**OG.**"

OG'S BED was **13' LONG** and **6' WIDE** (Deut 3.11).

(3) **ANAKIM**

Joshua drove the Anakims out of the land of Canaan except for **Gaza, Gath** and **Ashdod** (Jos 11:22). Joshua's failure to drive the giants out of those areas rose up later to afflict Israel. The **MOST FAMOUS ANAKIM** was a Philistine from **GATH** by the name of **GOLIATH**. Goliath was **9'9" TALL** (1 Sam. 17:4).

S **BECAUSE THESE GIANTS WERE SO HUGE**, they were **THE SOURCE OF GREAT FEAR** in the hearts and minds of the children of Israel.

S **REMEMBER**

(1 Cor 10:11), "Now all these things happened unto them **FOR EXAMPLES**: and they are written **FOR OUR ADMONITION . . .**"

CONSIDER:

- I. **THE FEAR OF GIANTS**
- II. **FAITH TO OVERCOME THE GIANTS**
- III. **FACE TO FACE WITH THE GIANTS**

I. THE FEAR OF GIANTS

ISRAEL'S FEAR of the giants was first recorded in **NUMBERS 13-14**, **thirty-eight years prior** to Israel's crossing the Jordan into Canaan. Moses had called for **12 SPIES** to be sent into the land of Canaan to survey it.

IT IS HELPFUL TO JOURNEY BACK IN HISTORY and **RECALL** THE HISTORICAL BACKGROUND.

- 1) **TWO YEARS PRIOR** TO THE **SPIES** BEING SENT OUT, **MOSES** HAD STOOD BEFORE **PHARAOH** and spoke these words in God's behalf, "**LET MY PEOPLE GO.**" Pharaoh said in no uncertain term, "**NO WAY** am I going to let those people go." Moses ended up repeated God's command to the Pharaoh **9 TIMES** in the book of Exodus.

- **(Exo 5:1)**, "And afterward Moses and Aaron went in, and told

Pharaoh, Thus saith the LORD God of Israel, **LET MY PEOPLE GO**, that they may hold a feast unto me in the wilderness."

- **(Exo 7:16)**, "And thou shalt say unto him, The LORD God of the Hebrews hath sent me unto thee, saying, **LET MY PEOPLE GO**. . . "
- **(Exo 8:1)**, "And the LORD spake unto Moses, Go unto Pharaoh, and say unto him, Thus saith the LORD, **LET MY PEOPLE GO**, that they may serve me."
- (Exo 8:20-21; Exo 9:1; Exo 9:13; Exo 10:3-4)

2) **TEN PLAGUES LATER, THE PHARAOH RELENTED AND LET GOD'S PEOPLE GO. EXODUS 7-12 REVEALS** the Pharaoh had **NO OTHER OPTION**. God gave him only one choice, "LET MY PEOPLE GO."

THE TEN PLAGUES WERE:

1. The **NILE RIVER** was turned into **BLOOD** (Ex. 7:14-25)
2. **FROGS** covered the Land (Ex. 8:1-15). When Moses prayed, the frogs died in the houses, courtyards, and fields. The frogs were symbols of the Egyptian goddess.
3. **LICE** were manifest throughout the land (Ex. 8:16-19)
4. **FLIES** swarmed everywhere (Ex. 8:20-32). The decomposing frogs would have provided an ideal meal for the flies.
5. **PESTILENCE OF LIVESTOCK** (Ex. 9:1-7). God made a **distinction** between the Egyptian cattle and the livestock of the Israelites. Israel's cattle were not affected by the pestilence.
6. **BOILS** appeared on Man and Beast (Ex. 9:8-12). The **Nelson's Bible Dictionary**, suggests this was **skin anthrax**, carried by the flies of the fourth plague (copyrighted 1986).
7. **HAIL, THUNDER and LIGHTNING** (Ex. 9:13-35). This plague targeted the agricultural base of the nation. Again, God made a distinction between Egypt and Israel. No hail fell in the land of Goshen where the Hebrews lived (Ex. 9:26).
8. **SWARMS OF LOCUSTS** (Ex. 10:1-20). **PHARAOH CONFESSED, "I have sinned"** (Ex. 10:16) and agreed to let Israel go and serve their God. As soon as the plague was withdrawn, he changed his mind and would not let Israel go (Ex. 10:20).
9. **THREE DAYS OF DARKNESS** (Ex. 10:21-29). The land of Goshen did not experience the darkness (Ex. 10:23).
10. **DEATH OF THE FIRSTBORN** (Ex. 11:1--12:30). Unless the home was marked on the door post with the **BLOOD OF A LAMB**, the death angel would pass through the home and took the firstborn. Those with the blood were **"PASSED OVER."** This act instituted the **PASSOVER FEAST**.

3) **ISRAEL LEFT EGYPT WITH GREAT SPOILS IN FULFILLMENT OF A PROPHECY GIVEN TO ABRAHAM**

(Gen 15:13-16), "And he said unto Abram, Know of a surety that thy seed shall be a stranger in a land that is not theirs, and shall serve them; and they shall afflict them four hundred years; {14} And also that nation, whom they shall serve, will I judge: and afterward shall **THEY COME OUT WITH GREAT SUBSTANCE**. {15} And thou shalt go to thy fathers in peace; thou shalt be buried in a good old age. {16} But in the fourth generation **THEY SHALL COME HITHER AGAIN:** for the iniquity of the Amorites is not yet full."

4) **MANY MEMORABLE EVENTS TOOK PLACE ALONG THE WAY**

TOWARD GOD'S PROMISED LAND:

- **MANNA** was PROVIDED as food so they could survive in the desert.
- A **PILLAR OF CLOUD** GUIDED them so they might know the direction.
- THE **RED SEA** DIVIDED so that they crossed on dry ground.
- **WATER** CAME FROM A **ROCK**.
- God gave to Israel **THE O.T. LAW** while they were **AT MOUNT SINAI**.

5) TWO YEARS INTO THEIR JOURNEY, ISRAEL ARRIVED AT **KADESH BARNEA** to the south of the land of promise. BEFORE SENDING ISRAEL INTO THE LAND TO TAKE IT, **MOSES CALLED FOR 12 SPIES**, one from each of the **12 TRIBES**. They were to be sent into Canaan and survey it. According to **Numbers 13:1-14** the spies **NAMES WERE:**

- (1) Of the tribe of **REUBEN**, **SHAMMUA** the son of ZACCUR.
- (2) Of the tribe of **SIMEON**, **SHAPHAT** the son of HORI.
- (3) Of the tribe of **ISSACHAR**, **IGAL** the son of JOSEPH.
- (4) Of the tribe of **EPHRAIM**, **OSHEA** the son of NUN.
- (5) Of the tribe of **BENJAMIN**, **PALTI** the son of RAPHU.
- (6) Of the tribe of **ZEBULUN**, **GADDIEL** the son of SODI.
- (7) Of the tribe of **MANASSEH**, **GADDI** the son of SUSI.
- (8) Of the tribe of **DAN**, **AMMIEL** the son of GEMALLI.
- (9) Of the tribe of **ASHER**, **SETHUR** the son of MICHAEL.
- (10) Of the tribe of **NAPHTALI**, **NAHBI** the son of VOPHSI.
- (11) Of the tribe of **JUDAH**, **CALEB** the son of JEPHUNNEH.
- (12) Of the tribe of **EPHRAIM**, **JOSHUA** the son of NUN.

6) **MOSES' INSTRUCTIONS** TO THE SPIES WERE CLEAR FROM NUMBERS 13:

- **(V. 18)**, "See what **THE LAND** is like and whether **THE PEOPLE** who live there are **STRONG** or **WEAK**, few or **MANY**."
- **(V. 19)**, "What kind of **TOWNS** do they live in? Are they **UNWALLED** or **FORTIFIED**?"
- **(V. 20)**, "How is the **SOIL**? Is it fertile or poor? Are there **TREES** on it or not? Do your best to **BRING BACK SOME OF THE FRUIT** of the land. . . "

7) **FORTY DAYS LATER** THE SPIES RETURNED WITH **TWO REPORTS: ONE FAITHFUL & INSPIRING**, THE OTHER **FAITHLESS & FRIGHTENING**

- **ON THE POSITIVE SIDE** they brought back **A SINGLE CLUSTER OF GRAPES** from the Valley of Eshcol that took two men to carry. They brought **POMEGRANATES** and **FIGS** (v. 23-25). They told Moses the land **DID TRULY FLOW WITH MILK AND HONEY!** (V. 27).
- **ON THE NEGATIVE SIDE** the **TEN SPIES** shared their **FAITHLESS FEARS**. They told how the **TOWNS** were **FORTIFIED WITH WALLS** and **THE PEOPLE** were **MANY & STRONG** (v. 28).

THEY SAID " . . . WE EVEN SAW DESCENDANTS OF ANAK

THERE” (Numb 13:28). They spread their fear by stating “WE SEEMED LIKE GRASSHOPPERS” in comparison to them (Numb 13:33).

8) **CALEB SILENCED THE PEOPLE**

(Num 13:30), “. . . Let us **GO UP AT ONCE**, and **POSSESS IT**; for **WE ARE WELL ABLE** to overcome it.”

9) **THINGS WENT FROM *BAD TO WORSE*:**

- **(Num 14:1)**, “ the congregation lifted up their voice, and **CRIED**; and the people **WEPT THAT NIGHT**.
- **(V. 2)**, “And all the children of Israel **MURMURED** against Moses and against Aaron: and the whole congregation said unto them, **WOULD GOD THAT WE HAD DIED** in the land of Egypt! or would God we had died in this wilderness!
- **(V. 3-4)**, “. . . Were it not **BETTER** for us **TO RETURN** into Egypt? {4} And they said one to another, **LET US MAKE A CAPTAIN**, and let us **RETURN** into Egypt.

S **MOSES’ AND AARON** fell on **THEIR FACES** before all the assembly {14:5}

S **CALEB AND JOSHUA RESPONDED:**

(Num 14:9), “. . . **REBEL NOT** ye against the LORD, . . . **FEAR THEM NOT.**”

S **BUT FEAR PREVAILED:**

(V. 10a), “But all the congregation bade **STONE THEM** with stones. . .”

10) **GOD *WEIGHED IN* AND SPOKE:**

(14:11-12), “. . . **THE LORD SAID** unto Moses, ‘**HOW LONG WILL THIS PEOPLE PROVOKE ME?** and how long will it be ere they believe me, for all the signs which I have showed among them? {12} **I WILL SMITE THEM** with the pestilence, and **DISINHERIT THEM**, and will make of thee a greater nation and mightier than they.’”

MOSES RESPONDED TO GOD:

(14:13-19), “. . . Then **THE EGYPTIANS SHALL HEAR** it, (for thou broughtest up this people in thy might from among them;) {14} And they will tell it to the inhabitants of this land: for they have heard that thou LORD art among this people, that thou LORD art seen face to face, and that thy cloud standeth over them, and that thou goest before them, by day time in a pillar of a cloud, and in a pillar of fire by night. {15} Now if thou shalt kill all this people as one man, then **THE NATIONS** which have heard the fame of thee **WILL SPEAK, SAYING**, {16} Because **THE LORD WAS NOT ABLE** to bring this people into the land which he sware unto them, therefore he hath slain them in the wilderness. {17} **AND NOW, I BESEECH THEE**, let the power of my LORD be great, according as thou hast spoken, saying, {18} **THE LORD IS LONGSUFFERING, AND OF GREAT MERCY, FORGIVING INIQUITY AND TRANSGRESSION**, and by no means clearing the guilty, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation. {19} **PARDON, I BESEECH THEE, THE INIQUITY** of this people **ACCORDING UNTO THE GREATNESS OF THY MERCY**, and as thou hast forgiven this people, from Egypt even until now.”

GOD ANSWERED MOSES:

(14:20), “. . . **I HAVE PARDONED** according to thy word: {21} **BUT AS TRULY AS I LIVE**, all the earth shall be filled with the glory of the LORD.”

GOD PRONOUNCED A THREEFOLD JUDGMENT:

#1. JUDGMENT ON THE MEN 20 YEARS & OLDER

(14:22-23), “Because **ALL THOSE MEN** which have seen my glory, and my miracles, which I did in Egypt and in the wilderness, and have **tempted me** now these **ten times**, and have **not hearkened** to my voice; {23} Surely **THEY SHALL NOT SEE THE LAND** which I swear unto their fathers, neither shall any of them that provoked me see it:”

(V. 32), “But as for you, **YOUR CARCASSES**, they **SHALL FALL** in this wilderness.”

#2. JUDGMENT ON THEIR CHILDREN

(V. 33), “And **YOUR CHILDREN SHALL WANDER** in the wilderness **FORTY YEARS**, and **BEAR YOUR WHOREDOMS**, . . . ”

#3. JUDGMENT ON CALEB AND JOSHUA

(V. 30 niv), “**NOT ONE OF YOU WILL ENTER THE LAND . . . EXCEPT CALEB** son of Jephunneh **AND JOSHUA** son of Nun.”

QUESTION — WHY DID ISRAEL NOT WANT TO TAKE THE LAND? GOD HAD PROMISED IT to Abraham, Isaac, Jacob and their descendants (Gen 12:7; Numb 14:30). God had not only promised it, He had commanded that they go and take the land. **THE ANSWER IS MULTIFACETED:**

- 1) **TAKING THE LAND WOULD REQUIRE HARD WORK.** Much **PERSONAL ENERGY** would have to be expended.
- 2) **TAKING THE LAND WOULD REQUIRE WAR.** **THE PROSPECT OF WAR WAS NOT APPETIZING.** Anyone can understand their apprehension. The problem for Israel was that God had not asked them if they wanted to take the land. God commanded them to take the land. Because they refused to obey God, they were going to have to spend forty years in the wilderness. After forty years they would be willing to obey God. Proof that God was in their taking the land is seen in all the miracles that took place that allowed them to conquer the land. **Manna** fell in the desert. God’s **cloud** guided them along the way. The **Jordan** river stopped flowing while at a flood stage. The walls of **Jericho** fell down flat. God had a **DIVINE PURPOSE & PLAN** for that land and He wanted the children of Israel in that land to carry out His purposes.
- 3) THEY WERE **AFRAID! THEIR FEAR** crippled them. One particular fear was that of **GIANTS:**
 - **(Numb 13:28)**, “. . . **WE EVEN SAW** DESCENDANTS OF **ANAK** THERE.”
 - **(V. 33)**, “. . . **WE SEEMED LIKE GRASSHOPPERS** in our own eyes, . . . ”

- THEY WERE **CRIPPLED** BY FEAR OF THE **GIANTS!** **THE ONLY WAY THEY WOULD EVER TAKE THE LAND** would be for them **TO CONQUER THEIR FEAR OF GIANTS.**

BEFORE WE CONSIDER HOW TO CONQUER UNGODLY FEAR, it is important to realize that **NOT ALL FEAR IS BAD.** Some fear **IS GOOD.**

- 1) **WE TEACH OUR LITTLE CHILDREN** to fear **fire,** and **poisons,** and **guns.** We teach them not to play in **streets.** We put caps on **medicine bottles** for fear they might take something that would hurt them.
- 2) **ADULTS ARE WISE TO FEAR CERTAIN THINGS:**
 - **GAS STATION ATTENDANTS** ought to fear **matches** being lit in the wrong places.
 - **LUMBER JACKS** are wise to fear **falling trees.**
 - **SMART ELECTRICIANS** should fear **BARE WIRES.**
- 3) **THE BIBLE TEACHES US TO FEAR GOD:**

(Job 28:28), ". . . Behold, the **FEAR** of the Lord, that is wisdom . . . "

(Ps 2:11), "Serve the LORD with **FEAR,** and rejoice with trembling."

(Psa 103:11), "For as the heaven is high above the earth, so great is his mercy toward them **THAT FEAR HIM.**"

(Psa 103:13 NIV), "As a father has compassion on his children, so the LORD has compassion on those **WHO FEAR HIM;**"

(Psa 103:17), "But the mercy of the LORD is from everlasting to everlasting upon them **THAT FEAR HIM,** . . . "

(Isa 8:13), "Sanctify the LORD of hosts himself; and let him be **YOUR FEAR,** . . . "

(1 Pet 2:17), ". . . **FEAR GOD** . . . "

(Phil 2:12), ". . . Work out your own salvation with **FEAR AND TREMBLING.**"

(Luke 12:4), "And I say unto you my friends, Be not afraid of them that kill the body, and after that have no more that they can do. 5 But I will forewarn you whom ye **SHALL FEAR: FEAR HIM,** which after he hath killed hath power to cast into hell; yea, I say unto you, **FEAR HIM.**"

HAVING SAID THAT, we need to realize there is **AN UNHOLY & UNGODLY KIND OF FEAR.** Regarding unholy fear, the Bible tells us **SIXTY-THREE TIMES — "FEAR NOT!"**

- **(Luke 12:32),** "**FEAR NOT,** little flock; for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom."
- **(John 12:15),** "**FEAR NOT,** daughter of Zion: . . . "
- **(Rev 1:17),** ". . . **FEAR NOT;** I am the first and the last:"

(1 John 4:18), ". . . **FEAR HATH TORMENT.** . . . "

S This Greek word for "**TORMENT**" is used in **ONLY ONE OTHER PLACE** in the N.T. Jesus used it in **MATT. 25:46** to describe **HELL.** There must be **A SIMILARITY** between **ungodly fear** and **hell.**

S **UNGODLY FEAR IS DEBILITATING & CRIPPLING.** Ungodly fear **TORMENTS** the person who is afflicted with it. **UNGODLY**

FEAR can be **A MAJOR SOURCE OF DISOBEDIENCE.**

S THE **N.T. GREEK NOUN FOR "FEAR" IS "PHOBOS."** "PHOBOS" is where we derived our English word, "**PHOBIA.**" A "**PHOBIA**" IS A "**FEAR.**"

- We are told that "**ONE IN NINE ADULTS** harbors some kind of a phobia, making fear **THE NUMBER-ONE MENTAL HEALTH PROBLEM FOR WOMEN**, and **THE NUMBER-TWO PROBLEM FOR MEN**, behind drug and alcohol abuse. It may well be that such abuse simply masks fear." (From Joel Gregory, *Growing Pains of the Soul*, pg. 105)

FEAR IS **SO PREVALENT** IN OUR CULTURE THAT AT LEAST **SEVENTY-FIVE PHOBIAS** have been given **TECHNICAL NAMES** (Joel Gregory, *Growing Pains of the Soul*, pg. 75).

- 1) **ERGOPHOBIA** = the fear of **WORK**
- 2) **AILUROPHOBIA** = the fear of **CATS**
- 3) **ASTROPHOBIA** = the fear of **LIGHTNING**
- 4) **TRICHOPHOBIA** = the fear of **HAIR**
- 5) **TRISKAIDEKAPHOBIA** = the fear of the **NUMBER 13**
- 6) **ARACNAPHOBIA** = the fear of the **SPIDERS**
- 7) **ACROPHOBIA** = the fear of **HIGH PLACES**
- 8) **PHOBOPHOBIA** = the fear of **FEAR**
 - **SOMEONE HAS DESCRIBED THE AVERAGE AMERICAN AS:**
"One whose daily intake of pep pills is balanced by his daily intake of tranquilizers, enough to sufficiently enable him to make his weekly trip to the psychiatrist."
 - **ONE MAN SAID**
"I'm so use to being tense that when I am calm I get nervous."
- 9) **CLAUSTROPHOBIA** = the fear of **ENCLOSED PLACES**
- 10) **AGORAPHOBIA** = the fear of **OPEN PLACES** (crowds, people)
 - "**ONE WOMAN** suffered so acutely from **AGORAPHOBIA** that she literally could not be out of sight of her home. She walked backward out of her front door to pick up her morning paper in order never to lose sight of her house." (Joel Gregory, pg. 105)
 - **MARJORIE GOFF** was **thirty-one** when she stepped inside and closed the door of her small apartment in **1949**. She did not leave here home again until she was sixty-one. She did go our one time in 1960 to visit her family. Two years later, she left again to have an operation. And in 1976, when the friend who shared her apartment was dying with cancer and wanted ice cream, Marjorie went out to get her some. She might still be there in her lonely apartment if it were not for a social worker who found her and helped her back out into the world! (From Joel Gregory, pg. 105)
 - **(1 John 4:18)**, "... **FEAR HATH TORMENT** ... "

IT IS AMAZING THE THINGS THAT PEOPLE FEAR:

- 1) **SOME PEOPLE HAVE A DEBILITATING FEAR OF FLYING.** You have probably met some of those people. You might be one of those people especially after September 11, 2001.
- 2) **SOME PEOPLE HAVE A DEBILITATING FEAR OF THIEVES.**

- While working during my **SEMINARY DAYS**, a group of us painted and repaired seminary apartments. One person we came across was too afraid to open their door and talk to people. Once those folks moved out and we moved in to paint their apartment, we discovered they had three locks on the door.
- Have you heard the **HUMOROUS STORY** about the lady that awakened her husband one night because she heard a burglar down stairs? She shook him and told him to get up and go see. He told her to go back to sleep. She insisted until finally he got up. He got his gun and went down stairs. Sure enough, there was a burglar. He pointed the gun at him and the burglar lifted his arms in the air. The man said to him, "I am going to have you call the police in a moment and turn yourself in, but before that, I want to call my wife down here to meet you. She has been looking for you for twenty years."

3) **SOME PEOPLE HAVE A DEBILITATING FEAR OF THE DARK.** As a child, were you ever afraid to go outside at night?

LET ME MAKE UP A NEW NAME FOR ANOTHER KIND OF PHOBIA — For the sake of this message, we will call it **ANAKIM-APHOBIA** — **THE FEAR OF GIANTS. ISRAEL FEARED GIANTS!**

- **(Numb 13:28)**, "... **WE EVEN SAW** DESCENDANTS OF **ANAK** THERE."
- **(Numb 13:33)**, "... **WE SEEMED LIKE GRASSHOPPERS** IN OUR OWN EYES, ..." "
- THEIR FEAR HAD **FOILED THEIR FAITH** and brought upon them **THE JUDGMENT OF GOD.**

BY WAY OF APPLICATION — IS THERE SOME FEAR THAT INCAPACITATES US? WHAT "GIANTS" in our lives keep us from doing what God has called us to do?

- 1) THE FEAR OF A **LITTLE LAUGHTER** keeps some folks from serving God. Some people never share the name of Jesus for fear of what someone might say about them.
- 2) **SOME PEOPLE HAVE A DEBILITATING FEAR OF WATER.** I knew a guy who refused to be baptized because he was afraid of water. I told him it was not much different from getting in a bathtub. He told me that he was so afraid of water he did not even take a bath. (I am glad that he did take showers.)
- 3) THE FEAR OF THE LACK OF **FINANCES** keep s some people from serving God.
- 4) **ETC.**

I. THE FEAR OF GIANTS

II. FAITH TO OVERCOME THE GIANTS
AS CHRISTIANS WE CONQUER THE GIANTS IN OUR LIVES THROUGH FAITH!

(1 John 5:4), "For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world: and **THIS IS THE VICTORY** that overcometh the world, **EVEN OUR**

FAITH."

S **FAITH IS THE KEY** that unlocks the door to God's promises

JOSHUA and CALEB demonstrated **THE FAITH THAT OVERCOMES THE FEAR OF GIANTS**. Their lives were **VASTLY DIFFERENT** from the other ten spies and the majority of all the children of Israel.

The **Ten**: "The land we explored devours those living in it" (Numbers 13:32).

The **Two**: "Do not be afraid of the people of the land, because we will swallow them up" (Numbers 14:9).

The **Ten**: "The cities are fortified and very large" (Numbers 13:28).

The **Two**: "Their protection is gone, but the Lord is with us" (Numbers 14:9).

The **Ten**: "All the people we saw there are of great size . . . We seemed like grasshoppers in our own eyes" (Numbers 13:32-33).

The **Two**: "We should go up and take possession of the land, for we can certainly do it" (Numbers 13:30).

The **Ten**: "**WE CAN'T**" (Numbers 13:31).

The **Two**: "**WE CAN**" (Numbers 13:30). (*J. Oswald Sander, PROMISED LAND LIVING, pg. 27*)

JOSHUA & CALEB SAID:

(Num 14:9), ". . . They are **BREAD FOR US: . . .**"

S THAT STATEMENT REMINDS ME OF **A POSTER** someone gave me several years ago. On the poster was the picture of **TWO PRAIRIE DOGS** eating **DANDELIONS**. One of the prairie dogs had his little mouth stuffed full of yellow flowers. The other had flower petals on his head. THE CAPTION READ:

"LEARN TO EAT PROBLEMS FOR BREAKFAST"

S JOSHUA and CALEB had **THE KIND OF FAITH** that **ATE GIANTS FOR BREAKFAST**.

PERHAPS THE BIBLE'S **BEST DEMONSTRATION** OF FAITH THAT CONQUERS GIANTS IS SEEN IN **DAVID**:

S **YOUNG DAVID** took his **SLING** and went out against the 9'9" giant named Goliath and knocked him out with one blow. David took Goliath's own sword and cut off the giant's head.

S Little David **WAS ABLE** to do what **the grown men** in the army had been unable to do **FOR 40 DAYS**. The things that David did are **THE THINGS WE ARE TO DO WHEN WE FACE OUR GIANTS**.

S **CONSIDER FOUR THINGS** David did to conquer his giant. All these stories related to David and Goliath are found in **1 SAMUEL 17**.

[#1]. RECALL PREVIOUS VICTORIES

DAVID SAID TO SAUL:

(1 Sam 17:34-35), ". . . Thy servant kept his father's sheep, and there came **A LION**, and **A BEAR**, and took **A LAMB** out of the flock: {35} And **I WENT OUT AFTER HIM**, and **SMOTE HIM**, and delivered it out of his mouth: and **when he arose against me**, I caught him by **HIS BEARD**, and smote him, and slew him."

S **THE BIBLE IS FULL** OF OTHER EXAMPLES OF SAINTS WHO

SLEW THEIR "GIANTS" THROUGH FAITH:

- (1) **SHADRACH, MESHACH & ABEDNEGO** were delivered from the fiery furnace.
- (2) **DANIEL** was delivered from the Lions' den
- (3) **KING JEHOSHAPHAT** cried out to God because of an approaching army. He did not know what do. The King placed his choir in front of his army as they went out to do battle and God won the victory (2 Chronicles 20).
- (4) **CALEB** won the victory through faith.

S **RECALL GOD'S PAST VICTORIES IN YOUR PERSONAL LIFE.** If you have walked by faith, you have experienced many of God's victories in life.

[#1]. **RECALL PREVIOUS VICTORIES**

[#2]. KEEP YOUR HEART RIGHT WITH GOD

S **DAVID'S HEART WAS RIGHT WITH GOD! GOD DESCRIBED DAVID'S HEART IN SCRIPTURE:**

- 1) **(Acts 13:22)**, "... 'I have found David the son of Jesse, **A MAN AFTER MINE OWN HEART**, which shall fulfil all my will.'"
- 2) **(1 Sam 16:7)**, "... for man looketh on the outward appearance, but **THE LORD LOOKETH ON THE HEART.**"
(These words were spoken to Samuel before he anointed David as the new King of Israel.)
- 3) **DAVID WROTE PSALM 7:**
(Psa 7:10), "**MY DEFENSE is OF GOD**, which saveth **THE UPRIGHT IN HEART.**"

S **DAVID DID NOT** come against Goliath in his own strength and power. David went against Goliath in the name of the Lord.

- 1) **(Zec 4:6)**, "... Not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, saith the **LORD** of hosts."
- 2) **(James 4:7)**, "**Submit yourselves therefore to God.** Resist the devil, and he will flee from you."
- 3) **(James 4:8)**, "**Draw nigh to God**, and he will draw nigh to you. . ."

S **MOTIVE OF THE HEART** can be **THE DIFFERENCE** between **VICTORY & DEFEAT. WHEN OUR MOTIVES ARE WRONG**, GOD DOES NOT GIVE US STRENGTH to face **OUR GIANTS**. God strengthens the person whose heart is right with Him.
(1 Pet 5:5), "... God resisteth the proud, and giveth grace to the humble."

S **ONE REASON** many folks fail in their **WORK**, their **MINISTRY**, their **FAMILY**, etc., **IS THEIR MOTIVES ARE WRONG. THEIR HEART IS WRONG. THE HOLY SPIRIT WILL EITHER STRENGTHEN US** to stand victoriously against the **GIANTS** in our lives, or He will **OPPOSE US** because our motives are impure. There is no chance of victory if God is opposing us.

S **CALEB** was a man whose heart was right with God. That is why Caleb stood victoriously against the giants. God said of Caleb:

(Num 14:24), "But my servant Caleb, because he had another spirit with him, and hath followed me fully, him will I bring into the land whereinto he went; and his seed shall possess it."

[#1]. RECALL **PREVIOUS VICTORIES**

[#2]. KEEP YOUR HEART **RIGHT WITH GOD**

[#3]. ACCEPT GOD'S ENCOURAGEMENT

- S **DAVID** had discouragement heaped upon him from every quarter. **HIS BROTHER**, Eliab, told him the only reason he had come to the front lines was because he was "**CONCEITED**" and had a "**WICKED**" HEART (1 Sam 17:28). On top of that, **KING SAUL SAID TO DAVID:**
(1 Sam 17:33 NIV), "... **"YOU ARE NOT ABLE** to go out against this Philistine and fight him; **YOU ARE ONLY A BOY**, and he has been a fighting man from his youth."
- S **DAVID'S RESPONSE WAS EXEMPLARY.** He rejected his brother's faithless statement (1 Sam 17:29). He said to the king that God had delivered him from the paw of the lion and the bear and God would therefore deliver him from the Philistine (1 Sam 17:37).
- S **DAVID WAS YOUNG**, but he **WAS FULL OF COURAGE!** David drew his encouragement from God. David would say to Goliath:
(1 Sam 17:45), "... **"You come against me with sword and spear and javelin, but I COME AGAINST YOU IN THE NAME OF THE LORD ALMIGHTY, . . ."**

THE ONLY WAY ANY OF US will ever conquer our giants is to be filled with God's courage. **GOD SAID TO JOSHUA** before he ever took Israel into the land of the giants:

(Josh 1:9), "... Be strong and **OF A GOOD COURAGE; BE NOT AFRAID**, neither be thou dismayed: for the **LORD THY GOD IS WITH THEE** whithersoever thou goest." (Read Heb 13:5)

- S **GOD HAS CALLED ALL OF US TO DO SOMETHING?** Doing what God has called us to do **WILL REQUIRE COURAGE.**
- S **JEANE KIRKPATRICK** was the **U.S. PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE** TO THE U.N. under President Ronald Reagan. She recently made a statement regarding courage related to the war with Afghanistan. She remarked that **OUR FOREBEARS**, as well as those who set out to explore our nation, had **A VIRTUE WE MUST EXHIBIT** today. She described the quality as **"SIMPLE RAW COURAGE."**
- S **WHAT HAS GOD CALL YOU DO? ASK GOD FOR COURAGE and DO IT! THE PERSON OF FAITH IS NOT A PASSIVE COWARD.**
(Prov 28:1), "The wicked flee when no man pursueth: but **THE RIGHTEOUS ARE BOLD AS A LION.**"
- S **THE ONLY WAY TO CONQUER OUR GIANTS IS TO ACCEPT GOD'S ENCOURAGEMENT:**
- **(Isa 41:10)**, "**FEAR THOU NOT**; for I am with thee: be not

dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness."

- **(Luke 12:32)**, "FEAR NOT, little flock; for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom."

[#1]. **RECALL PREVIOUS VICTORIES**

[#2]. **KEEP YOUR HEART RIGHT WITH GOD**

[#3]. **ACCEPT GOD'S ENCOURAGEMENT**

[#4]. RESPOND BY FAITH

S **DAVID TOOK HIS SLING AND FIVE SMOOTH STONES AND WENT AND STOOD BEFORE GOLIATH.** He was **NOT SATISFIED TO SIT TREMBLING** on the sidelines for forty more days with grown men who were afraid of Goliath.

S **CALEB AND DAVID WERE ALIKE:**

- **(Num 13:30)**, "... Let us **GO UP AT ONCE**, and **POSSESS IT**; for **WE ARE WELL ABLE** to overcome it."
- **(Num 14:9)**, "... **REBEL NOT** ye against the LORD, neither fear ye the people of the land; for they are bread for us: their defense is departed from them, and the LORD is with us: **FEAR THEM NOT.**"

S YOU CAN'T HELP BUT **ADMIRE SUCH FAITH.**

(Prov 28:1), "The wicked flee when no man pursueth: but **THE RIGHTEOUS ARE BOLD AS A LION.**"

S THE STORY OF **TODD BEAMER** will go down in history as an example of courage. He was on **UNITED FLIGHT 93** that went down in Pennsylvania on September 11, 2001. He discovered what had happened to the other flights by talking to a person on the ground on his cell phone. He knew his jet was headed toward the same fate. Realizing he had to do something, he prayed the Lord's pray, turned to those who were going to help him and said, "**LET'S ROLL.**"

S In light of the spiritual conflict of in this present world, I hear God saying to His children, "**LET'S ROLL!**" **CALEB** was the kind of saint that said, "**LET'S ROLL!**" **DAVID** was the kind of saint that said, "**LET'S ROLL!**" God help us all to be that kind of fearless, courageous servant of God.

HERE ARE SOME "STONES" WE CAN LOAD IN OUR SLINGSHOT WHEN WE ARE FACED WITH SOME "GIANT:"

- **(1 John 4:4)**, "... **GREATER IS HE THAT IS IN YOU**, than he that is in the world."
- **(Rom 8:31)**, "... **IF GOD BE FOR US**, who can be against us?"
- **(Phil 4:13)**, "**I CAN DO ALL THINGS** through Christ which strengtheneth me."
- **(Isa 54:17)**, "**NO WEAPON** that is formed against thee shall prosper; and every tongue that shall rise against thee in judgment thou shalt condemn. This is the heritage of the servants of the LORD, and their righteousness is of me, saith the LORD."
- **(Psa 103:17 NIV)**, "But from everlasting to everlasting **THE**

LORD'S LOVE IS WITH THOSE WHO FEAR HIM, and his righteousness with their children's children--"

- **(Dan 11:32)**, "... But the people that do know their God **SHALL BE STRONG, AND DO EXPLOITS.**"
- **(John 10:28)**, "And I give unto them eternal life; and **THEY SHALL NEVER PERISH**, neither shall any man **PLUCK THEM** out of my hand.
- **(1 John 5:4)**, "... **THIS IS THE VICTORY** that overcometh the world, even our faith."

I. THE FEAR OF GIANTS

II. THE FAITH TO OVERCOME THE GIANTS

III. FACE TO FACE WITH THE GIANTS

S FORTY YEARS AFTER LEAVING EGYPT, Israel came **FACE TO FACE** with the Anakim. It is both **INTERESTING AND SIGNIFICANT** that all the fear Israel had possessed while at Kadesh Barnea was **UNWARRANTED**. In fact, the battle to rid the land of the Anakims is summarized in just **A FEW SENTENCES**.

- **(Josh 11:21-22)**, "And at that time came Joshua, and **CUT OFF THE ANAKIMS** from the mountains, from Hebron, from Debir, from Anab, and from all the mountains of Judah, and from all the mountains of Israel: Joshua destroyed them utterly with their cities. {22} **THERE WAS NONE OF THE ANAKIMS** left in the land of the children of Israel: only in Gaza, in Gath, and in Ashdod, there remained."
- **(Josh 15:14)**, "And **CALEB DROVE THENCE THE THREE SONS OF ANAK**, Sheshai, and Ahiman, and Talmai, the children of Anak."

S FORTY YEARS HAVING PASSED, the thing that had earlier incapacitated the children of Israel was so insignificant that **IT BARELY MERITED MENTIONING**. What had taken two chapters to describe in the Book of Numbers because of **FEAR**, takes only a few verses in Joshua.

THE SIGNIFICANCE FOR US IS:

S THOSE GIANTS THAT KEEP US FROM OBEYING GOD are **NOT NEARLY SO FORMIDABLE** as we think they are when God is the one who tells us to conquer them.

S WHAT GIANTS ARE WE RUNNING FROM? WHAT FEAR keeps us from serving God?

(1) **ARE WE RUNNING FROM THE FEAR OF PERSECUTION?**

- **(Luke 6:22-23)**, "Blessed are ye, when men shall hate you, and when they shall separate you from their company, and shall reproach you, and cast out your name as evil, for the Son of man's sake. {23} **REJOICE** ye in that day, and **LEAP FOR JOY**: for, behold, your reward is great in heaven: for in the like manner did their fathers unto the prophets."

- **(Isa 41:10)**, “**FEAR THOU NOT**; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness.”

(2) ARE WE RUNNING FROM THE FEAR **OF POVERTY?**

- **(Mat 6:33)**, “But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and **ALL THESE THINGS SHALL BE ADDED UNTO YOU.**”
- **(Mal 3:10)**, “Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and **PROVE ME** now herewith, saith the LORD of hosts, if I will not **OPEN YOU THE WINDOWS OF HEAVEN**, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it.”

(3) ARE WE RUNNING FROM THE FEAR **OF DEATH?**

- **(1 Cor 15:55)**, “O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory?”
- **(Mat 16:25)**, “For whosoever will save his life shall lose it: and whosoever will lose his life for my sake shall find it.”

(4) **ETC.**

“LET’S ROLL!”