

*Show Video Clip https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=17_ImViPryQ (0:00-7:10)

“God Is Looking For A Few Courageous Men!”

Joshua 1, Numbers 13 & 14, & Joshua 24

After the death of **Moses the Servant** of the **Lord**, it came to pass that the **Lord Spoke** to **Joshua the Son of Nun**, Moses' Assistant, saying: “**Moses My Servant** is dead. Now therefore, Arise, Go over this Jordan, **You and All this People**, to the **Land** which **I AM Giving** to the **Children of Israel**. **Every Place** that the **Sole of Your Foot Will Tread Upon I Have Given You**, as **I Said** to **Moses**. From the **Wilderness** and this **Lebanon** as far as the **Great River**, the **River Euphrates**, all the **Land of the Hittites**, and to the **Great Sea (Mediterranean)** toward the going down of the sun (in the west), shall be **Your Territory**. No man shall be able to stand before **You** all the days of **Your Life**; as **I Was With Moses**, so **I (AM) Will Be With You**. **I Will Not Leave You Nor Forsake You**. **Be Strong and of Good Courage**, for to this **People You** shall divide as an **Inheritance the Land** which **I Swore** to **Their Fathers** to **Give Them**. Only **Be Strong and Very Courageous**, that **You May Observe** to do **According to All the Law** which **Moses My Servant Commanded You**; do not turn from **It** to the right hand or to the left, that **You May Prosper Wherever You Go**. This **Book of the Law** shall not depart from **Your Mouth**, but **You Shall Meditate** in **It** day and night, that **You May Observe** to do **According to All that is Written in It**. For then **You Will Make Your Way Prosperous**, and then **You Will Have Good Success**. Have I Not **Commanded You? Be Strong and of Good Courage; Do Not Be Afraid, Nor Be Dismayed**, for the **Lord Your God Is (I AM) With You Wherever You Go!**”
Joshua 1:1-9 (NKJV)

It's Time To Prove Your Metal **Joshua & Caleb**: All You **Men** This Morning:
Let's Go Scout, Reconnoiter, Map, Secure Proof, & Report Back The Truth
About The Situation That Confronts Us!

1. God Is Calling Us To Enlist In His Army As Christian Soldiers
To Follow Him In Full Obedience - Unwavering In Our Faith!

Selected Verses From Numbers 13 & 14

The **Lord** Now **Said** to **Moses**, “**Send Out Men** to **Explore the Land of Canaan**, the **Land I AM** giving to the **Israelites**. **Send One Leader** from each of the **Twelve Ancestral Tribes**.”... These were the **Tribes** & the Names of **Their Leaders**:

<u>Tribes</u>	<u>Leader</u>	<u>Tribes</u>	<u>Leader</u>
Reuben	Shammua Son of Zaccur	Simeon	Shaphat Son of Hori
Judah	Caleb Son of Jephunneh	Issachar	Igal Son of Joseph
Ephraim	Hoshea (Joshua) Son of Nun	Benjamin	Palti Son of Raphu
Zebulun	Gaddiel Son of Sodi	Manasseh	Gaddi Son of Susi
Dan	Ammiel Son of Gemalli	Asher	Sethur Son of Michael
Naphtali	Nahbi Son of Vophsi	Gad	Geuel Son of Maki

... These are the Names of the **Men Moses Sent Out** to **Explore the Land**.

Moses called **Hoshea Son of Nun** by the Name, **Joshua**.

2. God Is Commanding Us Men To Give A True Testimony & Witness To God's Chosen People!

... After **Exploring the Land** for forty days, the **Men (12)** returned to **Moses**, **Aaron**, and the **Whole Community of Israel** at **Kadesh** in the **Wilderness of Paran**. They **Reported** to the **Whole Community** what **They** had seen and showed **Them** the fruit **They** had taken from the **Land** ...

3. God Is Commanding Us Men To Lead Our Families & God's Chosen People In Courage & Faith!
... But **Caleb** tried to quiet the **People** as they stood before **Moses**. **He Reported**, “**Let's Go at Once to Take the Land** ... **We Can Certainly Conquer It!** But the **Other Men (10) Who** Had **Explored the Land** with **Him (Caleb)** **Disagreed** Saying, “**We Can't Go Up Against Them! They Are Stronger Than We Are.**” So, this **Other Report** **Spread Among** the **People** **Instead!**

**4. What We Believe About God's Character, Faithfulness,
& Ability Will Dictate Our Faithfulness & Actions!**

... Then the **Whole Community** began weeping aloud, and **They** cried all night. **Their Voices Rose** in a **Great Chorus of Protest Against Moses and Aaron** ... Then **They** said, "**Let's Choose a New Leader and Go Back to Egypt!**"

**5. Our Actions & Our Leadership In The Face Of Adversity & Descension,
Will Influence Others Faith & Trust In God!**

... Then **Moses** and **Aaron** **Fell Face Down on the Ground** before the **Whole Community of Israel**. **Two of the Men Who Had Explored the Land, Joshua Son of Nun and Caleb Son of Jephunneh, Tore Their Clothing In Protest.**

**6. Our Faithful Response To God's Leading Will Influence The Depth & Strength
Of The Advancement Or Retreat Of God's Kingdom On Earth!**

... **Joshua** and **Caleb** said to **All the People**, "**The Land We Traveled Through and Explored is a Wonderful Land. ... And If the Lord Is Pleased With Us, (Then) He Will Bring Us Safely Into that Land and Give It to Us. It is a Rich Land Flowing with Milk and Honey. Do Not Rebel Against the Lord, and Don't Be Afraid of the People of the Land. They Will Be Given Into Our Hands! They Have No Protection, for the Lord Is With Us! Only Do Not Be Afraid of Them!**"

7. No Matter What Others Do,

We Must Continue To Be Steadfast & Respond In Faith As Courageous & Godly Men!

... But the **Whole Community** began to **Talk Against Joshua and Caleb.**

**8. Those Who Do Not Believe & Trust In The Word of The Lord
Will Not Enter Into Their Inheritance & Rest!**

Then the **Lord Said** ... "**Surely as I Live, and as Surely as the Earth Is Filled with the Lord's Glory, Not One of These People Will Ever Enter That Land. They Have All Seen My Glorious Presence and the Miraculous Signs I Performed both in Egypt and in the Wilderness, but Again and Again They Have Tested Me by Refusing to Listen to My Voice (Rhema). They Will Never Even See the Land I Swore to Give Their Ancestors ... None of Those Who Have Treated Me With Contempt Will Ever See It!**"

9. Those Who Do Believe & Trust In The Word of The Lord Will Enter Into Their Inheritance & Rest!
... "**But My Servant Caleb Has A Different Attitude Than the Others Have. He Has Remained Loyal to Me, and Has Followed Me Fully, so I Will Bring Him Into the Land He Explored! His Descendants Will Possess Their Full Share of the Land ... Along With My Servant Joshua Son of Nun!**"

10. If We Refuse To Believe & Obey God's Words To Us,

Then We Must Suffer The Consequences - Instead Of Receiving His Blessings In Our Lives!

... Then the **Lord Said** to **Moses & Aaron** ... "**You (This People) Will Not Enter and Occupy the Land I Swore to Give You. Because Your Men Explored the Land for forty days, You (This People) Must Wander in the Wilderness for forty years, a year for each day, Suffering the Consequences of Your Sins. Then You (This People) Will Discover What It Is Like To Have Me For An Enemy. I, the Lord, Have Spoken! I Will Certainly Do These Things To Every Member of the Community Who Has Conspired Against Me!**"

The **Lives** of **Caleb & Joshua, Two Courageous Men of God,**
Demonstrate A **Timeless Truth!**

**"If We Believe & Obey God's Words & His Will For Our Lives,
Then We Will Receive God's Blessing In Our Personal Lives,
In Our Family's Lives, In The Life Of Our Church Family,
In The Life Of Our Community, & In The Life Of Our World!"**

Seven Commands

1. Place Your Faith in God Alone
2. Place Your Trust in God Alone
3. Tell Others of God's Goodness
4. Encourage True Faith In God
5. Tell The Good News of the Gospel
6. Live a Life of Holiness
7. Do Not Fear Anyone But God Alone

Seven Blessings

1. Blessing of Eternal Life
2. Blessing of Peace
3. Blessing of Encouragement
4. Blessing of Assurance
5. Blessing of Hope
6. Blessing of Discipleship
7. Blessing of Liberty

Men In Light Of These Commands, Promises, & Warnings:

"Let Us Be Courageous & Obedient Before God Our Father!

Let Us Lead & Serve Our Families With The Love Of God!

Let Us Lead & Serve God's Chosen & Holy People in His Church!

Let Us Lead & Serve God's Broken & Wayward People in Our Community!"

Now All Of Us Men & Women, Young & Old, Side By Side In God's Family:

"Let Us Together Men & Women Follow Obediently Our Commander & King!

Let Us Together Be His Believing, Holy, & Faithful People!

Let Us Together In Unity, Help Build His Kingdom Here On Earth:

In Our Homes, Our Jobs, Our Church, Our Community, & Our World!"

"Let Us Together Be His Courageous People,

Daily Witnessing To The Mighty & Powerful God We Serve!

Let Us This Day Recall The Words Of Joshua Our Spiritual Father In Faith

As He Stood Next To His Brother Caleb, Alongside Their Families!"

Men of God, Please Stand & Recite Joshua's Words Together:

"Now therefore, Fear the Lord, Serve Him in Sincerity and in Truth, and Put Away the gods which Your Fathers Served on the Other Side of the River and in Egypt. Serve the Lord! And If It Seems Evil to You to Serve the Lord, (Then) Choose For Yourselves This Day whom You Will Serve, Whether the gods which Your Fathers Served that Were on the Other Side of the River, or the gods of the Amorites, in Whose Land You Dwell. But as for Me and My House, We Will Serve the Lord!"
Joshua 24:14-15

Ladies, Please Stand & Join Us By Declaring The Response of the People:

"Far be it from Us that We Should Forsake the Lord to Serve other gods; for the Lord Our God Is He Who Brought Us and Our Fathers Up Out of the Land of Egypt, from the House of Bondage, Who Did Those Great Signs in Our Sight, and Preserved Us in All the Way that We Went and Among All the People Through Whom We Passed ... The Lord Our God We Will Serve, and His Voice We Will Obey!"
Joshua 24:16-17 & 24

Now All Of Us Together In Unity Let Us Recommit Again Today:

"We Will Be Strong and of Good Courage; We Will Not Be Afraid, We Will Not be Dismayed, For the Lord Our God Is With Us Wherever We Go! ... And as for Us, and for Our Houses, We Will Serve the Lord!"

Please Rise & Receive God's Blessing

And the Lord Spoke to Moses, Saying: *"Speak to Aaron (the Priest) and His Sons, Saying, 'This is the Way You (Ministers) Shall Bless the Children of Israel.' ...*

... "Say to Them: "The Lord Bless You & Keep You;

The Lord Make His Face to Shine Upon You, And Be Gracious to You;

The Lord Lift Up His Countenance Upon You, And Give You, His Peace!" ...

... "So, You (Ministers) Shall Put My Name on the Children of Israel, and I Will Bless Them!"

Numbers 6:22-27