

## Joshua – Lesson 38: Success – Succeeding where others fail (Conviction of Caleb)

### Joshua 14

**1 Thessalonians 1:5** For our gospel came not unto you in word only, but also in power, and in the Holy Ghost, and in much assurance; as ye know what manner of men we were among you for your sake.

#### Did we learn our lesson? Study Questions from lesson 37 (Succeeding where others fail)

1. According to Matthew 9:38, who should be seeking laborers for the work of the Lord?

*Answer: Believers (pray).*

2. According to Numbers 14:25, how long did the spies search out the land?

*Answer: 40 days.*

3. According to 2 Timothy 4:2, when should the believer preach Christ?

*Answer: Be instant in season, out of season.*

4. According to Numbers 14:24, why did God reward Caleb?

*Answer: Because he had another spirit with him, and hath followed me fully.*

5. Complete the following scripture:

**1 Peter 3:15** But sanctify the Lord **God** in your **hearts**: and be **ready** always to give an **answer** to every man that asketh you a **reason** of the **hope** that is in you with **meekness** and **fear**.

#### True / False

**True** There is a crown of righteousness to all that love Christ's appearing. (2TIM 4:8)

**True** The spies testified it was a very good land (of milk and honey). (NUM 13:27)

**True** Only Joshua and Caleb demanded to follow God, and take the land. (NUM 14:6-9)

**False** The believer is promised abundance in this life if they trust in God. (JOHN 3:16)

#### Lesson 38: Conviction of Caleb

"Leaders with conviction show us that the future is certain and that we're all headed in the right direction." — Dr. Travis Bradberry

- Leaders with conviction motivate and inspire (to act without belief is to move with uncertainty)
- Possibly the most important quality is that they are strong, but not harsh.

"We may claim that our convictions are a private matter; but in reality, they are constantly on display for all to see because we live them out each day with our words and actions. God has given us standards and principles from His Word to protect us and to guide us, motivate, and help us to lead godly lives." Dr. Charles Stanley

- You behave based on your beliefs – Others will know if you truly put your trust in God (**Matthew 7:16** *Ye shall know them by their fruits*).

Caleb's conviction guided his actions with the children of Israel – He was known of all as his testimony spoke louder than any shout.

#### Joshua 14:6-9 – Caleb cites the moment of truth

(6) Then the children of Judah came unto Joshua in Gilgal: and Caleb the son of Jephunneh the Kenezite said unto him, Thou knowest the thing that the LORD said unto Moses the man of God concerning me and thee in Kadeshbarnea.

(7) Forty years old was I when Moses the servant of the LORD sent me from Kadeshbarnea to espy out the land; and I brought him word again as *it was* in mine heart.

(8) Nevertheless my brethren that went up with me made the heart of the people melt: but I wholly followed the LORD my God.

(9) And Moses sware on that day, saying, Surely the land whereon thy feet have trodden shall be thine inheritance, and thy children's for ever, because thou hast wholly followed the LORD my God.

As Caleb recants the story of the mission to survey the inheritance, his intent was to remind Joshua of the promise of God (through Moses) concerning his reward for his faithfulness:

**Numbers 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.

The significant part is where Caleb defines his report as 'as it was in mine heart' – Since his trust was wholly in God, Caleb's actions were without regard for other factors, such as the enemy's strength, size, or numbers (this was irrelevant, as it has no effect on the power of God and His ability to fulfill His word).

#### **Matthew 6:9-10 – The believer's conviction**

(9) *After this manner therefore pray ye: Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name.*

(10) *Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven.*

Christ's guidance for the believer's prayerful relationship with the Father is to not only acknowledge the sovereignty of God's will, but to desire it, to count on it – To conduct personal behavior based on this truth.

- The believer's testimony is based on their conviction: This is how others will know you are serious.

#### **Matthew 8:5-10 – Christ remarks on one man's conviction**

(5) And when Jesus was entered into Capernaum, there came unto him a centurion, beseeching him,

(6) And saying, Lord, my servant lieth at home sick of the palsy, grievously tormented.

(7) And Jesus saith unto him, *I will come and heal him.*

(8) The centurion answered and said, Lord, I am not worthy that thou shouldest come under my roof: but speak the word only, and my servant shall be healed.

(9) For I am a man under authority, having soldiers under me: and I say to this *man*, Go, and he goeth; and to another, Come, and he cometh; and to my servant, Do this, and he doeth *it*.

(10) When Jesus heard *it*, he marvelled, and said to them that followed, *Verily I say unto you, I have not found so great faith, no, not in Israel.*

- The centurion had faith: Christ was capable to heal his servant
- The centurion had conviction: That he must act on his faith in Christ
- The centurion had trust: That if petitioned in His will, Christ would heal his servant (regardless of where He was – it is the power of God, and not restricted by this world)
- Christ was moved with this display of faith / conviction / trust to claim this was the greatest example of faith He had seen!
  
- Faith - Conviction – Trust: cannot exist independent of each other (the person is not whole if lacking one)

#### **Joshua 14:10-11 – Caleb proclaims the power of God**

**(10)** And now, behold, the LORD hath kept me alive, as he said, these forty and five years, even since the LORD spake this word unto Moses, while *the children of Israel* wandered in the wilderness: and now, lo, I *am* this day fourscore and five years old.

**(11)** As yet I *am* as strong this day as *I was* in the day that Moses sent me: as my strength *was* then, even so *is* my strength now, for war, both to go out, and to come in.

- Caleb remarks about the power of God – To preserve him in the fulfilling of His promise to Caleb (that he would have his inheritance).
- Caleb is not only alive to see his inheritance, but retains the vitality (at 85) to enjoy it.

### **Revelation 21:3-4 – A promise to the believer**

**(3)** And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God *is* with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, *and be* their God.

**(4)** And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away.

- As Caleb was preserved, the believer is promised a new life with none of the limits of our mortality.
- **1 Corinthians 15:53** For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal *must* put on immortality.

### **Joshua 14:12-14 – Why Hebron?**

**(12)** 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.

About 20 miles south of Jerusalem, a key site for the patriarchs of Israel:

- The place where Sarah (Abraham's wife) died
- The location of the field Abraham purchased for family burial (includes Abraham, Isaac, Rebekah, Jacob, Leah, and Joseph)
- Caleb sought the spiritual connection that came with the mountain.

From the time of the report, through 40 in the wilderness and 5 years in conquering the inheritance, Caleb never compromised his conviction, never said, I will just follow along with everyone else, never lost sight of what was important. He was willing to stand against the majority, alone, for what he knew to be right.

**2 Corinthians 12:20** For I fear, lest, when I come, I shall not find you such as I would, and *that* I shall be found unto you such as ye would not: lest *there be* debates, envyings, wraths, strifes, backbitings, whisperings, swellings, tumults

- The goal of Satan is to divide us from God. The beginning is division among ourselves (separating believers) and eroding our conviction – To stop the believer's ability to witness

**John 14:15** *If ye love me, keep my commandments.*

- Christ asking for the conviction to act on your faith

**Next Lesson: Joshua – Succeeding where others fail – Don't stop believing**

## Joshua – Lesson 38: Success – Succeeding where others fail (Conviction of Caleb)

### Study Questions

1. According to Joshua 14:6, where were the children of Israel when Caleb delivered his speech?

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2. According to Joshua 14:8, why was Caleb's report different from the other spies?

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3. According to Joshua 14:11, how did God prepare Caleb for his inheritance?

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4. According to Joshua 14:12, who inhabited the land Caleb asked for?

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5. Complete the following scripture:

**Matthew 7:16** Ye shall know them by their \_\_\_\_\_.

### True / False

- |   |   |  |
|---|---|--|
| T | F | Caleb was a teenager when he spied out the land.                     |
| T | F | Caleb was an 85 year old warrior, when he asked for his inheritance. |
| T | F | The believer is resurrected incorruptible, immortal..                |
| T | F | Christ expects the believer to follow His commandments.              |