

Key Verse

Hebrews 11:6
But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.

*“But with whom was he grieved forty years? was it not with them that had **sinned**, whose carcasses fell in the wilderness? And to whom sware he that they should not enter into his **rest**, but to them that **believed** not? So we see that they could not enter in because of **unbelief**”—Hebrews 3:17–19.*

Egypt and Canaan

The people of Israel had faith to sprinkle the blood on their doorposts in Egypt and to come out of Egypt, which pictured their **salvation**.

But they lacked the faith to enter Canaan, which was God’s promise of **rest** for the overcoming, victorious and **Spirit-filled life**.

Scripture to read before next Sunday

Numbers 16:1–17:13

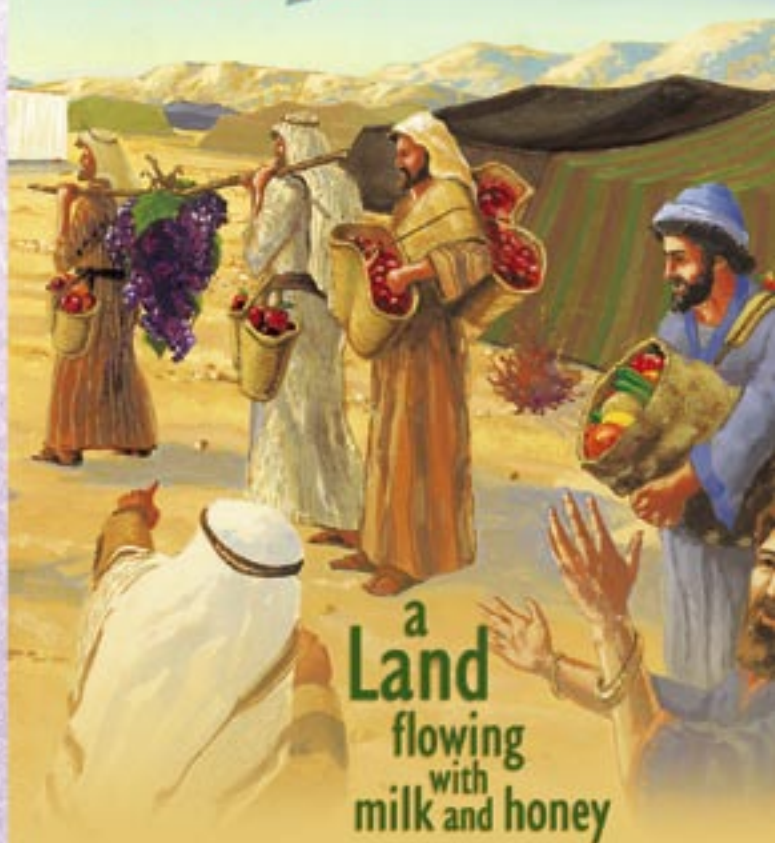
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Moses II Sinai to Jordan R. Compass

SPIES

RETURN FROM CANAAN
—WITH LARGE, LUSCIOUS FRUIT



a
Land
flowing
with
milk and honey

SPIES' Report

The ten spies said, “We are **not able**,” which is the language of unbelief and defeat. And this influenced the people of Israel not to believe that God could give them victory in Canaan.

Therefore, God chastened Israel for their unbelief; they would wander **40** years in the wilderness—one year for every day the spies were in Canaan. And those 20 yrs. and older would die in the wilderness and never see the Promised Land.

But **Caleb** and **Joshua**, the two spies who gave a faith report, would enter Canaan.

Our Future at stake

“Faith as represented in Caleb does not ignore difficulties; it is quite aware of them: but it does not concentrate its gaze on them, but on the living God. In every life there are Amalekites, sins of the flesh, and the Hittites, Jebusites, and Amorites of besetting sin. None must dare suppose that we must always be overcome by them. But by trusting in God, we may confidently expect that they will be put under our feet.” — F. B. Meyer

When giants of sin or difficulties make us think we can never have victory over them, we are at the same crossroads as Israel.

Wilderness experience

All Christians start out as “babes in Christ” and must go through the **wilderness** experience of learning. But we don’t have to go through the **wandering** experience **throughout** our life.

“The wilderness was part of the necessary discipline of the redeemed people, but this was not true of the years of wandering. The Red sea, Marah, Elim, Sinai were God’s ways in Israel’s development and have their counterpart in Christian experience; but from Kadesh-barnea to the Jordan all is for warning, and not imitation.” — James Gray

Watch YOUR Attitude

Ten spies brought a **bad** attitude report, and two brought a **good** report.

Bad attitudes are contagious! If we get a bad attitude from someone, God still holds us responsible.

Whether it is a wrong leader or a wrong belief, we are responsible for who and what we follow. Therefore, who we listen to, or agree with, can **defeat** us and also **determine** our spiritual usefulness and eternal rewards.