



Forty Days as Spies: Numbers 13 – 14

Lesson 40 Visuals

- **The Lord God said to Moses, “Send men to secretly spy out the land of Canaan that I am giving to the Israelites.”**
- **One man from each tribe was sent to be a spy, so twelve spies all together.**
- **The twelve spies spent forty days checking out the land of Canaan.**
- **The spies came back with pomegranates, figs and a huge cluster of grapes that had to be carried on a pole by two men.**



- **The spies reported back that the land was not only good, it was great!**
- **The spies also reported that the people in the land of Canaan were strong and the cities were large with great walls.**
- **Caleb said, “Let’s go up now and take possession of the land because we can certainly conquer it.”**
- **The ten fearful spies said we cannot go in because the people were too strong.**



- Those fearful spies said they were like grasshoppers compared to the Canaanites.
- After hearing the bad report from the ten fearful spies, all the Israelites began loudly crying.
- The Israelites believed their wives and children would be killed if they went into Canaan. They said it would be better for them to go back to Egypt.
- Joshua and Caleb were the two spies who spoke up and said, “If the Lord is pleased with us, He will bring us into the land.”



- **Joshua and Caleb said the Canaanite's protection was removed and the LORD was with the Israelites.**
- **Even though Joshua and Caleb only told the Israelites the truth, the Israelites wanted to stone them to death.**
- **The Lord was ready to strike the Israelites with a plague where they would all die. Moses asked the Lord for mercy. The LORD said He would not kill all the Israelites but there would still be a terrible consequence.**



- **Their consequence for not trusting the LORD God to give them the land of Canaan was that they had to wonder in the desert wilderness for forty years.**
- **All men 20 years and older would never be able to enter the land of Canaan.**
- **God said that the Israelites would spend one year for every day that the spies were in the land.**
- **Since the spies spent forty days as spies in the land of Canaan, the Israelites had to wonder in the desert wilderness for forty years.**



Joshua and Caleb were the two spies that God blessed because they trusted in God and stood up in faith. They were allowed to enter the land of Canaan at the end of the forty years.

- The ten spies who led the Israelites into sin were struck down by the Lord and died.**
- When God said go take the land of Canaan, the Israelites were afraid and would not go. But when God said don't go, then the Israelites said, "Let's go!" They did the opposite of what God said.**



- **The Israelites were defeated when they went to take the land of Canaan after God told them not to and said His presence would not go with them.**
- **Faith is trusting God at His Word.**
- **Joshua and Caleb had faith because they trusted God when He said that He was giving them the land of Canaan.**
- **It is presumption, not faith, to believe God will bless our disobedience.**



- **The Israelites who went to take the land of Canaan after God said not to had presumption. They presumed God would still give them the land after He said not to go.**
- **Faith is focused on doing things God's way. Presumption is focused on me getting my way.**
- **Hebrews 3:19 tells us that the Israelites were unable to enter the land of Canaan because of unbelief.**



- **Don't be like the Israelites who did not enter the land of Canaan because of their unbelief. Be like Joshua and Caleb who had faith and trusted God. Joshua and Caleb entered the land of Canaan because of their faith.**
- **The only way we can enter heaven is believing in Jesus as Savior and Lord.**

Key Verse:

Hebrews 3:12 says, "Watch out so that you don't have an evil, unbelieving heart that turns away from the living God."