



**Portion:**

**Title:**

**SCRIPTURES**

- Numbers 13:1-15:41
- Matthew 10
- Hebrews 3, 4, 9, 10

**SELF-PRESERVATION**

- Sent & Assigned
- Reports & Excuses
- Spirit & Spirit

*Will you go forward into your destiny or do you want to go back to Egypt? We all know what “going back to Egypt” means. It remains as powerful imagery for believers today. Back in the wilderness days of Israel, the people had the tendency to complain as soon as things ahead seemed challenging or bleak. “We should return to Egypt; this was a mistake; let’s regroup and go back.”*

*And this was their tendency, even after all they had witnessed: the ten plagues; the annihilation of their captors; an ocean that parted; water from a rock; bread from heaven; the voice of their God on the mountain; a betrothal to the Almighty; and a cloud by day and fire by night to lead them.*

*Then, when they had finally arrived at their destiny, they were given a simple task. Here are your marching orders; go in and survey the Land of Promise and come back with a report. God was*

*looking for them to discover a few facts about their upcoming inheritance. “What is the land like? What are the people like? What are the cities like? What is the fruit like?” And here are some report guidelines: Do not rebel against Yahweh! Do not fear the people of the land! And always remember, Yahweh is with you and against them! Then, with all that information, make a simple choice—determine if are you able or are not able to take the land and receive the promises of God.*

*In the end we discover that there are two spirits in operation here, and one potential snag that could derail the whole thing, the strong desire to preserve ones own life. One spirit says, “we are able!” and the other, “we are not!” One is willing to lose his own life for the sake of God’s promises, the other is all about self-preservation. Which spirit is controlling you?*

### **THEME: MAIN SCRIPTURE(S) THAT HAS INSPIRED MESSAGE**

“Then Caleb quieted the people before Moses, and said, “Let us go up at once and take possession, **for we are well able** to overcome it.” But the men who had gone up with him said, “**We are not able** to go up against the people, for they are stronger than we.” And they gave the children of Israel a bad report of the land which they had spied out, saying, “The land through which we have gone as spies is **a land that devours its inhabitants**, and all the

people whom we saw in it are **men of great stature**. There we saw the giants (the descendants of Anak came from the giants); and **we were like grasshoppers** in our own sight, and so we were in their sight.” Numbers 13:30-33 NKJV

“And all the children of Israel complained against Moses and Aaron, and the whole congregation said to them, **“If only we had died in the land of Egypt!** Or if only we had died in this wilderness! **Why has the LORD brought us to this land to fall by the sword, that our wives and children should become victims?** Would it not be better for us to return to Egypt?” So they said to one another, “Let us select a leader and return to Egypt.”” Numbers 14:2-4 NKJV

#### **OUTCOME: MAIN TAKEAWAY(S) I AM HOPING FOR PEOPLE**

“But **My servant Caleb**, because he **has a different spirit in him** and has followed Me fully, I will bring into the land where he went, and his descendants shall inherit it.” Numbers 14:24 NKJV

“Then He said to them all, “If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow Me. **For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake will save it.**” Luke 9:23-24 NKJV

“And I say to you, My friends, **do not be afraid of those who kill the body**, and after that have no more that they can do. But I will show you whom you should fear: **Fear Him who, after He has**

**killed, has power to cast into hell; yes, I say to you, fear Him!”**

Luke 12:4-5 NKJV

“Now the men whom Moses sent to spy out the land, who returned and made all the congregation complain against him by bringing a bad report of the land, **those very men who brought the evil report about the land, died by the plague before the LORD.** But **Joshua the son of Nun and Caleb the son of Jephunneh remained alive**, of the men who went to spy out the land.”

Numbers 14:36-38 NKJV

“He who **loves his life** will lose it, and he **who hates his life** in this world will keep it for eternal life.” John 12:25 NKJV

## Let's Set the Scene: Portion in a blurb

1. This week's reading tells of how twelve men crossed into the Promised Land as spies for a 40 day reconnaissance mission, and unfortunately includes how ten of them exercised terrible judgment. It reports the tragic story of how these ten spies returned with a bad report and how that report inspired fear in the people and subsequently influenced them to rebel against Yahweh.
2. As a result, God turned the people back into the wilderness to wander for 40 years, one year for each day the spies were in the

land. The entire generation of Moses would wander an additional thirty-nine years, as they had already been in the wilderness for one year. And, every adult twenty and over, except the two spies who refused to bring a bad report, would die in the wilderness before ever seeing the Land of Promise.

3. The final chapter of the portion reviews or introduces various laws.

### **Chapter 13**

#### **4. Spies Sent into Canaan:**

- (a) Yahweh tells Moses to send one man from each tribe (12 men) to spy out the land of Canaan. He then names all 12 men. Of special interest are:

- 1) Caleb from the tribe of Judah
- 2) Hoshea (who Moses called Joshua) from the tribe of Ephraim

#### **5. Here's the assignment (Be of good courage!):**

- (a) Are the people strong or weak, few or many?
  - (b) Is the land good or bad, rich or poor?
  - (c) Are the cities like camps or strongholds?
  - (d) Are there forests or not?
  - (e) And...bring back some of the fruit of the land.
6. They entered the land and came to a place in which the descendants of Anak (giants) dwelled.

7. One cluster of grapes was so large that it had to be carried by two men on a pole.
8. **They returned after forty days with this information report:**
  - (a) The land truly flows with milk and honey, and abundant fruit.
  - (b) The people are strong.
  - (c) The cities are fortified and very large.
  - (d) These are the people who dwell in the land: descendants of Anak, plus the Amalekites, Hittites, Jebusites, Amorites, and Canaanites.
9. **These are the two reports assessing that information:**
  - (a) A good report by Caleb:
    - 1) “Let us go up at once and take possession, for we are well able to overcome it.”
  - (b) A bad report by the other ten men (except Joshua):
    - 1) “We are not able to go up against the people, for they are stronger than we.”
    - 2) “The land devours its inhabitants.”
    - 3) “The men are of great stature (giants—the descendants of Anak).”
    - 4) “We were like grasshoppers in our own sight, and so we were in their sight.”

## **Chapter 14**

### **10. The Outcome of the Reports:**

- (a) The people weep all night and then complain.
- (b) They refuse to enter Canaan.
- (c) "If only we had died in the land of Egypt!"
- (d) "If only we had died in this wilderness!"
- (e) "Why has Yahweh brought us to this land to fall by the sword, that our wives and children should become victims?"
- (f) "Would it not be better for us to return to Egypt?"
- (g) "Let us select a leader and return to Egypt."

**11. Then Joshua and Caleb weighed in and give their assessment:**

- (a) "The land is an exceedingly good land."
- (b) "If Yahweh delights in us, then He will bring us into this land and give it to us."
- (c) "Do not rebel against the LORD."
- (d) "Do not fear the people of the land."
- (e) "Those people are our bread."
- (f) "Their protection has departed from them."
- (g) "The LORD is, instead, with us."

**12. The people's choice:**

- (a) We have decided to believe the bad report (from the 10 faithless spies).
- (b) Let's go ahead stone the two guys (faithful Joshua and Caleb), who brought the good report.

**13. Yahweh is NOT happy!**

- (a) "How long will these people reject Me?"
- (b) "How long will they not believe Me, with all the signs which I have performed among them?"
- (c) "I will strike them with the pestilence and disinherit them."
- (d) "I will make of you (Moses) a nation greater and mightier than they."

**14. Moses must step in and intercede for the people:**

- (a) "The Egyptians will hear what You did to them and inform the inhabitants of this land."
- (b) "They know that You are among these people, and You lead them in a pillar of cloud by day and in a pillar of fire by night."
- (c) "If You kill these people altogether, the nations which have heard of Your fame will just conclude that You were not able to bring this people into the land which You swore to give them (not capable of making good on Your promise)."
- (d) "I pray, let the power of my Lord be great, just as You have spoken...but also be patient and abundant in mercy, forgiving their iniquity and transgression!"
- (e) "I know there is a cost to pay, even for the children three and four generations later."
- (f) "But, please show mercy, just as You have forgiven them many times since they left Egypt."



### 15. **Yahweh's Response:**

- (a) "I have pardoned them, according to your word."
- (b) "However, after all these people have seen, and still put Me to the test ten times, and have not heeded My voice, there has to be some consequence."
- (c) "I won't kill them all right now, but they certainly shall not see the land of which I swore to their fathers."
- (d) "Except My servant Caleb (and Joshua), because he has a different spirit in him and has followed Me fully. He will go into the land, and his descendants shall inherit it."

### 16. **Death Sentence for the Rebels:**

- (a) "The carcasses of you who have complained against Me shall fall in this wilderness, from twenty years old and above."
- (b) Except for Caleb and Joshua.
- (c) "But your little ones, whom you said would be victims, I will bring in to the land."
- (d) "According to the number of the days in which you spied out the land, forty days, for each day you shall bear your guilt one year." (You will wander the Wilderness 39 more years!)
- (e) The men who gave the evil report that made the people complain died by the plague.
- (f) But, Joshua the son of Nun and Caleb the son of Jephunneh remained alive, of the men who went to spy out the land.

## **17. A Futile Invasion Attempt:**

- (a) The people mourned over the sentence and decide to just enter the land of their own free will!
- (b) Moses warns them that because Yahweh does not approve, it will not succeed and they will be defeated by their enemies.
  - 1) “You shall fall by the sword; because you have turned away from Yahweh.”
- (c) They go for it anyway and neither the ark of the covenant nor Moses join them. And, of course, they are driven back in great defeat!

## **Chapter 15**

### **18. Laws of Grain and Drink Offerings:**

- (a) The rules for grain and drink offerings are reviewed for when they come into the land (for burnt offerings and sacrifices, vows and freewill offerings, and for appointed feasts).
- (b) These laws apply to the native-born and the stranger alike—one ordinance (one law and one custom), for both, forever.

### **19. Laws Regarding Unintentional Sin:**

- (a) If sin is unintentionally committed, without the knowledge of the congregation, once discovered, the whole congregation shall make the proper offering (as explained).
- (b) The priest shall make atonement for the whole congregation and it shall be forgiven, for it was unintentional.

- (c) Again, this one law applies to both the native-born and the stranger who dwells among them.

## **20. Laws Regarding Presumptuous Sin:**

- (a) If the sin is intentional (done presumptuously), he shall be cut off from among his people, because he has despised the word of Yahweh and His commands.
- (b) Once again, this one law applies to both the native-born and the stranger who dwells among them.

## **21. Penalty for Violating the Sabbath:**

- (a) "The person must surely be put to death; all the congregation shall stone him with stones outside the camp."

## **22. Tassels on Garments:**

- (a) "Make tassels on the corners of your garments and put a blue thread in the tassels."
- (b) Why? "So, when you look upon them you will remember all the commandments of the LORD and do them."

## SENT & ASSIGNED

### 1. On a Mission

#### A. 12 Spies (Leaders)

(1) Send 12 Leaders on a reconnaissance mission to preview the Land...

(a) “And the LORD spoke to Moses, saying, “Send men **to spy out the land of Canaan, which I am giving** to the children of Israel; from each tribe of their fathers you shall send a man, **every one a leader** among them.””  
Numbers 13:1-2 NKJV

(b) “Then Moses **sent them** to spy out the land of Canaan, and said to them, “Go up this way into the South, and go up to the mountains, and **see what the land is like:** ...” Numbers 13:17-18 NKJV

(2) Now these were their names...

(a) “So Moses sent them from the Wilderness of Paran according to the command of the LORD, all of them men who were heads of the children of Israel. Now **these were their names...** (all 12 are named) ...

Numbers 13:3-15 NKJV

1. Of special Interest: from the **tribe of Judah, Caleb** the son of Jephunneh; from the **tribe of Ephraim, Hoshea [who Moses called Joshua]** the son of Nun...

## **B. 12 Disciples (Leaders)**

(1) Send 12 disciples on a reconnaissance mission to preview the Kingdom...

(a) “And when He had called **His twelve disciples** to Him, He gave them power over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal all kinds of sickness and all kinds of disease.” Matthew 10:1 NKJV

(b) “And as you **go, preach**, saying, ‘**The kingdom of heaven is at hand.**’” Matthew 10:7 NKJV

(2) Now these were their names...

(a) “Now the names of the twelve apostles are these:... (all 12 named in Matthew 10:2-4)

## **C. Promises and Perspectives; Instructions and Guidelines (for the 12 Spies)**

(1) Before...

(a) “These are the names of the men whom Moses sent to spy out the land. And **Moses called Hoshea the son of Nun, Joshua.** Then Moses sent them to spy out the land of Canaan, and said to them, “Go up this way into the South, and go up to the mountains, **and see what the land is like: whether the people who dwell in it are strong or weak, few or many; whether the land they dwell in is good or bad; whether the cities they inhabit**

**are like camps or strongholds; whether the land is rich or poor; and whether there are forests there or not.** Be of good courage. And **bring some of the fruit** of the land.” Now the time was the season of the first ripe grapes.” Numbers 13:16-20 NKJV

1. Are the people strong or weak, few or many?
2. Is the land good or bad, rich or poor?
3. Are the cities like camps or strongholds?
4. Are there forests or not?
5. And...bring back some of the fruit of the land.

(2) After...

(a) **A checklist of proper perspectives—FIVE THINGS!**

“But Joshua the son of Nun and Caleb the son of Jephunneh, who were among those who had spied out the land, tore their clothes; and they spoke to all the congregation of the children of Israel, saying: **“The land we passed through to spy out is an exceedingly good land.** If the LORD delights in us, then **He will bring us into this land and give it to us,** ‘a land which flows with milk and honey.’ **Only do not rebel** against the LORD, **nor fear** the people of the land, for **they are our bread; their protection has departed** from them, and **the**

**LORD is with us.** Do not fear them.” Numbers 14:6-9

NKJV

1. “The land is exceedingly good.”
2. “He will bring us into this land and give it to us.”
3. “Do not rebel against the LORD.”
4. “Do not fear the people of the land.”
5. “Their protection has departed from them and Yahweh is, instead, with us.”

**D. Promises and Perspectives; Instructions and Guidelines (for the 12 Disciples)**

(1) Do and do not!

- (a) “These twelve Jesus sent out and commanded them, saying: **“Do not go into the way of the Gentiles, and do not enter a city of the Samaritans. But go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. And as you go, preach, saying, ‘The kingdom of heaven is at hand.’ Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out demons.** Freely you have received, freely give.”

Matthew 10:5-8 NKJV

1. “Do not go the way of the Gentiles.”
2. “Do not enter a city of the Samaritans.”
3. “Go to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.”
4. “Preach, that the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

5. "Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out demons."

(2) Beware but don't worry!

(a) ""Behold, I send you out as sheep in the midst of wolves. Therefore **be wise as serpents and harmless as doves.** But **beware of men, for they will deliver you up** to councils and scourge you in their synagogues. You will be brought before governors and kings for My sake, as a testimony to them and to the Gentiles. But when they deliver you up, **do not worry about how or what you should speak.** For it will be given to you in that hour what you should speak; for it is not you who speak, **but the Spirit of your Father who speaks in you.**"  
Matthew 10:16-20 NKJV

(b) ""**Whatever I tell you in the dark, speak in the light;** and **what you hear in the ear, preach on the housetops.** And **do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul.** But rather fear Him who is able to destroy both **soul and body** in hell." Matthew 10:27-28 NKJV

1. "Be wise as serpents and harmless as doves."

2. "Beware of men who will deliver you up."

3. "Do not worry about how or what you should speak."

4. Know... "The Spirit of your Father speaks in you."



5. "Speak in the light!"
6. "Preach from the housetops!"
7. "Don't fear those who cannot destroy soul and body!"

(3) Other perspectives and assignments...

- (a) "Then He called His twelve disciples together and **gave them power and authority over all demons**, and to **cure diseases**. He sent them to **preach the kingdom of God and to heal the sick**. And He said to them, "**Take nothing for the journey**, neither **staves nor bag nor bread nor money**; and do not have two tunics apiece. "Whatever house you enter, stay there, and from there depart. And **whoever will not receive you**, when you go out of that city, shake off the very dust from your feet as a testimony against them." So they departed and went through the towns, preaching the gospel and healing everywhere." Luke 9:1-6 NKJV

(4) Mark's Perspective

- (a) "And He called the twelve to Himself, and began to send them out two by two, and gave them power over unclean spirits. He commanded them to take nothing for the journey except a staff—no bag, no bread, no copper in their money belts— but to wear sandals, and

not to put on two tunics. Also He said to them, “In whatever place you enter a house, stay there till you depart from that place. And whoever will not receive you nor hear you, when you depart from there, shake off the dust under your feet as a testimony against them. Assuredly, **I say to you, it will be more tolerable for Sodom and Gomorrah in the day of judgment than for that city!**” So they went out and **preached that people should repent.** And they cast out many demons, and anointed with oil many who were sick, and healed them.” Mark 6:7-13 NKJV

1. You have power and authority over all demons, and to cure diseases.
2. Preach the kingdom of God and to heal the sick.
3. Take nothing for the journey, neither staffs nor bag nor bread nor money...
4. If someone will not receive you, shake off the very dust from your feet as a testimony against them.
5. It will be more tolerable for Sodom and Gomorrah in the day of judgment than for that city!
6. Preached everywhere that people should repent.

## Summary: SENT & ASSIGNED

1. Moses sent 12 Leaders on a reconnaissance mission to preview the Land...
2. Y'shua sent 12 disciples on a reconnaissance mission to preview the Kingdom...
3. The 12 spies were given promises, instructions, and guidelines and returned with perspectives and reports.
4. The 12 disciples were given promises, instructions, and guidelines and returned with perspectives and reports.

## REPORTS & EXCUSES

### 2. You've had a look at what's out there, what say you?

#### A. Report time—just the facts...

- (1) They brought back a word and showed the fruit
  - (a) "Now they departed and came back to Moses and Aaron and all the congregation of the children of Israel in the Wilderness of Paran, at Kadesh; they **brought back word** to them and to all the congregation, and **showed them the fruit** of the land." Numbers 13:26 NKJV
- (2) The land is good and we saw...
  - (a) "Then they told him, and said: "We went to the land where you sent us. **It truly flows with milk and honey,**

and this is its fruit. **Nevertheless the people who dwell in the land are strong; the cities are fortified and very large;** moreover **we saw the descendants of Anak** there. The **Amalekites** dwell in the land of the South; the **Hittites**, the **Jebusites**, and the **Amorites** dwell in the mountains; and the **Canaanites** dwell by the sea and along the banks of the Jordan.”” Numbers 13:27-29 NKJV

1. The land truly flows with milk and honey, and abundant fruit.
2. The people are strong.
3. The cities are fortified and very large.
4. These are the people who dwell in the land: descendants of Anak, plus the Amalekites, Hittites, Jebusites, Amorites, and Canaanites

## **B. We are not able!**

(1) The ten...

- (a) “But the men who had gone up with him said, “**We are not able** to go up against the people, for they are stronger than we.”” Numbers 13:31 NKJV

(2) A bad report...

- (a) “And they gave the children of Israel a **bad report** of the land which they had spied out, saying, “The land

through which we have gone as spies is a land that **devours its inhabitants**, and all the people whom we saw in it are men of great stature.” Numbers 13:32  
NKJV

(b) “There we saw the giants (the descendants of Anak came from the giants); and **we were like grasshoppers in our own sight**, and so we were **in their sight.**”  
Numbers 13:33 NKJV

1. “We are not able to go up against the people, for they are stronger than we.”
2. “The land devours its inhabitants.”
3. “The men are of great stature (giants—the descendants of Anak).”
4. “We were like grasshoppers in our own sight, and so we were in their sight.”

### **C. We are able!**

(1) A good report...

- (a) “Then Caleb quieted the people before Moses, and said, “Let us go up at once and take possession, for **we are well able** to overcome it.”” Numbers 13:30 NKJV
- (b) “But Joshua the son of Nun and Caleb the son of Jephunneh, who were among those who had spied out the land, tore their clothes; and they spoke to all the

congregation of the children of Israel, saying: “The land we passed through to spy out is an exceedingly good land. **If the Lord delights in us, then He will bring us into this land and give it to us,** ‘a land which flows with milk and honey.’” Numbers 14:6-8 NKJV

1. Let’s go take possession right now!
2. We are able to overcome all obstacles!
3. If Yahweh delights in us (and we know He does), then He will bring us into this land and give it to us.
4. So, this is a no-brainer; we got this!

### **Summary:** REPORTS & EXCUSES

1. The first part of the report, after returning from spying, was just the facts, no opinions.
2. Then we see two perspectives about those facts:
  - a) one perspective from 10 spies who said, “We are not able to take the land.”
  - b) the other perspective from Caleb and Joshua who said, “We are certainly able!”

## SPIRIT & SPIRIT

### 3. Two Vantage Points

#### A. One spirit...

(1) We saw the giants...

(a) "There we saw the giants ( the descendants of Anak came from the giants); and **we were like grasshoppers in our own sight**, and so we were **in their sight.**"

Numbers 13:33 NKJV

(2) Fear, Amnesia, Regret, Rebellion, Obstinance, and Insistence

(a) **FEAR:** "So all the congregation lifted up their voices and **cried**, and the people **wept** that night." Numbers 14:1 NKJV

(b) **AMNESIA:** "And all the children of Israel complained against Moses and Aaron, and the whole congregation said to them, "**If only we had died in the land of Egypt!** Or if only **we had died in this wilderness!**" Numbers 14:2 NKJV

(c) **REGRET:** "**Why has the LORD brought us to this land** to fall by the sword, that our wives and children should become victims? **Would it not be better for us to return to Egypt?**" Numbers 14:3 NKJV

- (d) **REBELLION:** “So they said to one another, “**Let us select a leader** and return to Egypt.”” Numbers 14:4 NKJV
- (e) **OBSTINANCE:** After Joshua and Caleb said, “*He will bring us into this land and give it to us*”) “And all the congregation said to **stone them** with stones. Now the glory of the LORD appeared in the tabernacle of meeting before all the children of Israel.” Numbers 14:10 NKJV
- (f) **INSISTENCE:** After Moses announces the penalty for their faithlessness... “*But as for you, your carcasses shall fall in this wilderness. And your sons shall be shepherds in the wilderness forty years, and bear the brunt of your infidelity, until your carcasses are consumed in the wilderness.*” Numbers 14:32-33 “And they rose early in the morning and went up to the top of the mountain, saying, “**Here we are, and we will go up to the place which the Lord has promised,** for we have sinned!”” Numbers 14:40 NKJV

## **B. A different Spirit**

(1) Following Fully!

- (a) “But **My servant Caleb**, because he **has a different spirit in him** and has followed Me fully, I will bring into the



land where he went, and his descendants shall inherit it." Numbers 14:24 NKJV

(2) It's up to Yahweh, and He is on our side...

(a) "But Joshua the son of Nun and Caleb the son of Jephunneh, who were among those who had spied out the land, tore their clothes; and they spoke to all the congregation of the children of Israel, saying: **"The land we passed through to spy out is an exceedingly good land. If the LORD delights in us, then He will bring us into this land and give it to us, 'a land which flows with milk and honey.' Only do not rebel against the LORD, nor fear the people of the land, for **they are our bread; their protection has departed** from them, and the LORD is with us.**"" Numbers 14:6-9 NKJV

(b) **He will bring us into this land and give it to us, ONLY...**

1. "DO NOT rebel against the LORD."
2. "DO NOT fear the people of the land."
3. "ACKNOWLEDGE that their protection has departed from them and Yahweh is, instead, with you."

C. Consequences and Intercession— *“Then Moses and Aaron fell on their faces before all the assembly of the congregation of the children of Israel.”* Numbers 14:5 NKJV

(1) Consequences

(a) **Yahweh brings the Hammer! THREE THINGS: “Then the LORD said to Moses: “How long will these people reject Me? And how long will they not believe Me, with all the signs which I have performed among them? I will strike them with the pestilence and disinherit them, and I will make of you a nation greater and mightier than they.””** Numbers 14:11-12 NKJV

1. Yahweh will strike them with the pestilence and disinherit them.
2. Yahweh will make (Moses) a nation greater and mightier than they.

(2) Moses’ intercession and his reasoning—

(a) “And Moses said to the LORD: **“Then the Egyptians will hear it,** for by Your might You brought these people up from among them, and **they will tell it to the inhabitants of this land.** They have heard that You, LORD, are among these people; that You, LORD, are seen face to face and Your cloud stands above them,

and You go before them in a pillar of cloud by day and in a pillar of fire by night.” Numbers 14:13-14 NKJV

(b) “Now if You kill these people as one man, then the nations which have heard of Your fame will speak, saying, ‘**Because the LORD was not able** to bring this people to the land which He swore to give them, therefore He killed them in the wilderness.’” Numbers 14:15-16 NKJV

(c) “And **now, I pray**, let the power of my Lord be great, just as You have spoken, saying,” Numbers 14:17 NKJV

(d) ““The LORD is longsuffering and abundant in mercy, forgiving iniquity and transgression; but He by no means clears the guilty, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children to the third and fourth generation. ’ Pardon the iniquity of this people, **I pray, according to the greatness of Your mercy, just as You have forgiven this people**, from Egypt even until now.”” Numbers 14:18-19 NKJV

1. The Egyptians will hear what You did to them and tell the inhabitants of this land.
2. If You kill these people altogether, the nations which have heard of Your fame will just conclude that You

(Yahweh) were not capable of fulfilling Your promises!

3. "I pray, let the power of my Lord be great, just as You have spoken...but also be patient and abundant in mercy, forgiving their iniquity and transgression!"
4. "I know there is a cost to pay, even for the children three and four generations later."
5. "But, please show mercy, just as You have forgiven them many times since they, left Egypt."

**D. Yahweh relents—but not without a price to pay!**

(1) Okay Moses—according to your word!

- (a) "Then the LORD said: "**I have pardoned, according to your word;**" Numbers 14:20 NKJV

(2) However...

- (a) I "but truly, as I live, all the earth shall be filled with the glory of the LORD — **because all these men who have seen My glory and the signs which I did in Egypt** and in the wilderness, and have put Me to the test now these **ten times**, and have not heeded My voice, **they certainly shall not see the land of which I swore to their fathers**, nor shall any of those who rejected Me see it." Numbers 14:21-23 NKJV

(b) **“According to the number of the days** in which you spied out the land, forty days, for each day **you shall bear your guilt one year, namely forty years,** and you shall know My rejection. I the LORD have spoken this. I will surely do so to all this evil congregation who are gathered together against Me. In this wilderness they shall be consumed, and there they shall die.’ ””

Numbers 14:34-35 NKJV

(3) The Exceptions...

(a) “Now the men whom Moses sent to spy out the land, who returned and made all the congregation complain against him by bringing a bad report of the land, **those very men who brought the evil report about the land, died by the plague before the LORD.** But **Joshua the son of Nun and Caleb the son of Jephunneh remained alive,** of the men who went to spy out the land.”

Numbers 14:36-38 NKJV

1. Yahweh pardoned them as per Moses’ request.
2. However, there has to be some consequence.
3. “I won’t kill them all right now, but they certainly shall not see the land of which I swore to their fathers.”

4. They all will wander in the wilderness 39 additional years, until all who rebelled have died (all those 20 and over at the time of the bad report).
5. “Except My servant Caleb (and Joshua), because he has a different spirit in him and has followed Me fully. He [they] will go into the land, and his descendants shall inherit it.”

**E. Who has believed the good report?**

- (1) “Who has believed our report? And to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed?” Isaiah 53:1 NKJV
  - (a) “Then **the seventy returned with joy, saying**, “Lord, **even the demons are subject to us in Your name.**” And He said to them, “I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven. Behold, I give you the authority to trample on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall by any means hurt you.” Luke 10:17-19 NKJV
- (2) Who has NOT believed the good report?
  - (a) “For **who, having heard, rebelled?** Indeed, was it not all who came out of Egypt, led by Moses? Now with whom was He angry forty years? Was it not with those who sinned, whose corpses fell in the wilderness? And to whom did He swear that they would not enter His rest,

but to those who did not **obey**? So we see that they could not enter in because of **unbelief**.” Hebrews 3:16-19 NKJV

- (3) Those who believed the bad report would simply not enter!
- (a) “Therefore, since a promise remains of entering His rest, let us fear lest any of you seem to have come short of it. For indeed the gospel was preached to us as well as to them; but the word which they heard did not profit them, **not being mixed with faith in those who heard it**. For we who have believed do enter that rest, as He has said: “So I swore in My wrath, ‘They shall not enter My rest,’ ” although the works were finished from the foundation of the world. For He has spoken in a certain place of the seventh day in this way: “And God rested on the seventh day from all His works”; and again in this place: “They shall not enter My rest.” Since therefore it remains that some must enter it, and those to whom it was first preached did not enter because of disobedience, again He designates a certain day, saying in David, “Today,” after such a long time, as it has been said: “Today, if you will hear His voice, Do not harden your hearts.” For if Joshua had given them rest, then He

would not afterward have spoken of another day. There remains therefore a rest for the people of God. For he who has entered His rest has himself also ceased from his works as God did from His. {v. 11} Let us therefore be diligent to enter that rest, lest anyone fall according to **the same example of disobedience**. For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart. And there is no creature hidden from His sight, but all things are naked and open to the eyes of Him to whom we must give account.” Hebrews 4:1-13 NKJV

1. Obedience = Faith
2. God’s promises will be unprofitable if they are not mixed with faith.
3. Warning: Today, I pray that you do not suffer the same example of disobedience!

#### F. **Saving and losing**

- (1) If you try to save your life you will lose it!
  - (a) “Then He said to them all, “**If anyone desires** to come after Me, let him **deny himself**, and **take up his cross daily**, and follow Me. For **whoever desires to save his**



**life will lose it, but whoever loses his life** for My sake will save it.” Luke 9:-23-24 NKJV (also Mark 8:34-35)

(b) “Now the men whom Moses sent to spy out the land, who returned and made all the congregation complain against him by bringing a bad report of the land, **those very men who brought the evil report about the land, died by the plague before the Lord.** But Joshua the son of Nun and Caleb the son of Jephunneh remained alive, of the men who went to spy out the land.” Numbers 14:36-38 NKJV

(2) Do NOT FEAR those who can kill the body!

(a) ““And I say to you, My friends, **do not be afraid of those who kill the body**, and after that have no more that they can do. But I will show you whom you should fear: Fear Him who, after He has killed, has power to cast into hell; yes, I say to you, fear Him!” Luke 12:4-5 NKJV

(b) ““Whatever I tell you in the dark, speak in the light; and what you hear in the ear, preach on the housetops. And **do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul.** But rather fear Him who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell.” Matthew 10:27-28 NKJV

(3) Remember Lot’s wife?

- (a) ““In that day, he who is on the housetop, and his goods are in the house, let him not come down to take them away. And likewise the one who is in the field, let him not turn back. **Remember Lot’s wife. Whoever seeks to save his life will lose it,** and whoever loses his life will preserve it.” Luke 17:31-33 NKJV
- (4) Not Peace but a Sword
- (a) ““Do not think that I came to bring peace on earth. **I did not come to bring peace but a sword. For I have come to ‘set** a man against his father, a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law’; and ‘a man’s enemies will be those of his own household.’ **He who loves** father or mother more than Me is not worthy of Me. **And he who loves** son or daughter more than Me is not worthy of Me. And he who does not take his cross and follow after Me is not worthy of Me. **He who finds his life will lose it, and he who loses his life for My sake will find it.**” Matthew 10:34-39 NKJV
- (5) Unless a grain of wheat falls into the ground and dies
- (a) “But Jesus answered them, saying, “The hour has come that the Son of Man should be glorified. Most assuredly, I say to you, **unless a grain of wheat falls into the**

**ground and dies, it remains alone;** but if it dies, it produces much grain. {v. 25} **He who loves his life will lose it, and he who hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life.** If anyone serves Me, let him follow Me; and where I am, there My servant will be also. If anyone serves Me, him My Father will honor.” John 12:23-26 NKJV

(6) In the End!

(a) [And to the angel of the church in Smyrna write... Revelation 2:8-9]“Do not fear any of those things which you are about to suffer. Indeed, the devil is about to throw some of you into prison, that you may be tested, and you will have tribulation ten days. **Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life.**” Revelation 2:10 NKJV

1. If anyone desires to come after Yahshua, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily.
2. Whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life will save it.
3. Those very men who brought the evil report about the land, died by the plague before the Lord. But Joshua the son of Nun and Caleb the son of Jephunneh remained alive.

4. Do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul.
5. Remember Lot's wife. Whoever seeks to save his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life will preserve it.
6. Do not think that He came to bring peace on earth. He did not come to bring peace but a sword. For He has come to 'set a man against ... He who loves [anything]... more than He is not worthy of Him.
7. He who finds his life will lose it, and he who loses his life will find it.
8. Unless a grain of wheat falls into the ground and dies, it remains alone [same goes for disciples].
9. He who loves his life will lose it, and he who hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life.
10. Be faithful until death, and He will give you the crown of life.

## **G. Obstinance and End-arounds**

### (1) Obstinate

(a) determined to have your own way no matter what....

1. **Don't like the message, kill the messenger!** "And all the congregation said to **stone them** with stones. Now the glory of the LORD appeared in the

tabernacle of meeting before all the children of Israel.” Numbers 14:10 NKJV

(2) The End-around

(a) a solution to a problem that avoids the problem rather than dealing with it directly...

1. “Then Moses told these words to all the children of Israel, and the people mourned greatly. And they rose early in the morning and went up to the top of the mountain, saying, “**Here we are, and we will go up to the place which the Lord has promised, for we have sinned!**” And Moses said, “Now why do you transgress the command of the Lord? For this will not succeed. **Do not go up, lest you be defeated by your enemies,** for the Lord is not among you. For the Amalekites and the Canaanites are there before you, and you shall fall by the sword; because you have turned away from the Lord, the Lord will not be with you.” **But they presumed to go up to the mountaintop.** Nevertheless, neither the ark of the covenant of the Lord nor Moses departed from the camp. Then the Amalekites and the Canaanites who dwelt in that mountain came down and attacked

them, and **drove them back** as far as" Numbers  
14:39-45 NKJV

## H. Presumptuous Sin—The Story of Us—Today if you hear His voice

### (1) Intentional (presumptuous) Sin

- (a) "But the person who does **anything presumptuously**, whether he is native-born or a stranger, that one brings reproach on the LORD, and he **shall be cut off from among his people. Because he has despised the word of the LORD, and has broken His commandment**, that person shall be completely cut off; his guilt shall be upon him.' "" Numbers 15:30-31 NKJV

### (2) The Blood

- (a) "For if the blood of bulls and goats and the ashes of a heifer, sprinkling the unclean, sanctifies for the purifying of the flesh, **how much more shall the blood of Christ**, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without spot to God, **cleanse your conscience from dead works** to serve the living God?" Hebrews 9:13-14 NKJV
- (b) "Therefore not even the first covenant was dedicated without blood. For when Moses had spoken every precept to all the people according to the law, he took the blood of calves and goats, with water, scarlet wool,

and hyssop, and sprinkled both the book itself and all the people, saying, "This is the blood of the covenant which God has commanded you." Then likewise he sprinkled with blood both the tabernacle and all the vessels of the ministry. And according to the law almost all things are purified with blood, and **without shedding of blood there is no remission. Therefore it was necessary that the copies of the things in the heavens should be purified with these, but the heavenly things themselves with better sacrifices** than these." Hebrews 9:18-23 NKJV

(3) Willful Sin—Trampling the Blood

- (a) **"For if we sin willfully after we have received the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins,** but a certain fearful expectation of judgment, and fiery indignation which will devour the adversaries. Anyone who has rejected Moses' law dies without mercy on the testimony of two or three witnesses. Of how much worse punishment, do you suppose, will he be thought worthy who has trampled the Son of God underfoot, **counted the blood of the covenant by which he was sanctified a common thing,**

and insulted the Spirit of grace?" Hebrews 10:26-29  
NKJV

1. **Obstinate:** determined to have your own way no matter what....
2. Don't like the message, kill the messenger!
3. **The End-around:** a solution to a problem that avoids the problem rather than dealing with it directly...we will go up to the place which the Lord has promised regardless of what we did and regardless of what Yahweh said!
4. **Intentional (presumptuous) Sin:** cut off because you have despised the word of the LORD, and have broken His commandment.
5. Without shedding of blood there is no remission. Therefore, it is necessary that the copies of the things in the heavens should be purified the same way!
6. If we sin willfully after we have received the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins.
7. Willful sin is as if we have counted the blood of the covenant by which we are sanctified (Y'shua's blood) a common thing, and have insulted the Spirit of grace?



## **Summary: SPIRIT & SPIRIT**

1. Two perspectives come from two different spirits.
2. One spirit sees the giants in the land and operates in fear, amnesia, regret, rebellion, obstinance, and insistence. This is the faithless spirit of “self-preservation!”
3. The other spirit simply believes Yahweh will do what He says He will do. This is the faithful spirit of “die to self!”
4. There are consequences for lack of faith which is equated to disobedience.
5. There are rewards from faith which is equated to obedience.
6. The bottom line is this: If you try to save your life you will lose it and if you are willing to lose your life you will save it!
7. It’s like a grain of wheat; it must die in the ground to multiply, but if you never plant it, it remains alone (fruitless).
8. In the End! “Be faithful until death, and He will give you the crown of life.”
9. Obstinate: determined to have your own way no matter what....
10. The End-around: a solution to a problem that avoids the problem rather than dealing with it directly...
11. Today if you are put in the same situation, make the right choice!
12. And remember: if you sin willfully after you have received the knowledge of the truth, there is no sacrifice for sins.

13. Willful sin is like trampling on the blood of Y'shua and insulting the Spirit of grace!

## QUESTIONS & DISCUSSION

- 1. One year after the Exodus, Israel had arrived at the shore of the Jordan. Before they could go into the Land of Promise, twelve spies (one leader from each tribe), were sent in on a reconnaissance mission:**
  - A. What things were they told to assess?
  - B. What guidelines were they to keep in mind as they formulated their answers?
- 2. When the spies returned, there was a discrepancy in their reports:**
  - A. Ten spies came back and said what?
  - B. Caleb and Joshua offered what differing assessment?
  - C. What did the people want to do to Caleb and Joshua because of their report?
- 3. What was the reason given for Caleb's point of view?**
- 4. The ten spies who gave a bad report were doing so for what reasons?**
  - A. What was their ultimate consequence?

B. How does this relate to Y'shua's teachings in: John 12:25;  
Luke 12:4-5; Luke 9:23-24?

**5. After the bad report, Yahweh was ready to severely punish Israel for their complaining and desire to go back to Egypt:**

A. What did Moses do in response?

B. How did Yahweh respond to Moses?

C. Instead of the more severe consequence, what punishment did Yahweh issue?

**6. The people did not initially accept God's consequence:**

A. What did they do as an end-around?

B. How did it work out for them?

**7. Immediately after the people's unsuccessful attempt to subvert Yahweh's punishment, we see a lesson about presumptuous (willful) sin in Numbers 15:30-31:**

A. Read Hebrews 10:26-29

B. Discuss sinning willfully after receiving the knowledge of the truth.

C. How does willful sin "trample on the blood of Y'shua and insult the Spirit of grace?"