

November 23<sup>rd</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup>, 2024

## ***The Blessing of Being Led by the Right Spirit***

*“But my servant Caleb, because he has a different spirit and has followed me fully, I will bring into the land which he entered, and his descendants shall take possession of it.” -  
Numbers 14:24*

There are different spirits by which we can be led. What Spirit are you being led by?

### **Led by a spirit of un-thankfulness**

↪ (Grumbling) God Himself calls grumbling “rebellion,” “rejection,” “despising Me,” “complaining about misfortunes,” and “grumbling—*against Me*.”

📖 Numbers 11:18-20

- ◆ God has a serious “complaints department”: God sent a plague, a fire, the ground opened, and an entire generation failed to enter.
- ◆ Moses straightens out where complaints are being directed.

*Exodus 16:8 “And Moses said, ‘When the LORD gives you in the evening meat to eat and in the morning bread to the full, because the LORD has heard your grumbling that you grumble against him—what are we? Your grumbling is not against us but against the LORD.’”*

- ◆ God’s provision has been called meager before, and people will continue to think of Christ as meager provision. But He is the “bread” that sustains us to the completion of the promised rest.

*John 6:41 “So the Jews grumbled about Him, because He said, ‘I am the bread that came down from heaven.’”*

📖 Numbers 14:28-30

*Psalms 25:10 “All the paths of the LORD are steadfast love and faithfulness, for those who keep His covenant and His testimonies.”*

### **Led by a spirit of delusion**

↪ Delusion comes by replacing what God has said and done with forgetful fear. The Israelites were right at the edge of the promised land when the idea of “meager provision” grew to be “non-provision”.

*Numbers 14:2b-4 “... ‘Would that we had died in the land of Egypt! Or would that we had died in this wilderness! Why is the LORD bringing us into this land, to fall by the sword? Our wives and our little ones will become a prey. Would it not be better for us to go back to Egypt?’ And they said to one another, ‘Let us choose a leader and go back to Egypt.’”*

📖 Exodus 3:7-10

- ◆ God himself was opposed to his people being enticed back to Egypt. It wasn’t where *He* was leading them. He had to deal directly with those spreading delusions among his people.
- ◆ God Himself had decimated Egypt and given all its goods to Israel.
- ◆ The delusion is “there is something for us in “Egypt.” God uses this picture to explain what we have been released from in our former life of slavery to sin. There is nothing left of value; it is plundered. We can only

move ahead to follow Christ, even if provision seems meager; it is what *He* provides as He leads us to rest from our enemies (our sin). He will deal with delusions that distract His children.

*Romans 6:6-7* “We know that our old self was crucified with Him in order that the body of sin might be brought to nothing, so that we would no longer be enslaved to sin. For one who has died has been set free from sin.”

➤ God’s trajectory for us is to bring us forward from our enemies.

*Philippians 3:13b-14* “...But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.”

### Led by a spirit of unbelief

↳ They gave a bad report of who the Lord is and what He has done. The consequence was the inability to enter. Entering is for good reports of who God is, what He has said, and what He can do, even if He hasn’t done it yet.

*Numbers 14:11* “And the LORD said to Moses, ‘How long will this people despise Me? And how long will they not believe in Me, in spite of all the signs that I have done among them?’”

*Numbers 14:22-23* “none of the men who have seen My glory and My signs that I did in Egypt and in the wilderness, and yet have put Me to the test these ten times and have not obeyed My voice, shall see the land that I swore to give to their fathers. And none of those who despised Me shall see it.”

### Led by the Holy Spirit!

*Numbers 14:24* “But my servant Caleb, because he has a different spirit and has followed Me fully, I will bring into the land into which he went, and his descendants shall possess it.”

- ◆ Caleb and Joshua are an illustration of Christ, who causes us to enter by His total obedience to the Father.

↳ *Philippians 2:8b* “...[Jesus became] obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.”

- ◆ Caleb is a great picture of being led by the Holy Spirit, giving a good report, reminding others of what God said, and helping until all who will enter is complete. The Holy Spirit always has the victory of Christ in mind.
- ◆ Caleb was patient as they wandered for 40 years, and then was patient as he *helped* his brothers’ and cousins’ children enter their inheritance. He waited for his inheritance until they were all in.
- ◆ Caleb had a different Spirit that enabled him to enter God’s promises; Caleb and Joshua’s obedience enabled the next generation to enter.

*Numbers 13:30* “But Caleb quieted the people before Moses and said, ‘Let us go up at once and occupy it, for we are well able to overcome it.’”

*Numbers 14:24* “But my servant Caleb, because he has a different spirit and has followed me fully, I will bring into the land into which he went, and his descendants shall possess it.”

*Numbers 14:30* “not one shall come into the land where I swore that I would make you dwell, except Caleb the son of Jephunneh and Joshua the son of Nun.”

*Numbers 14:38* “Of those men who went to spy out the land, only Joshua, the son of Nun, and Caleb, the son of Jephunneh, remained alive.”

What are you thankful for? Are you giving a good report of all God has said and is doing?

### Endnotes:

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