PRAYER & FAITH

March 01st 2020



OUR SERIES

o Prayer



TODAY'S TOPIC

• Prayer and Faith

James 1:5-7 If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all men liberally, and reproaches not; and it shall be given him. But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering. For he that wavers is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed. For let not that man think that he shall receive anything of the Lord.

QUESTION

• What does it mean to believe in prayer?



SOME GENERAL ANSWERS

• Faith in prayer is not exactly the same as Saving Faith





• Israel's 1st attempt to enter the promised land



THE SPIES

Numbers 13:1-2 And the LORD spoke unto Moses, saying, Send men, that they may search the land of Canaan, which I give unto the children of Israel: of every tribe of their fathers shall you send a man, every one a leader among them.

THE RETURN OF THE SPIES

Numbers 13:26-29 And they went and came to Moses, and to Aaron, and to all the congregation of the children of Israel, unto the wilderness of Paran, to Kadesh; and brought back word unto them, and unto all the congregation, and showed them the fruit of the land. And they told him, and said, We came unto the land where you sent us, and surely it flows with milk and honey; and this is the fruit of it. Nevertheless the people are strong that dwell in the land, and the cities are walled, and very great: and moreover we saw the children of Anak there. The Amalekites dwell in the land of the south: and the Hittites, and the Jebusites, and the Amorites, dwell in the mountains: and the Canaanites dwell by the sea, and along the Jordan.



Numbers 13:30 And Caleb stilled the people before Moses, and said, Let us go up at once, and possess it; for we are well able to overcome it.

THE OTHER SPIES

Numbers 13:31-33 But the men that went up with him said, We are not able to go up against the people; for they are stronger than we. And they brought up an evil report of the land which they had searched unto the children of Israel, saying, The land, through which we have gone to search it, is a land that eats up its inhabitants; and all the people that we saw in it are men of great stature. And there we saw the giants, the sons of Anak, who come of the giants: and we were in our own sight as grasshoppers, and so we were in their sight.

THE CONGREGATION

Numbers 14:1-4 And all the congregation lifted up their voice, and cried; and the people wept that night. And all the children of Israel murmured against Moses and against Aaron: and the whole congregation said unto them, Would God that we had died in the land of Egypt! or would God we had died in this wilderness! And why has the LORD brought us unto this land, to fall by the sword, that our wives and our children should be a prey? were it not better for us to return into Egypt? And they said one to another, Let us choose a leader, and let us return into Egypt.

CALEB AND JOSHUA

Numbers 14:6-9 And Joshua the son of Nun, and Caleb the son of Jephunneh, who were of them that searched the land, tore their clothes: And they spoke unto all the company of the children of Israel, saying, The land, which we passed through to search it, 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 rebel not against the LORD, neither fear you the people of the land; for they are bread for us: their defense is departed from them, and the LORD is with us: fear them not.

THE CONGREGATION

Numbers 14:10 But all the congregation said to stone them with stones. And the glory of the LORD appeared in the tabernacle of meeting before all the children of Israel.

THE RESULT

- The 10 spies died
- The people were not allowed to enter the land for 40 years
- All the adults would die in the wilderness



REPENTANCE

o Surely God will give them a second chance if they repent

Numbers 14:39-40 And Moses told these sayings unto all the children of Israel: and the people mourned greatly. And they rose up early in the morning, and went up into the top of the mountain, saying, Lo, we are here, and will go up unto the place which the LORD has promised: for we have sinned.

REPENTANCE

o God did not give them a second chance

Numbers 14:41-45 And Moses said, Why now do you transgress the commandment of the LORD? but it shall not prosper. Go not up, for the LORD is not among you; that you be not smitten before your enemies. 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, therefore the LORD will not be with you. But they presumed to go up unto the mountaintop: nevertheless the ark of the covenant of the LORD, and Moses, departed not out of the camp. Then the Amalekites came down, and the Canaanites who dwelt in that hill country, and struck them, and routed them, even unto Hormah.

THEIR WRONG UNDERSTANDING

• They didn't realize that they had to do something



WHY DID THEY DOUBT?

- They had a wrong image of themselves
- They had a wrong image of God's character
- They were not sure whether God would do it again



WHAT DOES THAT HAVE TO DO WITH US?

- Prayer requires Faith
- Faith often requires action



PRAYER BLOCKERS

- o Doubts about "who God is"
- o Doubts about "who I am in God"
- Doubts about "whether God will do it again"

James 1:6-7 But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering. For he that wavers is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed. For let not that man think that he shall receive anything of the Lord.

QUESTIONS

- Where do I doubt God in my prayers?
- Where does God want me to act first?



