

## The Land Between (7)

**Intro:** If Darlene and I had a son I would want to name him Caleb. Of all the men in the bible I think Caleb is my favorite. Incredible attitude, followed up by actions that honor God and exemplify what it means to be a man of God. Stands for what is right against the crowd; Calls people to faith and obedience to God; Lives obediently; Sets an example of faithfulness, courage and commitment in the most difficult of circumstances. I love Caleb!

As we finish our series today on the Land Between I want you to look with me at the second of the two men that received God's best in their life. Out of 600k men of age that came out of Egypt only 2 entered Promised Land Joshua/Caleb Last week we looked at Joshua the things that helped him successfully navigate the Land Between Today Caleb

Land Between: Egypt: Promised Land: Stuck Between for 40 Years Lessons Learned: Today THE Critical Event

Numbers 13:26-14:9 Pg 105 Moses and God "talk" Numbers 14:20-35

Two Critical Characteristics That Helped Caleb Successfully Navigate The Land Between (Attitude and Action)

### 1. Caleb Had An Unshakeable ATTITUDE of Confidence and Faith In God. Num 14:20-24

**Key:** They ALL saw and experienced EXACTLY the Same things! The only difference was their heart and perspective

The Ten (Heard promise w/o faith)

Caleb (Heard Promise w/ Different Spirit)

~Vs 22: Scorned Work of God (Saw His glory/Miracles)

~Saw and trusted God for MORE miracles

~Vs 22: Disobeyed Me

~Obeyed and Encouraged Obedience

~Vs 22: Tested Me (Assay:10 times)

~Consistently faithful

~Vs 23: Treated me w/ Contempt (despise, blaspheme)

~Treated God with Honor

Pay attention here, very important. For you to HEAR God's voice and promise...and then doubt Him is to treat Him with contempt. It is calling into question His integrity, His character and His faithfulness! THAT is what cost them His Best!

**WHY? Key:** Heb 4:2 The message they heard was of no value to them, because they did not combine it with FAITH! The difference was that Caleb heard the promise of God and "mixed it with faith" while the ten did not! 30 vs 31

Heb 11:1 "Faith is the SUBSTANCE of things hoped for, the evidence of things not yet seen. God's word is ENOUGH!

Faith says: I SEE what is not yet visible...because God has spoken...and I trust Him...I cant see it Yet..but its coming!  
2Co 4:18 So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen.

Faith says: ALL I need is a Word from God...Because I know when He SAYS it...it will come to pass!

**APPLIC:** In order for YOU to experience God's best...You will have to develop the same Attitude!

Grow to the place that when you hear Him speak..you don't doubt, you don't hesitate, you don't disobey, don't test...

You simply TRUST...and not only that...No only do you develop that Attitude of the Heart... You Also, Follow up Actions!

### 2. Caleb Demonstrated His Attitude of Trust With ACTIONS That Proved His Faith In God. Joshua 14:6-15 Pg 161

**Key:** An Attitude of Faith is validated and demonstrated by Actions. Caleb had both!

Num 14:23; Josh 14:8 "Follows me wholeheartedly" Repeated over and over and over again: Almost every time mentioned

Def: "Follows wholeheartedly" Lit = To walk behind me...follow in my steps! Just like def of Disciple in NT

A disciple is a follower of Jesus, following in his footsteps. Caleb was a follower of God...Lit walking behind Him!

Notice, this is not a ONE time occurrence! He didn't just get it right one time! It was a lifestyle for Caleb

### A LIFETIME of Faithful Actions

~Surveying and Reporting on the Promised Land

~40 yrs in desert (Paying for others sin still faithful!)

~7 years of conquest in Promised Land (Fighting for God's Promise)

~Waiting until LAST to claim his inheritance...and took what NO one else wanted!

~Asking for the hill country where the Giants Live! Intentionally seeking out the HARD part of life!

~At 85...after 45 years of waiting..was STILL as confident of God's promise as the day he returned from Promised Land!

(We surrender after a day, or a week, or a month...45 YEARS of others judgment...didn't discourage Him!)

Its not enough to Just believe..As James says, faith w/o works is dead!

Caleb's faith was a living, active REAL faith!

**CONCL:** The difference between Caleb and the 10 is Easy: Both heard and saw same things Num 14:30;31  
Caleb Mixed those with Faith...Seeing Not just Problem, but Problem Solver...the others did not..Problems Only  
Caleb Trusted God to do what He said...the others did not...  
Caleb saw God's miracles...expected Others  
Caleb Chose to Praise God in trials..rather than Grumble and complain

For Caleb, there was only one thing that mattered: Josh 14:6 "You know what the Lord Said!  
TIME; PROBLEMS; PEOPLE; CITIES; GIANTS; AGE: Nothing mattered...Only the word of the Lord!  
So, Which are YOU most like when you hear God? Caleb or the ten?

How do you respond when You hear His voice?

~Trust me with your life: Commit to me...Receive me as your savior...Have you done that...By faith...or Doubting  
You Will never experience God's best until you trust him

~Following Him in the next steps of your spiritual life:

Money;  
Time;  
Ministry  
Small Group  
Church Commitment

Are you doing that....or holding back..Doubting Him?  
You will never experience God's best until you do

~Maybe its A change you need to make in your life...A sin you need to leave behind

You hear him calling...but you haven't been able to bring yourself to step out and trust him

Until you Do that...Until you mix an Attitude of Faith with Actions that Demonstrate your Trust in God  
Like the children of Israel in the Desert...You will wander in the Land Between

Its dry there...Empty there...Come on out...Take a step of faith

Experience God's Best...He wants it for you....

It is yours for the taking...Step out...Believe Him..Trust Him...He will NEVER let you down.