How Long Will They Not Believe In Me?

Tim King · Numbers 13:1–14:25

INTRODUCTION

- There is just the constant struggle for them to trust and obey even though the Lord has been faithful all throughout their life.
- Why is it that God's people struggle to trust and obey him after he's demonstrated so much in their life?
- They stood at the threshold of Canaan's land. the promised land. They're as close as God would have them be get to where they would then go into the land, but they were unwilling to go forward.

God's Promise Is Greater Than Any Obstacle

Numbers 13:1–2; Exodus 3:8; Numbers 13:30–33

- This big place we'll land here from the start is that God's promise is greater than any obstacle.
- The Lord spoke to Moses, saying, "Send men to spy out the land of Canaan, which I am giving to the people of Israel.
- They both went and saw the same thing. They both had the same objective. They both also had the same history with God. But they have two entirely different conclusions.
- Joshua and Caleb believed that God can overcome it all. But then the 10 people, they measured their ability against the strength and against the sight of their enemy.
- They had every reason to acknowledge danger in this situation but they had greater reason to recognize what God could do within this very situation.
- This whole chapter begins with this promise. We saw that God has a gift to give them, but it ends up ending with man's assessment of what man is incapable of doing on his own.

Fear Started and Rebellion Began

Numbers 14:1–4; Numbers 11:4–6

- Whenever following God resulted in becoming painfully uncomfortable, they wished to return to Egypt.
- They prefer to go back into bondage rather than just do God's will, which is just to trust him.
- Complaints become contagious like a yawn if you're not careful. Discouragement will begin to spread.
- Who's influencing my heart? And whose heart am I influencing?
- We know that they dominate in ways that they can carry consequences, and we must be careful about that.
- So, take responsibility, my friends, especially when someone's listening to your report.

Joshua and Caleb Speak Faithfully

Numbers 14:6–10

- If the Lord delights in us, he will bring us into the land and give it to us, a land that flows with milk and honey.
- Only do not rebel against the Lord. And do not fear the people of the land.
- They did what was right. Even though the people refused to listen. They did their part and they left it at that.
- So the challenge to you is to speak faithfully. Even if you know it's likely going to get rejected, speak faithfully.
- So speak up. If it's rejected, step aside and let God handle the heart.

How Long Will They Not Believe in Me?

Numbers 14:11–24; Luke 6:46; Hebrews 3:7–13

- How long will this people despise me? And how long will they not believe in me in spite of all the signs that I've done among them?
- We can know what God has said, even be able to tell it to others, but refuse to follow it ourselves.
- Why do you call me Lord, and not do what I tell you?
- But my servant Caleb, because he has a different spirit and has followed me fully, I will bring into the land.
- Take care, brothers, lest there be in any of you an evil unbelieving heart leading you to fall away from the living God.
- We need people who will remind us of God's word daily because of the warning that's here. If it happened to them, it could happen to me.

THE CHALLENGE

How much longer will you put off responding to what you know God is requiring of you?

MY NOTES