

Resurrection Life of Jesus Church

UNLEASHING THE POWER OF GOD

RLJ-1472

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NOVEMBER 30, 2014

PART 4: REBELLION LEADS TO CURSES

UNBELIEF

In our previous messages we have examined how God wants His people to be involved in the process when He works in the supernatural. God had used Moses and Aaron to participate in the miracles prior to leaving Egypt, but as the Israelites were approaching the Promised Land, God wanted more leaders to participate and Moses was instructed to select one man from each tribe. These men were to spy out the Promised Land and bring back a report.

The twelve spies entered the Promised Land and spent 40 days exploring the cities and gathering information about the inhabitants. **Numbers 13:1-25**

The spies were divided in their opinions when they returned. Ten of them thought the Promised Land could not be taken while Caleb and Joshua believed there was no reason why they could not possess the land with God's help. **verses 27-33**

The people of Israel had to make a choice. They could choose to operate in fear and believe the evil report or choose to operate in faith and believe the good report!

The people had enough evidence to believe the good report:

- ❖ They had seen God strike the Egyptians with ten plagues.
- ❖ They had seen the wall of fire that kept the Egyptian Army from attacking them.
- ❖ They had seen the Red Sea part and walked through the sea on dry land.
- ❖ They had seen the bitter water at Marah turned into fresh water.
- ❖ They had seen water come from the rock.
- ❖ They had eaten supernatural bread and quail that was flown straight to them.
- ❖ They had seen smoke cover Mount Sinai as God descended upon it in fire.

The ten spies along with the majority of the people still were not convinced that God was strong enough to help them remove inhabitants of the Promised Land even though they had witnessed all these supernatural events firsthand. **Numbers 14:1-3**

The people crossed a red line when they and their leaders rejected Moses and decided to elect a new leader to bring them back to Egypt. **verse 4**

MEN OF FAITH

Moses, Aaron, Joshua and Caleb were devastated as they pleaded with the people to have faith in God. **verses 5-9**



UNBELIEF LEADS TO REBELLION

Satan and his hordes of demons possessed the ten leaders and the people as they were ready to stone Moses and the other three men. **verse 10**

It would be an understatement to say that God was displeased; in fact, He was furious and God would have killed them all if Moses had not interceded for the people. **verses 11-19; Hebrews 3:7-11**

CONSEQUENCES

God responded to Moses' prayer and pardoned the people. **verses 20-21**

Nevertheless, God cursed every person from the age of 20 and upward; they were sentenced to walk in the wilderness for forty years until they died and would never see the Promised Land. **verses 22-30**

The children of the rebellious adults would live to see the land but not until the oldest of them were 59 years old. They would have to suffer for the sins of their parents. **verses 31-35**

The ten tribal leaders (spies) who brought the evil report were killed on the spot by a plague. **verses 36-37**

A CURSE BY GOD CANNOT BE IGNORED

The people realized that they had angered the Lord and passed on a golden opportunity, so they decided in the flesh, and not in the spirit, to enter the Promised Land in their own power even though God had commanded them to go back to the wilderness by the Red Sea.

Thousands of Israelite men died in fighting the next day as they were defeated by the Amalekites and the Canaanites. **verses 38-45**

Moses was given another set of instructions for the children of Israel just before the 40 year sentence came to an end. God told the younger generation that they had a choice once they entered the Promised Land:

1. They could be blessed. **Deuteronomy 28:1-13**
2. They could be cursed. **verses 14-68**

Remember, it's not so important how you begin your life after salvation, but how you finish it!

Do you have an ear to hear with?