



Message 6-9-18
Shelach Lecha-Send for Yourself
Numbers 14:1-10
Joshua 2:17-21
1 Timothy 5:8

Introduction

Hearing the spies report, the people burst into tears, saying it would have been better to remain slaves. Joshua and Caleb continue to insist that God can bring about the gift of the land, but the people do not listen. The Almighty condemns the generation twenty years of age and up to die in the wilderness over the next forty years of wandering. It is too late for the people to repent.

Numbers 14:1-10

1 Then all the congregation raised a loud cry, and the people wept that night. **2** And all the people of Israel grumbled against Moses and Aaron. The whole congregation said to them, "Would that we had died in the land of Egypt! Or would that we had died in this wilderness! **3** 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?" **4** And they said to one another, "Let us choose a leader and go back to Egypt." **5** Then Moses and Aaron fell on their faces before all the assembly of the congregation of the people of Israel. **6** And Joshua the son of Nun and Caleb the son of Jephunneh, who were among those who had spied out the land, tore their clothes **7** and said to all the congregation of the people of Israel, "The land, which we passed through to spy it out, is an exceedingly good land. **8** If the LORD delights in us, he will bring us into this land and give it to us, a land that flows with milk and honey. **9** Only do not rebel against the LORD. And do not fear the people of the land, for they are bread for us. Their protection is removed from them, and the LORD is with us; do not fear them." **10** Then all the congregation said to stone them with stones. But the glory of the LORD appeared at the tent of meeting to all the people of Israel. (ESV)

The Almighty brings the Israelites out of bondage in Egypt after one miracle after another. What happens? Israel wants to go back to Egypt. Why – because out of the twelve spies Moses sends to scout out the Promised Land, ten of them bring back a negative report, while Caleb and Joshua tell them to have faith in the Holy One of Israel. He will bring them into the land, and they will be able to take the land He promised to them with His help. They tell the people not to be afraid of the people in the land. They no longer have any protection because the Almighty is with Israel, not them. Instead of grabbing on to the words from Joshua and Caleb, the people want to stone them. What happens next? The glory of the Lord appeared at the Tent of Meeting to all the people of Israel, and life

was about to go south for Israel as the Lord lays down His punishment upon the people of Israel for lacking faith in Him and His promise. He brings them out of Egypt through one miracle after another and then takes them through the Reed Sea while wiping out Pharaoh's army. Their lack of faith should be a lesson to all of us because many talk about our faith, but then when something happens to challenge it, we tend to bend, and then some of us break. Out of all the Israelites who were twenty years of age and up, only Joshua and Caleb could enter the Promised Land. Not even Moses was allowed because of an act of disobedience on his part when he struck the rock twice to bring water forth in disobedience to the Almighty's command to speak to the rock.

Matthew 17:19 Then the disciples came to Yeshua privately and said, "Why could we not cast it out?" ²⁰ He said to them, "Because of your little faith. **For truly, I say to you, if you have faith like a grain of mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there,' and it will move, and nothing will be impossible for you.**" (ESV)

Luke 17:6 And the Lord said, "If you had faith like a grain of mustard seed, you could say to this **mulberry** tree, 'Be uprooted and planted in the sea,' and it would obey you. (ESV)

4807 συκάμινος sukaminos {soo-kam'-ee-nos} **Meaning:** sycamine tree, having the form and foliage of the mulberry, but fruit resembling the fig.

Even the disciples of Yeshua lacked the faith they needed even though they spent three and one-half years with Yeshua who taught them everything they would need to follow Him in taking the Good News to Israel and then to the nations. It would take the in-filling of the *Ruach HaKodesh* on Shavuot for them to finally have the power they would need to follow in their Master's footsteps. Isn't it the same for us? We can talk a good game, but can we play one by following in Yeshua's footsteps and those of His disciples who paved the way for us? Joshua and Caleb had the faith it would take to move mountains because it would be them who would lead Israel into the Promised Land in order to fulfill Yehovah's promise to Israel. Though there would be times when Israel would be exiled from the land, He would bring them back because He made a promise to Israel and those who came before of a land that would be the home of Israel and those who would attach themselves to them.

Joshua 2:17-21

17 The men said to her, "We will be guiltless with respect to this oath of yours that you have made us swear. ¹⁸ Behold, when we come into the land, you shall tie this scarlet cord in the window through which you let us down, and you shall gather into your house your father and mother, your brothers, and all your father's household. ¹⁹ Then if anyone goes out of the doors of your house into the street, his blood shall be on his own head, and we shall be guiltless. But if a hand is laid on anyone who is with you in the house, his blood shall be on our head. ²⁰ But if you tell this business of ours, then we shall be guiltless with respect to your oath that you have made us swear." ²¹ And she said, "According to your words, so be it." Then she sent them away, and they departed. And she tied the scarlet cord in the window. (ESV)

As the two spies that Joshua sent in to the land to spy it out, they made a promise to Rahab, who had protected them. Even though we are not God, we are made in His image, so therefore, we have a responsibility to keep the promises we make, not only to our fellow man, but to the Almighty, who created us in the image of His Son Yeshua. Rahab desired that her family, her father's family, would be saved from the attack that was coming from the army of Israel upon the city of Jericho. She had faith in the God of Israel because the people of Canaan had heard the reports about what had happened forty years ago to the land of Egypt, and they were afraid of Israel.

Israel was camped by the Jordan river, getting ready to enter the land that had been promised to them by the Holy One of Israel. The nations in the land knew what was coming, and they were afraid. Their gods could not protect them because the God of Israel is the true living God, not gods made of wood, stone, gold, or silver. They are false gods, and the power behind them belongs to Satan, who is nothing more than a created being who defied his Creator and was cast down from heaven to the earth along with 1/3 of the heavenly host who chose to follow him straight into the lake of fire waiting for them at the end of time when Yehovah will balance the books that will be opened before Him.

1 Timothy 5:8

8 But if anyone does not provide for his relatives, and especially for members of his household, he has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever. (ESV)

We are called to a higher level of accountability than an unbeliever. This is an extension of a Torah command that we are to provide for widows, orphans, and those less fortunate than we are. If we are able, we need to help those who cannot help themselves, but we must remain vigilant because those who may ask for help may not need it. In Israel, those who are widows are given an identification by the Chief Rabbis office that tells people they are indigent and need help. An ID card that says you are poor. There are those, most anywhere, that would take advantage of what the Torah instructs us to do, and we are to be stewards of what the Lord gives to us in order that we may take care of our own and then be able to help others. There would be those who would say we should give when asked without question. In my humble opinion, we need to be careful that what we give is not abused by those being given.

We help when we become aware of the need and are in a position to do so, but we must be careful that we are not, as an example, giving money to someone who will use it to buy alcohol in order to feed an addiction. Better that we buy them a meal, point them to where they can receive help, and invite them to come and worship with us so we can be His witnesses in these ***Last Days***.

Deuteronomy 14:29 And the Levite, because he has no portion or inheritance with you, and the sojourner, the fatherless, and the widow, who are within your towns, shall come and eat and be filled, that the LORD your God may bless you in all the work of your hands that you do. (ESV)

Torah Man says: "A true friend is one who knows all about you and loves you just the same."

Blessings in Messiah Yeshua,

Mordecai Silver

TORAH: LEARN IT, LOVE IT, LIVE IT AS YESHUA DID! PSALM 119. If you are not learning Torah, we invite you to attend Judaic Studies Institute, a Distance Learning Institute for Yeshua based Judaic Studies. Drop us a line at student.support@isi-edu.org for more information. You can earn a certificate or diploma and take courses to help you grow in your understanding.

