

“Almost There”

Num. 13:30-33

Introduction

- I. When someone works hard to accomplish something, there is usually a sense of gratification once the work is over.
- II. Israel was on the verge of going into the promised land, but instead they chose to allow fear to override them.
- III. Today, too many are “almost” where they need to be spiritually, but for whatever reason they do not quite get there (Acts 26:28-32).

Discussion

- I. For Israel, spies had already seen the land and its inhabitants (Num. 13:21-25).
- II. Sadly, the majority of the spies gave a bleak assessment of Israel's ability to possess the land (Num. 13:30-33; notice the difference with Caleb)
- III. Israel would have rather returned to bondage in Egypt than to go forward (Num. 14:1-5).
- IV. Joshua and Caleb were the faithful few that tried to get Israel to trust and obey God (Num. 14:6-10).
- V. Israel's lack of faith cost them dearly (Num. 14:11-19).
- VI. Without God, there is nothing but ultimate failure and defeat (Num. 14:39-45; Heb. 3:16-19).
- VII. What can we learn from Israel's mistake in the past?
 - A. We must never lose sight that our “promised land” is waiting for us, so long as we have faith in God and do His will (Heb. 4:1-11).
 - B. Jesus has already indicated that He has gone to prepare our “home” (John 14:1-3).
 - C. Paul indicated that we have assurance that Heaven is waiting for us (2 Cor. 5:1-8)

Conclusion

- I. Israel was always triumphant when they obeyed God.
- II. A lack of faith will cripple even the strongest man.