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"GIVE ME THIS MOUNTAIN" (v12)

(Joshua 14:6-14)

INTRODUCTION

We are familiar with the story that leads to this ending (our text).

The Israelites, led by Moses, make their exodus from Egypt to the border of Canaan.

The story of the spies is in (Numbers chapters 13 and 14).

(Num. 14:6) Joshua and Caleb were "among those who had spied out the land"

(Num. 13:30-31) "**Caleb said**, Let us go up at once and take possession, for we well able to overcome it. But the men who had gone up with him said, We are not able to go up against the people, for they are stronger than we."

The consequence of not going in was to wander for 40 years, and those who were 20 years old and upward would die during the wanderings (Num. 14:28-35).

Joshua leads the Israelites into the promised land, and Caleb makes the request in our text.

Caleb provides for us an example of faith.

1. CALEB HAD AN EXCELLENT WORK ETHIC & FAITH

(Joshua 14:12) "... It may be that **the Lord** will be with me,
and I shall be able to drive them out as the Lord said."

For us: (Luke 13:24) "**Strive** to enter through the narrow gate ... "

(Proverbs 14:23) "In all **labor** there is profit, but idle chatter leads only to poverty"

2. CALEB REFUSED TO BE DISCOURAGED

(Joshua 14:8) "Nevertheless my brethren who went with me made the heart of the people melt, **but I wholly followed the Lord.**"

For us: (1 Corinthians 15:58) "Therefore, my beloved brethren, **be steadfast, unmovable**, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord."

3. CALEB WAS SINGULAR IN PURPOSE

(Joshua 14:9) "So Moses swore on that day, saying, Surely the land where your foot has trodden shall be **your inheritance** ... "

(v12) "Now therefore give me this mountain ... "

(v14) "Hebron therefore became the inheritance of Caleb ... because he wholly followed the Lord God of Israel."

For us: (1 Cor. 16:15) "devoted themselves" (2 Cor. 8:5) "first gave their own selves"

(Phil. 3:13-14) "this one thing I do ... reaching forward ... I press toward ... "

4. CALEB REFUSED TO BE BITTER ABOUT THE PAST

(Joshua 14:10) "the Lord has kept me alive, as He said, **these 45 years** ... "

For us: don't repeat the same mistakes and learn from the past (Deut. 8:2).