

Fear Versus Faith (Numbers 13—14:9)

Introduction

The difficulty and absolute necessity of living by faith.

1. God is faithful to all his Promises (13:1-27)

“Send men to spy out the land of Canaan, which *I am giving* to the children of Israel;” (Num 13:2, compare 14:16, 23, 40).

“The wicked flee when no one pursues, but the righteous are bold as a lion” (Pro 28:1).

2. The Wicked flee when no one pursues (13:28-14:4)

“We went to the land *where you sent us*” (13:27, see 13:32). They magnified the problems, and they minimized the power of God.

“God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind” (2Tim 1:7).

3. The Righteous are bold as a lion (14:5-14:9)

“He loves to do great things by small and contemptible means, that his own arm may be made bare” (Matthew Henry).

Application: *What is our response to God’s call for faith and conquest?*

“Many are diverted from real duties, and debarred from real comforts, by seeming difficulties.... How long shall it be thus with us? How long shall we thus stand in our own light, and forsake our own mercies for lying vanities?” (Matthew Henry).

This has a very wide application. We don’t look to our resources, which are insufficient. We look to God’s purpose which no man can stay.