CONTENDING FOR THE FAITH THE BOOK OF JUDE GOD JUDGED UNBELIEF IN HIS CHOSEN PEOPLE (VS 5)

I. THE THINGS WRITTEN ABOUT ISRAEL ARE FOR AN ENSAMPLE AND FOR OUR ADMONITION! (1 Corinthians 10:1-12; Hebrews 3:12-19)

The word "ensample" in 1 Corinthians 10:11 means "a die (as struck), i.e. (by implication) a stamp or scar; by analogy a shape, i.e. a statue, (figurative) style or resemblance; specially a sampler ("type"), i.e. a model (for imitation) or instance (for warning).

The word "admonition" there means "calling attention to i.e. (by implication) a mild rebuke or warning."

The word "provocation" in Hebrews 3:15 means "irritation".

The word "provoke" in verse 15 means "to embitter alongside, i.e. (figurative) to exasperate.

II. A SUMMARY OF WHAT HAPPENED IN THIS EXAMPLE:

- A. God's Promises. (Exodus 6:6-8)
- B. Israel's Doubt. (Deuteronomy 1:21-22)
 - 1. Such a demand was equivalent of saying that they could not believe God or trust His power to enable them to overcome any obstacle they would find.
 - 2. They thought it was necessary to first know what God was talking about.
 - 3. Instead of taking God at His Word, they thought they had to confirm it by man's approval.
 - 4. The spies were not in God's perfect will, but in His permissive will.

(In *Numbers 13:1-2*, God told Moses to send the men in but that was after they requested it.)

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C. The Report Of The Spies. (Numbers 13:26ff)

Each tribe was represented. These were leaders of the tribes.

- 1. The Spies First Verified God's Word Concerning The Worth Of The Land. (Numbers 13:26-27)
- 2. 10 Of 12 Spies Showed Their Lack Of Faith. (Numbers 13:28-29)
- 3. 2 Of 12 Spies Showed Great Faith. (Numbers 13:30)
- 4. 10 Of 12 Spies Interpreted God In Light Of The Circumstances. (Numbers 13:31-33)
- 5. 2 Of 12 Spies Interpreted The Circumstances In The Light Of God. *(Numbers 14:6-9)*
- 6. All The Spies Saw The Same Thing, But They Saw It In Different Ways!

D. The Reaction Of The Israelites. (Numbers 14:1-10)

- 1. They Lifted Up Their Voice And Cried. (Numbers 14:1)
 - a. They Were Discouraged.
 - b. They Were Defeated.
- 2. They Murmured Against Their Leadership. (Numbers 14:2-4)
- 3. They Wanted To Kill The Only Two Spies Who Had Any Confidence In God. *(Numbers 14:5-10)*
- 4. They Rebelled Against The Command Of God.

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- E. The Judgment Of God. (Numbers 14:10ff)
 - 1. God Said "I Will Smite Them With Pestilence And Disinherit Them..." (Numbers 14:12)

 Moses intercedes on their behalf.
 - 2. "Surely They Will Not See The Land." (Numbers 14:20-23)
 - 3. God Said Their Children Would Inherit The Land. (Numbers 14:26-35)
 - 4. The 10 Spies Died By the Plague. (Numbers 14:36-38)
 - 5. The Lord Was Not With Israel When They Tried To Do What They Should Have Done In The First Place. (Numbers 14:39-45)

CONCLUSION

If God judged His own people because of unbelief (and He did!), how much more will he judge the apostates who have hearts full of unbelief and pull people into error!

Let's stick with sound doctrine! Amen!

Don't allow yourself to be pulled away from that which you know in your heart is the truth!

Let's earnestly contend for the faith of old which does not change!