

PERSEVERANCE - CALEB

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I. WHEN CHALLENGED WITH CHIEF CHOICES (MAJOR DECISIONS OF LIFE)

A. THE CHALLENGE

1. GATHERING THE FACTS– Num 13:1-25; 34:19

Caleb chosen to explore the land

2. GARNERING THE FAITH– Num 13:26-33; 14:5-9

Caleb trusts God's promise to give land to Israel

Caleb an example of what all the people should have been – faithful

B. THE REWARD Num 14:24, 30, 38; 26:65; Num 32:12; Deut 1:36

Rewarded for his trust

Caleb one day enter the land

II. WHEN MET WITH MUNDANE MATTERS (MUNDANE DREARINESS OF LIFE)

A. THE CHALLENGE

B. THE REWARD Joshua 14:10-11

God took care of Caleb for these 40 years

III. WHEN GREETED WITH GARGANTUAN GIANTS (MEGA DISCORDS OF LIFE)

A. THE CHALLENGE

1. BELIEVE IN GOD'S PROMISE

Everyone could have inherited the land if would have trusted God's promises

2. BE ALIVE IN GOD'S PROVISION Joshua 15:14-17; Judges 1:12-13, 20

Land is his, but must claim/move into it by faith driving giants out

B. THE REWARD

A godly heritage – children that trust the Lord's promises

1. DAUGHTER – Acsah asks for field & spring - Joshua 15:18-10; Judges 1:14-15

2. SON-IN-LAW Othniel

3. SONS - Iru, Elah and Naam.

MAIN IDEA: Following Caleb's example, God wants us to trust and depend on what He says (promises).

KNOW: Caleb is an example of a godly person who believed and acted on what God had promised (the land would be his).

DO: We must trust and follow God in all things, knowing He will keep His promises to us.

INTRODUCTION

S Hello! My name is Caleb, friend of Joshua

***Have any of you ever heard of me?
What do you know about me?***

I'm here to tell you my story and what I learned about serving God.
You see, my life wasn't easy, and I expect you may know what that is like!

I. WHEN CHALLENGED WITH CHIEF CHOICES

MAJOR DECISIONS OF LIFE

A. THE CHALLENGE

1. GATHERING THE FACTS Num 13:1-4, 6

a. ISRAEL'S BACKGROUND

S First mention is in Numbers 13
Moses was our leader, and had been for several years

MOSES strong, outstanding man/leader
not able to enter land because of sin
prepared next generation to enter without him

Moses wrote book of Numbers to be instruction manual for new generation
Also lesson about importance of trusting and obeying God
Bad example – people, 10 spies
Good example – Joshua, Caleb

S GOD'S DELIVERANCE: out of Egypt after 10 plagues
Through Reed Sea
Mt Sinai 1 year getting tabernacle, law
Went to Kadesh Barnea to get ready to go into our land
That's where I'm first mentioned

b. CALEB'S BACKGROUND Num 13:1-4, 6

S ***1.Numbers 13:1 The LORD said to Moses, 2 "Send some men to explore the land of Canaan, which I am giving to the Israelites. From each ancestral tribe send one of its leaders." 3 So at the LORD's command Moses sent them out from the Desert of Paran. All of them were leaders of the Israelites. 4 These are their names: ... 6 from the tribe of Judah, Caleb son of Jephunneh; (also in 34:16-19)***

CA'LEB (ka'leb; a "dog").- some say means 'mad dog'
Years in Egypt as a slave with other Jews

S

JEPHUNNEH (my father, your grandfather)
(je-fun'-e) (yephunneh, je-fun'e; [juh FUH nuh Yephunneh'
EDOMITE, Gentiles, descendants of Esau
clan of Kenezite left, joined JUDAH
Believed in YHWH, married into Judah, taken in as one of them
leader of clan
chosen to represent tribe of Judah when Palestine investigated
Great honor

S

c. GOD'S PROMISES

I HAD HEARD THAT GOD PROMISED this land to Abraham, Isaac, Jacob & Joseph
Promise: good intention, can't totally guarantee anything
God: absolute trustworthy word, guaranteed

Not called a promise

No Hebrew word for PROMISE used
Normal words for saying, speaking
But when God says something, it is a promise.
EVERYTHING He says is a promise, every single statement
ALL God says is 100%true
So nothing has to be singled out as a promise – everything He says is
Same is true in New Testament
God's very character stands behind every statement He makes

so when God said the descendants of Abraham would be brought back to the land
all had choice – believe or not believe
I CHOSE TO BELIEVE, TRUST WHAT HE SAID HE WOULD DO

d. ISRAEL'S LAND

GOD GAVE THE LAND TO ABRAHAM'S DESCENDANTS FOREVER

S

S

Genesis 12:7 The LORD appeared to Abram and said, "To your offspring I will give this land."

Genesis 13:14-17 The LORD said to Abram after Lot had parted from him, "Lift up your eyes from where you are and look north and south, east and west. 15 All the land that you see I will give to you and your offspring forever. ... 17 Go, walk through the length and breadth of the land, for I am giving it to you."

Gen 15:13-15 Then the LORD said to him, "Know for certain that your descendants will be strangers in a country not their own, and they will be enslaved and mistreated four hundred years. 14 But I will punish the nation they serve as slaves, and afterward they will come out with great possessions. ... 16 In the fourth generation your descendants will come back here,
God repeated same promises to Jacob (Genesis 46:4) and Joseph (Gen 48:21)

e. CALEB'S RESPONSE

We were slave nation, slave mentality – no war experience
Best land, so had strongest warriors conquer it and live there

God has promised us all this land, God keeps His promises

S spent 40 days traveling 250 miles north, then back through land (SHOW MAP)

2. GARNERING THE FAITH Num 13:30; 14:5-10

a. THE REPORT OF THE SPIES Num 13:30

S Returned: report + land great, milk & honey, brought some fruit
- people powerful, large fortified cities, giants there

many fearful, not take God at His word
Moses writes about me & Joshua
as an example to 2nd gen of how 1st gen should have believed

Moses quoted the very words I said:

S *Num 13:30 Then Caleb silenced the people before Moses and said, "We should go up and take possession of the land, for we can certainly do it."*

b. THE PROMISES OF THE LORD

I remembered another impossible situation, when we were trapped at the REED SEA, and God said He would bring victory and He did:

"Do not be afraid. Stand firm and you will see the deliverance the LORD will bring you today. The Egyptians you see today you will never see again. Ex. 14:13

Do YOU remember God's promised protection when you are tempted to fear?

GOD'S STATEMENT/PROMISES TO REMEMBER WHEN FEARFUL

The Lord is with me; I will not be afraid. What can man do to me? Ps. 118:6

Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and staff, they comfort me. Ps. 23:4

So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand. Isa. 41:10

The people in my day didn't trust God but let their fear guide them

Wanted to kill Moses, Joshua and myself, choose new leaders, back to E bondage

c. THE FEAR OF THE PEOPLE Num 14:5-10

We tried to convince them to trust God but they wouldn't listen

Num 14:5 Then Moses and Aaron fell facedown in front of the whole Israelite assembly gathered there. 6 Joshua son of Nun and Caleb son of Jephunneh, who were among those who had explored the land, tore their clothes 7 and said to the entire Israelite assembly, "The land we passed through and explored is exceedingly good. 8 If the LORD is pleased with us, he will lead us into that land, a land flowing with milk and honey, and will give it to us. 9 Only do not rebel against the LORD. And do not be afraid of the people of the land, because we will swallow them up. Their protection is gone, but the LORD is with us. Do not be afraid of them." 10 But the whole assembly talked about stoning them.

People knew this IN THEIR MIND
But let their EMOTIONS take over - Saw only their own weakness

But its not our strength, just His, that brings victory - ***My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness. 2 Cor. 12:9***

RESULT: wander for the rest of the 40 years (38)
All over 40 when left Egypt and saw this died – didn't trust what God said
Those under 40 , 2nd gen, allowed their own chance to decide for themselves

TRANSITION

God rewarded Joshua and me by telling us we'd be able to go into the land

B. THE REWARD Num 14:23-24,29-30,37-38;26:65;32:12; Dt 1:34-36

1. CALEB'S REWARD Num 14:23-24, 29-30, 37-38

God rewards belief in Him and what He says.

Num 14:23 not one of them will ever see the land I promised on oath to their forefathers. No one who has treated me with contempt will ever see it. 24 But because my servant Caleb has a different spirit and follows me wholeheartedly, I will bring him into the land he went to, and his descendants will inherit it. ... 29 In this desert your bodies will fall — every one of you twenty years old or more who was counted in the census and who has grumbled against me. 30 Not one of you will enter the land I swore with uplifted hand to make your home, except Caleb son of Jephunneh and Joshua son of Nun. ... 37 these men responsible for spreading the bad report about the land were struck down and died of a plague before the LORD. 38 Of the men who went to explore the land, only Joshua son of Nun and Caleb son of Jephunneh survived.

Moses not bragging about me, but using me as an example to be followed
YOU an example to family, those around you of someone who trusts God?

2. CALEB'S 'DIFFERENT SPIRIT' Num 13:24

S **DIFFERENT SPIRIT**

Than other 10 spies and people who didn't trust God.

YOU can have different spirit – if let Holy Spirit control

I can do everything through him who gives me strength. Phil. 4:13

3. CALEB'S WHOLEHEARTED FOLLOWING

Num 13:24

S **FOLLOWS ME WHOLEHEARTEDLY**

6x stated about Caleb

– fully, completely, passionately, faithfully, loyally

= nothing between him and God

MOSES DEFINES IT THIS WAY:

Deuteronomy 6:5 Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength.

Possible to follow God, but not with whole heart –

Jews out of Egypt, not into Promised Land – following God but not completely!

YOU follow God out of sin by salvation

Not follow faithfully enough to bring you into victory

“follow wholeheartedly” = NO GAP between you and Him

ME (YOU) – close to God as possible

Is there a gap between you and Him?

BECAUSE: no gap between God and me, ‘different spirit’ = promises still applied to me

4. CALEB'S REWARD REPEATED

Num 26:65; 32:12; Deut 1:34-36

Several times in Numbers and once in Deuteronomy Moses repeats

-Jews lost entrance into land because of not believing God

-Joshua and I did receive what God promised because we did believe Him

S S **5. ARE GOD'S PROMISES CONDITIONAL?**

Brings up a problem: if what God says is 100% true, why didn't everyone receive the land?
Are God's promises conditional?

a. YES, SOME ARE

Yes, many are conditional upon faith and obedience

This is always clearly stated

God had said at Mt Sinai

Exodus 19:5 Now if you obey me fully and keep my covenant, then out of all nations you will be my treasured possession.

God had said same thing about receiving the land promised them (Ex 23:20-33)

Land to Abraham's descendants forever – unconditional

Enjoyment of blessings by this generation dependent on obedience

YOU: victory, blessings, spiritual growth as God promised

Conditioned on trust and obedience

b. NO, SOME AREN'T

Other promises are clearly unconditional, no condition is stated

Abraham's descendants would be a nation forever – Gen 15

The Land of Palestine would belong to the Jews forever

Couldn't lost the land

But could forfeit their opportunity to enjoy the blessings of the land

When you accept Jesus as Savior you are His unconditionally,

Lack of faith & obedience keeps you from enjoying privilege & blessing, still sons

c. YES & NO, DEPENDENT ON FAITH

partial obedience = partial blessing

Jews left Egypt by obedience, but not obey in entering the land

TRANSITION

God's statements always true – often benefits conditional on obedience

The more completely we trust/obey, the more we are blessed

Applies to little things as well as big things

SOMETIMES have major decisions to make, trust God as revealed in Word/promises or not

Trust God to give us the land or not

OTHER TIMES just daily life, same every day – still need to trust God in that

II. WHEN MET WITH MUNDANE MATTERS

MUNDANE DREARINESS OF LIFE

Soon we left Kadesh Barnea to wander and roam 38 years, just passing time
Split up and move around looking for fresh grass for animals
Dull, boring life
Can't expect life to always be exciting adventure, fun and adventure
Most of life just same old same old

A. THE CHALLENGE – daily trust

1. FOR CALEB

TRUST GOD I had to patiently wait for God to fulfill the promises He had made to me
Maybe you are waiting for something, too

I was suffering because of the lack of faith for others, not fair to me
YOU: unfair consequences of others' sins often

When facing disappointments – Joshua chosen leader over Caleb
YOU: things not work out as would like often

CONSUMER MENTALITY

Mt 20 vineyard workers

Mt 19 rich young ruler

Peter: we gave up all to follow you, what's in it for me?

We get a reward, not a wage

Job: god gives and takes away

Not what we deserve, all by grace, not performance

Deserve hell

Luke 17:10 So you also, when you have done everything you were told to do, should say, 'We are unworthy servants; we have only done our duty.'

COMPETITIVE MENTALITY

Men esp 'wired' to compete

Mt 20 first expected more – compared selves with others

Saul slew thousands, David 10,000 – jealousy

John 21:18-11 what's that to you? Follow me

What I do with him is none of your business!

Compare self with Christ only

Don't doubt in the dark what God told you in the light.

PERSEVERANCE

Heb 12 1-2

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Noah example

The following statistics were presented by Pastor Darrin Patrick from research he has gathered from such organizations as Barna and Focus on the Family.

Pastors

- Fifteen hundred pastors leave the ministry each month due to moral failure, spiritual burnout, or contention in their churches.
- Fifty percent of pastors' marriages will end in divorce.
- Eighty percent of pastors and eighty-four percent of their spouses feel unqualified and discouraged in their role as pastors.
- Fifty percent of pastors are so discouraged that they would leave the ministry if they could, but have no other way of making a living.
- Eighty percent of seminary and Bible school graduates who enter the ministry will leave the ministry within the first five years.
- Seventy percent of pastors constantly fight depression.
- Almost forty percent polled said they have had an extra-marital affair since beginning their ministry.
- Seventy percent said the only time they spend studying the Word is when they are preparing their sermons.

Pastors' Wives

- Eighty percent of pastors' spouses feel their spouse is overworked.
- Eighty percent of pastors' spouses wish their spouse would choose another profession.

The majority of pastor's wives surveyed said that the most destructive event that has occurred in their marriage and family was the day they entered the ministry.

God did say He would be with us during the waiting times as well

2. FOR EVERYONE

God promises to always be with you, in daily routine times

When things unfair, feel disappointed – trust Him and keep on obeying

TRANSITION

In those times, remember God is still there keeping His promises to provide.

B. THE REWARD – daily provision Numbers 14:10-11

1. FOR CALEB

S *Num 14:11 “I am still as strong today as the day Moses sent me out; I’m just as vigorous to go out to battle now as I was then.”*

GOD CARED FOR ME for those years
Manna every day to eat
Clothing or sandals never wear out
Never get sick, be unhealthy

2. FOR EVERYONE

GOD PROMISES TO MEET ALL YOUR NEEDS (not wants)

The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not be in want. He makes me lie down in green pastures, he leads me beside quiet waters, he restores my soul. He guides me in paths of righteousness for his name sake. Ps. 23:1-3

I will never leave you or forsake you. Hebrews 13:5

And my God will meet all your needs according to his glorious riches in Christ Jesus. Phil. 4:19

Matthew 6:25-34 "Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more important than food, and the body more important than clothes? 26 Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they? 27 Who of you by worrying can add a single hour to his life? 28 "And why do you worry about clothes? See how the lilies of the field grow. They do not labor or spin. 29 Yet I tell you that not even Solomon in all his splendor was dressed like one of these. 30 If that is how God clothes the grass of the field, which is here today and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, will he not much more clothe you, O you of little faith? 31 So do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' 32 For the pagans run after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them. 33 But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. 34 Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.

WHEN WE FAIL TO TRUST HIM – FORGIVENESS

TRANSITION

Always remember to TRUST GOD's promises
-major decisions of life
-mundane dreariness of life
-mega discords of life

III. WHEN GREETED WITH GARGANTUAN GIANTS MEGA DISCORDS OF LIFE

A. THE CHALLENGE

1. BELIEVE IN GOD'S PROMISE

Joshua 14:6-9; 21:9, 11-12, 18; I Chron 6:55-56

a. GOD'S PROCLAMATION IS TRUE

S When Moses died, JOSHUA than picked up the story
BOOK OF JOSHUA: show how God did keep His promises to Abraham, Isaac, Jacob and Joseph about us being back in our land

What God has said DID come true, had to wait 38 years because of unbelief in promises
COULD have happened to 1st gen if would have believed
Next generation did trust and enter the land.

b. GOD'S PLANS ARE DIFFERENT

GOD KEEPS HIS WORD IN DIFFERENT WAYS!

HE DOES IT HIMSELF

Egyptian army destroyed at Reed Sea

Jordan River opens, walk through

Jericho walls fall down

Sun not go down at night to have a victory

HE HELPS US DO IT IN HIS STRENGTH

Defeat Amalekites on way to Mt Sinai

Battles behind Joshua in land

c. GOD'S PROMISES ARE GOOD

Joshua wrote all about this in his book

Joshua 1-12 conquering the land

In at Jerico, split land in middle, conquer southern tribes, then northern tribes

Took about 7 years

Constant warfare!

Joshua 13-21 dividing the land among the Jews

13 - 2 ½ tribes staying east of Jordan River

Time for tribes in the land to finish clean-up operations among scattered enemies left
Judah not in a hurry to fight for land, willing to put off claiming what God has for them
Giants that scared 1st gen off still living in part of land given to Judah

d. GOD'S PEOPLE ARE FAITHFUL

Caleb not afraid of them – wasn't before

Caleb wants to move ahead, comes to Joshua to claim land, anxious and confident

I still believed God's promises about the land being ours.

God had repeated those promises to Moses (Dt 11:24) and Joshua (1:4)

He told each of them He would be with them so they shouldn't be afraid (Dt 31:6; Josh 1:9)

I knew God's word was good!

e. GOD'S PEOPLE ARE PATIENT

S 85 yrs old - 45 yr since promise given (38 wandering, 7 fighting)

S YOU: get promise from God in 1966 and wait until this year to have it filled
Or get promise from God 2004 and must wait until 2049 to be fulfilled
MUST be patient and wait for God's timing to keep His word!

I had patiently waited 45 years for God's word to be fulfilled
Now the wait was up and I was ready to move ahead in faith!

f. PROPERTY IS GIVEN

Joshua 14:6-9; 21:9, 11-12, 18; I Chron 6:55

S *Joshua 14:6 Now the men of Judah approached Joshua at Gilgal, and Caleb son of Jephunneh the Kenizzite said to him, "You know what the LORD said to Moses the man of God at Kadesh Barnea about you and me. 7 I was forty years old when Moses the servant of the LORD sent me from Kadesh Barnea to explore the land. And I brought him back a report according to my convictions, 8 but my brothers who went up with me made the hearts of the people melt with fear. I, however, followed the LORD my God wholeheartedly. 9 So on that day Moses swore to me, 'The land on which your feet have walked will be your inheritance and that of your children forever, because you have followed the LORD my God wholeheartedly.'*

S *Josh 21:9, 11-12, 18 From the tribes of Judah and Simeon they allotted the following towns by name.... The fields and villages around the city(Hebron) they had given to Caleb son of Jephunneh as his possession.*

S HEBRON – SHOW ON MAP (so of Jeru, top of ridge, half way down Dead Sea)
Hebron was afterward a priests' city, belonging to the Kohathites; but the territory about continued in Caleb's family

DEBIR (SW of Hebron, on same mt ridge)
Hard to conquer

TRANSITION

Had some of best land in Palestine, land of my choosing
Best warriors already taken and fortified it

2. BE ALIVE IN GOD'S PROVISION

Joshua 14:10-15; 15:13-15

a. FAITH TO ACCEPT WHAT GOD SAYS

S *Josh 14:10 "Now then, just as the LORD promised, he has kept me alive for forty-five years since the time he said this to Moses, while Israel moved about in the desert. So here I am today, eighty-five years old! 11 I am still as strong today as the day Moses sent me out; I'm just as vigorous to go out to battle now as I was then. 12 Now give me this hill country that the LORD promised me that day. You yourself heard then that the Anakites were there and their cities were large and fortified, but, the LORD helping me, I will drive them out just as he said." 13 Then Joshua blessed Caleb son of Jephunneh and gave him Hebron as his inheritance. 14 So Hebron has belonged to Caleb son of Jephunneh the Kenizzite ever since, because he followed the LORD, the God of Israel, wholeheartedly.*

Land his last 45 years! but must claim into it by faith driving giants out
Now STILL have to fight giants – putting off just put it off!
Whatever you are putting off facing now will still have to face and work through!

Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight. Prov. 3:5-6

b. FAITH TO ACT ON WHAT GOD SAYS

Believing God all that time was great, but then came the time to act on that belief.

S *Josh 15:13-15 In accordance with the LORD's command to him, Joshua gave to Caleb son of Jephunneh a portion in Judah-Kiriath Arba, that is, Hebron. (Arba was the forefather of Anak.) 14 From Hebron Caleb drove out the ... descendants of Anak. 15 From there he marched against the people living in Debir (formerly called Kiriath Sepher).*

85 given land with giants – that which kept whole nation out for 38 years!
God didn't miraculously remove them, although He could have.
He wanted me to fight them, in His strength, and see Him remove them that way.

ANAKITES = 'GIANT'

not just physically large but also exceedingly evil and violent
Pictured on Egyptian monuments as tall and fat
Og, who lived east of Jordan, had bed 13' long and 6' wide

Goliath, descendent of giants who remained in another part of the land – 9'-9" tall
People had been to fight the GIANTS – like grasshoppers

YOU face giant situations in life, unable in own strength to win, only in God's strength

S Remember another giant-killer, DAVID, and how he had victory by trusting God

1 Sam 17:45-47 David said to the Philistine, "You come against me with sword and spear and javelin, but I come against you in the name of the LORD Almighty, the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have defied. 46 This day the LORD will hand you over to me, and I'll strike you down and cut off your head. Today I will give the carcasses of the Philistine army to the birds of the air and the beasts of the earth, and the whole world will know that there is a God in Israel. 47 All those gathered here will know that it is not by sword or spear that the LORD saves; for the battle is the LORD's, and he will give all of you into our hands."

DAVID & CALEB very similar in many ways

Perhaps my example helped encourage him to defeat Goliath

Different spirit – others around them afraid of giants

follow wholeheartedly = trusted God's statements (promises)

Saw situation needing to be addressed, not fear consequences – "Let's roll!"

(Todd Beamer, United flight 93)

CALEB & DAVID: physical victory against physical enemies

YOU: victory by spiritual sword (sword of the Spirit, Word of God) against spiritual enemies

TRANSITION

Moses & Joshua both used me as example of trust for others to follow

Even showed some who followed my example

-my own descendants

B. THE REWARD

1. DAUGHTERS' FAITH — Joshua 15:16-19

Acsah, ak'sah

I had given my daughter, ACSAH, to nephew OTHNIEL as wife as reward for him driving giants out of Debir

S

She was a woman of faith in God's promises to us

Wanted land and also springs of water.

Believed God's promise that land was theirs forever, her due as well as the men

Like with God – took father at his word (how children learn to trust God)

TRANSITION

Godly daughter trusted word of father and God

Godly son-in-law also

2. SON-N-LAWS' FAITH – Judges 1:12-15, 19-20

Othniel

JOSHUA: trusted God to have victory over giants at Kiriath Sepher

JUDGES:

S

Othniel first judge following Joshua's death
Caleb's example/influence lived in Othniel
show God's judgment on Israel's apostasy.
Mesopotamia oppressed, Othniel defeated them
"Spirit of the Lord came upon him" Judges 3:7-11

After Moses, Caleb & Joshua everything downhill, last of truly godly leaders
None until King David!

TRANSITION

Not much else about me in Bible
Just names of sons

3. SONS' FAITH - Iru, Elah and Naam.

Chronicles names 3 sons (1 Chron **4:1 The descendants of Judah: ... 15 The sons of Caleb son of Jephunneh: Iru, Elah and Naam. The son of Elah: Kenaz.**)

Nabal, with whom David had an encounter, is called a Calebite, i.e. one belonging to the house of Caleb (1 Sam 25:3) – turned from my godly example

If would have believed and obeyed God's word his whole life would have been better!

CONCLUSION

S

TO PEOPLE LISTENING

You remember that everything God says in your book (hold up Bible) is true

You can count on it

Despite what others do and what circumstances are going on in your life, TRUST HIM

His promises are true

You can stand on them!

Questions, Comments, Observations....

CLOSING PRAYER

The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not be in want. He makes me lie down in green pastures, he leads me beside quiet waters, he restores my soul. He guides me in paths of righteousness for his name sake. Ps. 23:1-3

I will never leave you or forsake you. Hebrews 13:5

And my God will meet all your needs according to his glorious riches in Christ Jesus. Phil. 4:19

Matthew 6:25-34 "Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more important than food, and the body more important than clothes? 26 Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they? 27 Who of you by worrying can add a single hour to his life? 28 "And why do you worry about clothes? See how the lilies of the field grow. They do not labor or spin. 29 Yet I tell you that not even Solomon in all his splendor was dressed like one of these. 30 If that is how God clothes the grass of the field, which is here today and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, will he not much more clothe you, O you of little faith? 31 So do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' 32 For the pagans run after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them. 33 But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. 34 Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.

The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not be in want. He makes me lie down in green pastures, he leads me beside quiet waters, he restores my soul. He guides me in paths of righteousness for his name sake. Ps. 23:1-3

I will never leave you or forsake you. Hebrews 13:5

And my God will meet all your needs according to his glorious riches in Christ Jesus. Phil. 4:19

Matthew 6:25-34 "Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more important than food, and the body more important than clothes? 26 Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they? 27 Who of you by worrying can add a single hour to his life? 28 "And why do you worry about clothes? See how the lilies of the field grow. They do not labor or spin. 29 Yet I tell you that not even Solomon in all his splendor was dressed like one of these. 30 If that is how God clothes the grass of the field, which is here today and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, will he not much more clothe you, O you of little faith? 31 So do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' 32 For the pagans run after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them. 33 But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. 34 Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.

nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus. Romans 8:38-39

My Presence will go with you, and I will give you rest. Exodus 33:14

PEACE

And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Phil. 4:7

REST

Come to me, all you who are weary and heavy-laden, and I will give you rest. Mt. 11:28

My Presence will go with you, and I will give you rest. Exodus 33:14

REWARD FOR PATIENCE, FAITHFULNESS

But those who hope (wait upon) the LORD will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint. Isa. 40:31

I waited patiently for the LORD; he turned to me and heard my cry. He lifted me out of the slimy pit, out of the mud and mire; he set my feet on a rock and gave me a firm place to stand. He put a new song in my mouth, a hymn of praise to our God. Ps. 40:1-3

SECURITY IN CHRIST

I am the gate: whoever enters through me will be saved. He will come in and go out, and find pasture. John 10:9

STRENGTH FOR WHATEVER COMES

I can do everything through him who gives me strength. Phil. 4:13

My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness. 2 Cor. 12:9

Your strength will equal your days. Deut. 33:25

He gives power to the tired and worn out, and strength to the weak. Isaiah 40:29

VICTORY OVER TEMPTATION

No temptation has seized you except what is common to man. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can stand up under it. 1 Cor. 10:13

PROMISES

ALL OUR NEEDS MET

For the Lord God is a sun and shield; the LORD bestows favor and honor; no good thing does he withhold from those whose walk is blameless. Ps. 84:11

The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not be in want. He makes me lie down in green pastures, he leads me beside quiet waters, he restores my soul. He guides me in paths of righteousness for his name sake. Ps. 23:1-3

But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. Mt. 6:33

And my God will meet all your needs according to his glorious riches in Christ Jesus. Phil. 4:19

I will never leave you or forsake you. Hebrews 13:5

ANSWERED PRAYER

Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. Mt. 7:7

If you believe, you will receive whatever you ask for in prayer. Mt. 21:22

And I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Son may bring glory to the Father. John 14:13

You may ask me for anything in my name, and I will do it John 14:14

Call to me and I will answer you and tell you great and unsearchable things you do not know. Jeremiah 33:3

This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us. And if we know that he hears us - whatever we ask - we know that we have what we asked of him. John 5:14:15

Therefore I tell you, whatever you ask for in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours. Mark 11:24

You will call upon me and come and pray to me and I will hear you. Jeremiah 29:12

BLESSING THROUGH TRIALS

Those who sow in tears will reap with songs of joy. Ps. 126:5

As a mother comforts her child, so will I comfort you; and you will be comforted over Jerusalem. Isa. 66:13

And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose. Romans 8:28

You know the testing of your faith develops perseverance. James 1:3

No temptation/testing has seized you except what is common to man. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted/tested beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted/tested, he will also provide a way out so that you can stand up under it. 1 Cor. 10:13

He will cover you with his feathers, and under his wings you will find refuge; his faithfulness will be your shield. Ps. 91:4

"Because he loves me," says the LORD, "I will rescue him; I will protect him, for he acknowledges my name. He will call upon me and I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble I will deliver him & honor him. With long life will I satisfy him & show him my salvation. Psalm 91:14-16

FAITHFUL WITNESS

Whoever acknowledges me before men, I will also acknowledge him before my Father in heaven. Mt. 10:32

I promised that your house and your father's house would minister before me forever. But now the LORD declares: Far be it from me! Those who honor me I will honor, but those who despise me will be disdained. 1 Samuel 2:30

FEAR

The Lord is with me; I will not be afraid. What can man do to me? Ps. 118:6

Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and staff, they comfort me. Ps. 23:4

"I am the God of your father Abraham. Do not be afraid, for I am with you; I will bless you and will increase the number of your descendants for the sake of my servant Abraham." Gen. 26:24

Do not be afraid, Abram. I am your shield, your very great reward." Gen 15:1

"Do not be afraid. Stand firm and you will see the deliverance the LORD will bring you today. The Egyptians you see today you will never see again. Ex. 14:13

Be strong and courageous. Do not be terrified; do not be discouraged, the LORD your God will be with you wherever you go. Joshua 1:9

So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand. Isa. 41:10

Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified because of them, for the LORD your God goes with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you. Deuteronomy 31:6

But Jesus immediately said to them: "Take courage! It is I. Don't be afraid. Mt. 14:27

Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or discouraged because of the King of Assyria and the vast army with him, for there is a greater power with us than with him. With him is only the arm of flesh, but with us is the LORD our God to help us and fight our battles. 2 Chron. 32:7-8a

FORGIVENESS OF SIN

For if you forgive men when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. Mt. 6:14

Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. Romans 8:1

If you repent, I will restore you that you may serve me. Jeremiah 15:19

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

GUIDANCE

For this God is our God forever and ever; He will be our guide even to the end. Ps. 48:14

The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not be in want. He makes me lie down in green pastures, he leads me beside quiet waters, he restores my soul. He guides me in paths of righteousness for his name sake. Ps. 23:1-3

Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight. Prov. 3:5-6

I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you and watch over you. Ps. 32:8

I will lead the blind by ways they have not known, along unfamiliar paths I will guide them; I will turn the darkness into light before them and make the rough places smooth. These are the things I will do; I will not forsake them. Isa. 42:16

NEVER ALONE

"I am with you and will watch over you wherever you go, and I will bring you back to this land. I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you." Gen. 28:15

For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future nor any powers, neither height