

"On the Way" 365 Bible Reading Plan

NUMBERS 13

Numbers 13

Numbers is the continuation of the Story of God's redemptive acts and how He relates to the new nation He has formed. The Book of Numbers covers a period of thirty-nine years. The narrative begins a month or so after the children of Israel left Mount Sinai and follows the primary events of the sending of the spies into the Land of Promise, Canaan, and the subsequent wandering for thirty-nine years because of the disobedience of the nation. Chapter thirteen is the record of the people coming to the point of entry into Canaan and Moses sending out twelve spies into the land to give an appraisal to the people. Twelve were sent, one from each tribe. Two notables were Joshua and Caleb of the tribes of Ephraim and Judah respectively. Joshua is identified as Hoshea, and from this point on is called Jehoshua, or Joshua. The names are derivatives of the word, "Salvation" or "YHVH Saves," in the New Testament this name is translated either Hosea or Jesus.

The twelve spies were sent from Kadesh-Barnea to the northern-most part of the land promised by God to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. The spies went as far as the

entrance of Hamath to a city called Rehob. This has been identified as a place east, northeast of the ancient Syrian city of Byblos. The spies returned to Moses with a report of a great land, a land of milk and honey (dates); a good land, but a land which has obstacles to be conquered. The words of the majority report, ten spies stood by this emphasis in reporting to Moses and were against Israel going forward to conquer the land. They reported that it was a good land, but they were against entering the land. Caleb and Joshua agreed the land had obstacles to overcome, but the God who had brought them to this place was greater than any obstacle in the land and would give them victory. Sadly, the majority report was accepted and their disobedience to God brought disaster.

Prayer and Action Steps

God will many times bring His people to seemingly impossible situations on purpose. He will test our trust and obedience to Him. Are you facing a challenge? Trust God completely!

Date _____ Scripture _____

- *Read the chapter. If you have time, read it again.*
- *Highlight, underline or circle the Key Verse or Verses of the chapter.*
- *Ask yourself these questions as you read through the chapter.*

Is this historical narrative, analogy, metaphor, allegory, or some other element of speech or communicating truth?

What is the Context? Old Testament? New Testament? What is the writer speaking or writing about? To whom is he writing?

Is this a clear passage of Scripture (can only be interpreted one way)? Or could the passage be interpreted legitimately, in two or more ways, according to grammar and context?

Does the passage teach a Biblical Precept; that is, tells you something to be, do or act? _____

Are there principles in this chapter that if followed, would require me to change my attitudes or actions? _____

Does the passage give a Biblical Pattern that is followed here and other places in the Bible? _____

