

Numbers 13-14, Selected Verses

“What Happens When You Have Faith?” Sept. 26, 2021

Introduction: We going to contrast what happens when we see with eyes of fear and when we see with eyes of faith.

“The manna was like coriander seed and looked like resin. The people went around gathering it, and then ground it in a hand mill or crushed it in a mortar. They cooked it in a pot or made it into loaves. And it tasted like something made with olive oil. When the dew settled on the camp at night, the manna also came down.” Numbers 11:7-9.

I. Ten men saw the future through eyes of fear.

But the people who live there are powerful, and the cities are fortified and very large. 13:28

II. Two men saw the future through eyes of faith.

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.” 13:30

When we look through eyes of fear:

1. We exaggerate our difficulties

“The people who live in the land are powerful and the cities are fortified and very large.” 13:28

“We can’t attack those people; they are stronger than we are.” And they spread among the Israelites a bad report about the land they had explored. They said, “The

land we explored devours those living in it. All the people we saw there are of great size... We seemed like grasshoppers in our own eyes, and we looked the same to them.” 13:31-33

2. We forget God's provision in our past

*“How long will these people treat me with contempt? How long will they refuse to believe in me, **in spite of all the miraculous signs I have performed among them?**”* 14:11

3. We become discouraged and we give up on God.

That night all the members of the community raised their voices and wept aloud. 14:1

When we look through eyes of faith:

1. Our problems seem smaller.

2. We remember God’s faithfulness

Has God forgotten to be merciful? Has His love vanished forever? Then I thought, ‘To this I will appeal: the years when the Most High stretched out his right hand. I will remember your miracles of long ago. I will consider all your works and meditate on all your might deeds.’ From Psalm 77

3. We open the door for a miracle

A miracle is when God shows up and does what only God can do.

“Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see. This is what the ancients were

commended for (in other words, their faith pleased God)...And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him.”
Hebrews 11:1-2, 6