

Big Idea: What Do You See? The fruit of the land or the size of the man?

Sermon: Introduction: **Oculus Quest**

**Transition:** When it comes to God's will and trusting his plans what you see and how you see it is so important. This is the big question we will be answering today. **"What Do You See?"**

**Introduction:**

**Context:** The nation of Israel has been traveling for about two months since it had left Mt. Saini. The course is set, they are making a return to the land God had promised their \_\_\_\_\_.

**Spies Sent:**

**Numbers 13:1**

The Lord spoke to Moses, saying, <sup>2</sup>"Send men to spy out the land of Canaan, which I am giving to the people of Israel.

God who is giving the Israelites the land.

The 12 spies -

What was their marching orders? Scout out the \_\_\_\_\_ and scout out the \_\_\_\_\_.

**Numbers 13:20**

Be of good courage and bring some of the fruit of the land." Now the time was the season of the first ripe grapes.

Why bring back fruit? The Israelites care about \_\_\_\_\_.

**Objectives Accomplished:**

**Numbers 13:23**

<sup>23</sup> And they came to the Valley of Eshcol and cut down from there a branch with a single cluster of grapes, and they carried it on a pole between two of them; they also brought some pomegranates and figs.

The fruit is \_\_\_\_\_

**The Report of the Spies**

Good News

Bad News

### Numbers 13:28

<sup>28</sup> However, the people who dwell in the land are strong, and the cities are fortified and very large. And besides, we saw the descendants of Anak there.

The land is good but the people are big,

**The people now have a \_\_\_\_\_ they have two different pictures to see.**

The fruit of the land or the size of the man

### Numbers 13:30

<sup>30</sup> But Caleb quieted the people before Moses and said, "Let us go up at once and occupy it, for we are well able to overcome it."

Caleb, = "Let's Go

### Numbers 13:31

<sup>31</sup> Then the men who had gone up with him said, "We are not able to go up against the people, for they are stronger than we are."

Spies = Oh No, we can't do it.

Giants vs. Grasshoppers

Nephilim theories:

### **The Nation Complains: Israel's choice**

They can focus on the fruit of the land or they can focus on the size of the man.

### Numbers 14:1-2

Then all the congregation raised a loud cry, and the people wept that night. <sup>2</sup> And all the people of Israel grumbled against Moses and Aaron. The whole congregation said to them, "Would that we had died in the land of Egypt! Or would that we had died in this wilderness! <sup>3</sup> Why is the Lord bringing us into this land, to fall by the sword? Our wives and our little ones will become a prey. Would it not be better for us to go back to Egypt?" <sup>4</sup> And they said to one another, "Let us choose a leader and go back to Egypt."

### **Good News + Bad News = Bad News**

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to the negative and the bad news becomes the only news.

**Why are they complaining?** They are \_\_\_\_\_.

**Fear:** So when you or someone you know is complaining you can ask, what are you afraid of?

- Fear is rampant right now,
- What are we afraid of? Examples
- Not all Fear is bad fear,
- fear becomes bad when it keeps us from doing \_\_\_\_\_ will.
- So what am I afraid of?

**The Fear Plan: Back to Egypt.**

Egypt metaphor

Not as crazy of an idea as we think.

**Are we any different?** Egypt represents captivity and bondage to sin and satan.

Col 1:13-14 says

<sup>13</sup> He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, <sup>14</sup> in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

- We can't coexist with sin.
- We know that going back to Egypt wouldn't have worked
- There are lots of things to be afraid of (like snakes). freedom is not one of them.

**Caleb and Joshua's Last Plea:**

Numbers 14:7-9

"The land, which we passed through to spy it out, is an exceedingly good land. <sup>8</sup> If the Lord delights in us, he will bring us into this land and give it to us, a land that flows with milk and honey. <sup>9</sup> Only do not rebel against the Lord. And do not fear the people of the land, for they are bread for us. Their protection is removed from them, and the Lord is with us; do not fear them."

God will give us the victory

**Instead of going to battle the Israelites just forfeit.**

the people got so upset and tried to stone them

Numbers 14:11-12

<sup>11</sup> And the Lord said to Moses, "How long will this people despise me? And how long will they not believe in me, in spite of all the signs that I have done among them? <sup>12</sup> I will strike them with the pestilence and disinherit them, and I will make of you a nation greater and mightier than they."

### **The consequences:**

- God is understandingly upset.
- Examples of what God had already done:
- **They didn't believe that God would give them the land.**

What God wants to do:

What God does

- The 10 spies die
- Can't enter the land
- The generation will die in the wilderness

End of 14: They were attempting to claim God's promises without his power or his presence.

### **Conclusion:**

They forfeited the opportunity for the land.

### **That is why they play the game.**

- Buster Douglas knocking out Mike Tyson
- The Miracle on Ice
- And the Beavers beating the Ducks once a decade.

### **Do you ever wonder what we ourselves forfeit when we fail to trust God?**

- When we don't even try?
- God has done something extraordinary in you when he saved you.
- He wants to use you to grow his mission,
- he wants to use you to be like Jesus in someone else's life.
- Our mission statement.

Is it scary, oh yes it is, Does it feel like your facing giants? Of course it does,

How Do We Do This?

The key step is we need to get past our fear. **We need to see that the fruit of the land is greater than the size of the man.** Fear isn't going away, as fear is a pervasive force in the world, it is natural, we can't just get rid of it, fear needs to be sent somewhere,

### **Isaiah 8:12-13**

**<sup>12</sup>Do not call conspiracy all that this people calls conspiracy, and do not fear what they fear, nor be in dread. <sup>13</sup>But the Lord of hosts, him you shall honor as holy. Let him be your fear, and let him be your dread.**

- God needs to be your awe,

- A fear and reverence of God is your most potent medicine, for banishing unhealthy fear
- Giving God the honor of which he is worthy naturally flows into Peace with Christ.

### **Blue and Black Dress (picture of Blue and Black Dress)**

In your life with Jesus what do you see?

- The fruit of the land or the size of the man?
- The promises of God or the fears of this world
- The joy of contentment or the grumbling of ingratitude

### **1 John 4:18**

**18 There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear. For fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not been perfected in love.**

Today, for those who trust Christ, the fruit of the land is the perfect love of Jesus. It is what he promises.

- To love us \_\_\_\_\_
- To love us \_\_\_\_\_
- To love us \_\_\_\_\_

He is offering you his complete perfect love that will lead to your complete and perfect freedom.

What do you see? The fruit of the land? Or the size of the man? It makes all the difference, let's pray.