

Grapes and Giants

(1) Power Up

POWER ~ PURPOSE ~ PROMISE

Where there are **PROMISES**... There will also be **PROBLEMS!**

Where there are **GRAPES**... There will also be **GIANTS!**

NUMBERS 13:17-33...

When Moses sent them to explore Canaan, he said, "Go up through the Negev and on into the hill country. 18 See what the land is like and whether the people who live there are strong or weak, few or many. 19 What kind of land do they live in? Is it good or bad? What kind of towns do they live in? Are they unwalled or fortified? 20 How is the soil? Is it fertile or poor? Are there trees in it or not? Do your best to bring back some of the fruit of the land." (It was the season for the first ripe grapes.) 21 So they went up and explored the land from the Desert of Zin as far as Rehob, toward Lebo Hamath. 22 They went up through the Negev and came to Hebron, where Ahiman, Sheshai and Talmi, the descendants of Anak, lived. (Hebron had been built seven years before Zoan in Egypt.) 23 When they reached the Valley of Eshkol they cut off a branch bearing a single cluster of **grapes**. Two of them carried it on a pole between them, along with some pomegranates and figs. 24 That place was called the Valley of Eshkol because of the cluster of **grapes** the Israelites cut off there. 25 At the end of forty days they returned from exploring the land. 26 They came back to Moses and Aaron and the whole Israelite community at Kadesh in the Desert of Paran. There they reported to them and to the whole assembly and showed them the fruit of the land. 27 They gave Moses this account: "We went into the land to which you sent us, and it does flow with **milk and honey!** Here is its fruit. 28 **Buuuuuuut** the people who live there are powerful, and the cities are fortified and **very large**. We even saw descendants of Anak there. 29 The Amalekites live in the Negev; the Hittites, Jebusites and Amorites live in the hill country; and the Canaanites live near the sea and along the Jordan." 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." 31 But the men who had gone up with him said, "**We can't attack those people; they are stronger than we are.**" 32 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**. 33 We saw the **Nephilim** there (the descendants of Anak come from the Nephilim). We seemed like **grasshoppers in our own eyes**, and we **looked the same to them.**"

Because they weren't willing to face the **BATTLE...** they lost the **BLESSING!**

All because of their **PERSEPECTIVE...** on **GOD'S PROMISES!**

EPHESIANS 1:17-23...

I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know him better. 18 I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in his holy people, 19 and his incomparably great power for us who believe. That power is the same as the mighty strength 20 he exerted when he raised Christ from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms, 21 far above all rule and authority, power and dominion, and every name that is invoked, not only in the present age but also in the one to come. 22 And God placed all things under his feet and appointed him to be head over everything for the church, 23 which is his body, the fullness of him who fills everything in every way.

**IT'S POSSIBLE FOR GOD TO HAVE ALL THE POWER...
BUT FOR HIS PEOPLE TO LIVE IN TOTAL WEAKNESS!**

*I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give **you** the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that **you** may know him better. 18 I pray that the eyes of **your** heart may be enlightened in order that **you** may know the hope to which he has called **you**, the riches of his glorious inheritance in his holy people, 19 and his incomparably great power for **us** who believe.*

**GOD'S POWER... IS ONLY POTENTIAL...
UNTIL YOU CONVERT IT INTO STRENGTH... BY FAITH AND ACTION!**

NUMBERS 17:30...

*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.**"*

*Everybody else was focusing on **HOW BIG** those **GIANTS** were...
But **CALEB** couldn't take his mind off of **HOW BIG** those **GRAPES** were!*

*Most of us go **VISIT** the **LAND...** and **LOOK AROUND...**
And we never **OCCUPY** the **LAND...** and **TAKE POSSESSION!***

**"YOU ARE USING THAT DEVICE...
FAR BENEATH... ITS FULL POTENTIAL!"**

Your **STRENGTH IN LIFE** is not **DETERMINED** by **YOUR ABILITY...**
It's **DETERMINED** by **GOD'S AUTHORITY!**

Ephesians 1:19b-23...

That **power** is the same as the **mighty strength** **20** he exerted when he raised **Christ from the dead** and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms, **21 far above all rule and authority, power and dominion, and every name that is invoked, not only in the present age but also in the one to come.** **22** And God placed **all things under his feet** and **appointed him** to be **head over everything** for the church, **23** which is his body, the **fullness of him who fills everything in every way.**

Maybe it's time to **STOP FOCUSING** on the **SIZE OF THE GIANT...**
And **START FOCUSING** on the **GOD... WHO MADE THE GRAPES?**

THEY MAY BE STRONGER THAN ME...
BUT MY GOD IS STRONGER THAN THEM!
