

Strength in Numbers: When We Miss the Flight Numbers 13-14

What does God expect from his people when he opens the doors of opportunity to inherit his promises?

When God opens the doors of opportunity, God expects his people to...

- I. Completely rely on his promises, not their perception of circumstances, in their pursuit of God's life-giving future: Will we walk by faith or by sight? (Numbers 13, cf. Dt 1:22-23).
 - a. Whose will be done? The clouding of God's will when his word is not the sole foundation of our faith.
 - b. The distortion of reality when we walk by sight: unbelief that leads to fear and fear that leads to rebellion and rebellion that leads to judgment.

- II. Courageously and prayerfully confront unbelief and rebellion with obedient submission to the Lord (Numbers 14).
 - a. The boomerang effect of rebellion: when God resists the proud.
 - b. Courageous and prayerful submission: God's purpose will prevail and he will preserve the persevering faith of the saints.

**Faith obeys God and receives his promises;
fear rebels and forfeits his blessings.
Defeat the fear of this world with faith in God's word.**

1. How is God's word challenging you to grow in your pursuit of God's life-giving future? If there is anything discouraging you from taking a leap of faith to pursue God's calling, ask the Lord to give you the courage to trust him and take your next step!
2. What fears are paralyzing you in your journey to maturity in Christ? If God is calling you, do not waste the opportunity. When the Lord closes the door, it will be too late.