

## Grasshopper complex

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### Introduction

1. Numbers 13:33
2. We are to learn from the Old Testament Romans 15:4
3. The setting of the passage
  1. They were at the land where they were promised
  2. The children of Israel and Moses sent spies into the land
  3. They were north, south, east and west and took of the fruits of the land
  4. The spies were in the land for 40 days and came back with their report
  5. 10 of the spies gave an evil report but 2 gave a good report
4. Let us understand more about this complex that they had at this time

### II Discussion

1. God was fulfilling a promise that He had made
  1. God made a promise to Abraham Genesis 12:1-3; 15:18; 28:13;
  2. God remembers this promise Exodus 3:8
2. The land was everything that God said it would be
  1. It was a land that flowed with milk and honey Exodus 3:8
  2. This land truly flowed with milk and honey Numbers 13:23, 24, 27
  3. God gave them the land Numbers 13:2
3. Fear became a problem
  1. Ten men had this problem of fear and it permeated through all the people. Nevertheless, (but)
  2. We can not do the job that God has given us Numbers 13:29, 31-33
    1. There are giants in the land, obstacles before us and we cannot do what God has required of us. While this was true, it was a **gross exaggeration**
    2. They wanted rewards without the sacrifice, could we too want the reward without the sacrifice? Matthew 16:24-25; Romans 12:1-2
  3. Fear kept them from receiving the land that God had promised them
    1. Human reasoning blinded some, it can today too
    2. Terror took them to a place where they forgot what God had done just a year before.
    3. Negative thoughts kept them from gaining the blessings God had promised.
    4. 40 years later, where were the giants, fear and bullies? 1 Corinthians 16:13
  4. The children of Israel missed the blessing, one generation would miss it completely
  5. Only two men would realize the promise land Numbers 14:28-32
4. Application for us today
  1. This whole situation is used as an illustration of unbelief in Hebrews 3:15-4:3
  2. God has made promises to us John 14:1-3; 2 Timothy 4:8; James 1:12; Revelation 22:14
  3. Heaven has been described for us Revelation 21:
  4. We too can miss heaven because of unbelief just as the Israelites did.
  5. God had given us commands to be obeyed, we can do it
  6. God has given us promises to be enjoyed, but we cannot doubt
  7. We too can overcome obstacles or excuses Luke 14:16-24; 9:57-62
  8. Quit you like me 1 Corinthians 16:13
  9. God is bigger and more powerful than any problems,
  10. Trust God who had placed great challenges before us
  11. With the help of God we are able to do great things 1 Corinthians 3:9; Isaiah 55:11

### III Conclusion

1. We have studied the blessed promises of God and how some missed these promises because of the hardness of their heart
2. We are to learn from their mistake
3. Are you mistrusting in commands of God because they seem hard
4. Come believing in God and obeying and trusting that God will provide all that He said He would

Source: Polishing the Pulpit 1996 page 30; sermon preached Allendale 81. 2/28/16 Monroe; Gray 2/18