

## SPIRIT OF OBEDIENCE

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### INTRODUCTION

#### 1. TEXT NUMBERS 14:24

2. Caleb had the spirit of obedience, he had a choice before him, he choose to serve God.
3. We have the same choice before us today. Joshua 24:15
4. We respond to the commands of God every time we hear a command of God it is either positive or negative. Do we get mad when someone tells us we are not right with God?
- 5.. We need to be like Caleb of old who responded in a positive way immediately to the promise of God.

### II Discussion

#### A. The example of Caleb.

1. 12 spies went into the land. 10 said it is too great for us 2 said let's go now and take it. Numbers 13:30
2. The ten spies wanted to make excuses why they could not take the land.
3. In the end Joshua and Caleb got to go into the promise land, because they wanted to go and take the land then.
4. We must obey God promptly if we want the blessings of God. 2 Corinthians 6:2

#### B. They wanted to obey when Moses said not to go into the land. Numbers 14:40-45

1. Joshua and Caleb wanted to go when the time was right. Numbers 14:6-10 They poured out their hearts and pleaded for them to do what is right and the people stoned them. Don't we treat preachers the same way today. He preaches on some sin, we don't change, we change preachers.
2. We need to obey no matter what others are doing. Exodus 23:2
3. School administrators and teachers have been amazed for years at the number of good Christian parents who will defend their children in serious misbehavior problems by saying, "MY child wasn't the only one." Do you really intend to say, "I don't want my child to do right unless everyone else does also?"

#### C. We must disregard our feelings to be obedient to God.

1. Canaan was a land that flowed with milk and honey, but it had its problems. Numbers 13:27-28,33
2. Their eyes were on their problems not on the blessings. Ephesians 1:3 Matthew 6:33 John 14:1-3 This town have been canvased to death. This is a strong Baptist town. Problems or blessings?
3. Jesus told 12 men to go into the world and they did Colossians 1:23 What would we have said to the Lord?
4. The Lord has given us a promise. Hebrews 13:5-6

D. The spirit of obedience does not permit us to reject commands that we do not understand.

1. It did not seem reasonable for them to go into this land that was inhabited by giants and take it. Numbers 13:33

2. God has always given commands that to men seem foolish and God has done this to test our faith.

1. Marching around a city to capture it.

2. Dip in the river Jordan to be cleansed of leprosy.

3. Preaching I Corinthians 1:18,21,25

3. Are there commands that we think foolish today?

1. The religious might say yes, but we would not think so would we?

2. What about worshipping God and giving?

E. The spirit of obedience demands more than the mere minimum.

1. Do we do enough just to get by?

2. Do we say to the Lord how little do I have to do to be saved?

G. Are we willing to overcome all to serve God.

1. No Matter what is in our way are we still determined to serve God?

2. Are we willing to overcome all obstacle and excuses to serve God?

III Conclusion:

1. Are you willing to obey God?

2. Do it promptly,

a. Do it when others say no,

b. Do it when feelings tells us to disregard God's commands,

c. Do it although we may not understand everything God wants us to do.

d. Do all that God requires of us.

3. Obey today and we will do what we can to help you.

Source: 1987 sermon