

Foothills Church of Christ

"We treat you like family."



October 23, 2022

What the Israelites Lost Besides Canaan

If you were to ask the typical Bible student what the consequences of Israel's following the foolish counsel of the ten negative spies, you might hear talk of the wilderness wandering or the fact that God denied them the Promised Land. This was truly, from a physical standpoint, the most visible result of their faithlessness. Yet, looking closer, the Israel of that generation lost much more. They teach us today what not to do in doing the Lord's work.

They lost proper perspective. Who did Israel send to Canaan? Every tribe sent a "leader among them" (Numbers 13:2; lit., "An exalted one; a king of sheik; captain; chief"). Also, who was Israel? They were not a people chosen of God because they were the biggest, strongest, or fiercest nation, but because God loved them (Deuteronomy 7:7)! But, when Israel goes into Canaan, they walk by sight (Numbers 13:28,32) rather than faith. They saw the giants, not the God who made them. They saw themselves as grasshoppers (13:33), not God's people! They saw by fear and not by faith.

So often, today, we set our aim too low because our perspective is skewed. We launch out as far as we can see and go no farther. This hamstrings our budgets, our goals for evangelism, and the extent of our involvement in needed works. If we focus solely on ourselves, we become latter-day followers of the Israel described in Numbers 13.

They lost sight of their purpose. Why had they left Egypt? At the bush, God told Moses (Exodus 3:8,17), and Moses, between the Red Sea

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and Mount Sinai, told Israel (13:5). From the days right after their exodus from Egypt, Israel knew she was journeying toward Canaan. Certainly, she was prone to get sidetracked, as when Aaron led the calf-building project (Exodus 32) and when the people periodically, bitterly complained (Exodus 15-17). But, they ultimately plodded up to the precipice of the Promised Land. They camped at the corner of Canaan. This was where they were going. What happened? A few challenges, formidable as they might have seemed, derailed them. Rather than occupy the land God promised them, “They said to one another, ‘Let us appoint a leader and return to Egypt’” (Numbers 14:4). How exasperated with them God must have been!

Do we get like that today? Our purpose for being on this earth, to win souls (Matthew 28:19), help our brethren get to heaven (James 5:19-20), help people in need of it (1:27), and save ourselves (Acts 2:40), can get lost in the shuffle of career success, material gain, worldly acceptance, and even the material rather than the spiritual concerns within the local work of the church. Why are we here?! That determines where we go from here!

They lost the sense of their identity. They were God’s special people. He had a covenant with them and they with Him (Exodus 24). They were God’s children. Exodus 6:7 captures succinctly God’s sentiment toward Israel, where God says, “And I will take you to me for a people, and I will be to you a God.” Nobody could defeat them. Nobody stood a chance before them. They were the hands and feet of God on the earth. No army stood a chance against them. They could have recalled Egypt as “Exhibit A” of this (Exodus 15:4; Heb. 11:20). Instead, when they looked in the mirror of fear, they saw themselves as grasshoppers.

Christians are God’s people. We are the Lord’s army (Ephesians 6). Can you think of fighting for a more powerful ruler? We are the body of Christ (1 Corinthians 12; Colossians 1:18). Can you think of a healthier, stronger organism? We are branches of His vine, and the Father’s the farmer (John 15). No drought, pest, or conditions can keep us from being weighed down with fruit for Him! Yet, we have got to conquer the cricket concept if we want God to be pleased with us!

We are able to do more for the Lord, and we are able to do it better. But, this requires our enthusiastic, wholehearted participation in the work of the church.

Do not let the giants of time, apathy, inaction, and distraction turn you back. Through Christ we can do all the things He has already commanded us to do! On to the milk and honey!

— Neal Pollard

Announcements

Birthdays This Week

Cameron Shelton (October 23)
Phyllis Rogers (October 24)
Jason White (October 25)

Guest Speaker from Healing Hands

Sean Judge from Healing Hands International will be speaking to us today at the 6:00 worship service.

New Baby

We rejoice with Robyn and Mary Roach at the birth of their new great-granddaughter, Blaire Annett, who was born on October 19.

Fall Fellowship

Our Fall Fellowship is planned for this Saturday, October 29, starting at 5:00, at the property of the Scribas.

Harding Place Worship Services

Foothills is in charge of leading the 6:30 worship services at Harding Place for the month of November. Men, please sign up on the list on the bulletin board to take part.

Family First Board Meeting

The Family First Foundation will have their board meeting and appreciation meal on November 4 at Harding. All are invited; RSVP required. Details are on bulletin board.

For the Record

Attendance Last Sunday: 126
Contribution Last Sunday: \$4,147

Prayer Concerns

Current:

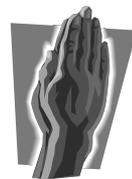
Brenda Brown
Jackson Bruce
Aaron Cantù
Larry Eubanks
Mary Hale
Carrie Herrmann
Heather Holden
Randell & Etta Holden
Joyce Murrell
Ray Petty
Robyn & Mary Roach
Blaine Thomas
Valentine Family

Ongoing:

G. David (India)
Bristol Garner
Jimmy & Billie Gibbins
Nellie Hardin
Etta Holden
Danny Langer
Doris Pruitt

Assisted Living:

Donna Brewer
Ann Flippin
Cloe Jordan
Doris McCoy
Dorothy Pensoneau
Gladys Widner



“Continue earnestly in prayer, being vigilant in it with thanksgiving.”
(Colossians 4:2; NKJV)

Those Who Serve

Sunday Morning

	October 23	October 30
<i>Announcements</i>	Jason White	Jason White
<i>Song Leader</i>	Steve Carrell	Jason White
<i>Opening Prayer</i>	Roger Bruce	Dennis Widner
<i>Lord's Table</i>	Andrew Ross Mason Sciba Case Sciba Jaden Zerby Jason White	Andrew Ross Mason Sciba Case Sciba Jaden Zerby Larry Nokes
<i>Presiding</i>		
<i>Scripture Reading</i>	Sam Yeager	Reese Cartwright
<i>Sermon</i>	Leon Brown	Leon Brown
<i>Closing Prayer</i>	Gabriel Hodges	Randy Goodman

Sunday Evening

<i>Song Leader</i>	Chip Braswell	Randy Goodman
<i>Opening Prayer</i>	Jerry Webb	Jeremy Sciba
<i>Scripture Reading</i>	Sam Yeager	Reese Cartwright
<i>Sermon</i>	Sean Judge	Leon Brown
<i>Lord's Table</i>	Jaden Zerby	Andrew Ross
<i>Closing Prayer</i>	Micah Heavin	Ethan Falconer

Wednesday

	October 26	November 2
<i>Auditorium Class</i>	Singing Night	Leon Brown
<i>Devotional</i>	Jack Openshaw	Dennis Widner
<i>Song Leader</i>	Paul Anderson	Alex Howard
<i>Closing Prayer</i>	Larry Nokes	Jon Alexander

Contact Information

Elders

Larry Nokes (Cell) 501-230-9564
 Jason White (Cell) 501-388-7030
 Dennis Widner (Cell) 501-283-2244

Minister

Leon Brown (Cell) 513-703-7035

Worship Times

Sunday

Bible Study..... 9:30 am
 Morning Worship..... 10:30 am
 Evening Worship.....6:00 pm

Wednesday

Bible Study.....7:00 pm