



LAND POSSESSORS Pt.1

INTRODUCTION: In watching the lives of people I have often wondered why some people achieve, accomplish and apprehend while others do not? Why do some people seemingly walk in the fulfillment of promise while others do not? Why do some take territory and expand the borders of their life while others do not? Why do some families, businesses, teams, organizations, churches flourish while others do not? I believe this story gives us some insight.

Numbers 14 NIV - The People Rebel

1'That night all the members of the community raised their voices and wept aloud. All the Israelites grumbled against Moses and Aaron, and the whole assembly said to them, "If only we had died in Egypt! Or in this wilderness! Why is the Lord bringing us to this land only to let us fall by the sword? Our wives and children will be taken as plunder. Wouldn't it be better for us to go back to Egypt?" And they said to each other, "We should choose a leader and go back to Egypt." Then Moses and Aaron fell facedown in front of the whole Israelite assembly gathered there. Joshua son of Nun and Caleb son of Jephunneh, who were among those who had explored the land, tore their clothes and said to the entire Israelite assembly, "The land we passed through and explored is exceedingly good. If the Lord is pleased with us, he will lead us into that land, a land flowing with milk and honey, and will give it to us. Only do not rebel against the Lord. And do not be afraid of the people of the land, because we will devour them. Their protection is gone, but the Lord is with us. Do not be afraid of them." But the whole assembly talked about stoning them. Then the glory of the Lord appeared at the tent of meeting to all the Israelites. The Lord said to Moses, "How long will these people treat me with contempt? How long will they refuse to believe in me, in spite of all the signs I have performed among them? I will strike them down with a plague and destroy them, but I will make you into a nation greater and stronger than they." Moses said to the Lord, "Then the Egyptians will hear about it! By your power you brought these people up from among them. And they will tell the inhabitants of this land about it. They have already heard that you, Lord, are with these people and that you, Lord, have been seen face to face, that your cloud stays over them, and that you go before them in a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night. If you put all these people to death, leaving none alive, the nations who have heard this report about you will say, 'The Lord was not able to bring these people into the land he promised them on oath, so he slaughtered them in the wilderness.' "Now may the Lord's strength be displayed, just as

you have declared: 'The Lord is slow to anger, abounding in love and forgiving sin and rebellion. Yet he does not leave the guilty unpunished; he punishes the children for the sin of the parents to the third and fourth generation.' In accordance with your great love, forgive the sin of these people, just as you have pardoned them from the time they left Egypt until now." The Lord replied, "I have forgiven them, as you asked. Nevertheless, as surely as I live and as surely as the glory of the Lord fills the whole earth, not one of those who saw my glory and the signs I performed in Egypt and in the wilderness but who disobeyed me and tested me ten times— not one of them will ever see the land I promised on oath to their ancestors. **No one who has treated me with contempt will ever see it. But because my servant Caleb has a different spirit and follows me wholeheartedly, I will bring him into the land he went to, and his descendants will inherit it. '**

I. Land Possessors

- a. You were created to be a land possessor and a territory taker
- b. The borders of your life should be expanding and not shrinking
- c. Land - There is a:
 1. **Place** - Field of study or business for a sphere of influence; a position.
 2. **Promise** - Something God has spoken concerning your life - something he has declared over your destiny.
 3. **Purpose** - Assignment that you are supposed to fulfill - that you have been created to possess.

II. Distinguishing Characteristics of a Land Possessor

- a. God said the distinguishing characteristic was that Caleb had a ***different spirit*** and ***followed him wholeheartedly***.
- b. This is what it takes to be a land possessor.
- c. Are you willing to *be different*?
- d. Are you willing to *go all in* with God?

III. A Different Spirit

Proverbs 20:27 "The human spirit is the lamp of the Lord that sheds light on one's inmost being."

- a. God leads us by our spirit.
- b. A clear spirit gives clear direction.
- c. A polluted spirit gives unclear direction.
- d. In 2020 it was challenging to keep a clear spirit.

IV. David's Prayer

Psalm 51:10 Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me.

- a. Lord renew my spirit!
- b. The quality of your spirit determines the quality of your life.
- c. The condition of your inner man is more important than the appearance of your outer man

V. An Unhealthy Spirit

1. Overwhelmed Spirit - You feel like life has thrown you too much at one time, you don't know which way to go or which way to turn.

- "When my spirit was overwhelmed and weak within me [wrapped in darkness], You knew my path. In the way where I walk They have hidden a trap for me." Psalms 142:3 AMP
- An overwhelmed spirit becomes a weak spirit that becomes vulnerable.

2. Broken Spirit - You have lost momentum and hope, you feel helpless.

- "A happy heart is good medicine and a joyful mind causes healing, but a broken spirit dries up the bones." Proverbs 17:22 AMP
- When the spirit is broken you have no joy and the soul becomes sick.

3. Haughty Spirit - Pride, arrogance, conceit, presumptuous.

- "Pride goes before destruction, a haughty spirit before a fall." Proverbs 16:18 NIV
- A spirit that is haughty sets you up for a fall.

4. Hasty Spirit - Impulsive, rushing into things, having no patience and cannot wait.

- "He that is slow to wrath is of great understanding: but he that is hasty of spirit exalteth folly." Proverbs 14:29 KJV
- Hastiness in your Spirit leads to foolish and rash decisions.

5. Wounded Spirit - Weighed down by discouragement, disappointment, defeat, loss, or sorrow.

- "The spirit of a man will sustain his infirmity; but a wounded spirit who can bear?" Proverbs 18:14 KJV
- A wounded spirit cannot stand up under the burdens of life.

VI. Three Action Steps:

"Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

Matthew 11:28-30 KJV

1. When your spirit is unhealthy come to Jesus.

2. Give Jesus every unhealthy burden that your spirit is caring.
3. Receive his rest.