

A Faith that Drives Out Fear

Deuteronomy 1:19-46

Introduction

In Deuteronomy 1:19-46, we encounter Moses' recollection of the Exodus generation's first trip to the border of the Promised Land, when they sent in spies, heard reports of giants, and all but two of the spies (Joshua and Caleb) warned the people not to enter into the land because of their fear. At the root of the Exodus generation's failure to enter into the land was lack of faith in God which manifested itself in the form of fear. The people were scared, even though the LORD commanded them to "not be afraid and not be discouraged."

This morning, as we consider these passages, we are going to learn how faith in God drives out the fears that keep us from entering into the fullness of all that God has promised us in Christ...

Read Deuteronomy 1:19-46

Exposition

A faith that drives out fear...

I. **Embraces God's promise.** (Vv. 19-21)

"See, the LORD your God has given you the land."

II. **Focuses on God's power.** (Vv. 22-31)

"Do not be terrified; do not be afraid of them. The LORD your God, who is going before you, will fight for you as He did for you in Egypt, before your very eyes, and in the wilderness."

III. **Obeys God's word.** (Vv. 32-46)

The lesson from verses 32-46 is taught by looking at what the people of Israel did and recognizing that we must not follow their example of failing to obey God's word, even in the face of obstacles.

Conclusion

Do you believe that God keeps His promises? Do you believe that God is powerful, able to do all that He has promised? Do you believe that God's Word is true and worthy of our obedience? Then our response ought to be to lay aside fear and put on faith as we move forward. As we press on toward the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

This means that the time to repent and believe is now, not later. The time to get serious about pursuing Christ is now, not later. Because the people of Israel did not have faith, they lived in fear. Because the people did not have faith, they forfeited God's blessing of peace and rest in the land that He had promised to them. And we are warned similarly in Hebrews 4:1-16...