

Overcoming Giants

By Clay Bond

In the Old Testament book of Numbers we learn a great story about attitudes. God delivered His people from Egyptian bondage and brought them near the Promise Land. In Numbers 13 we read that Moses chose twelve men to go into Canaan and spy out the land. After a time, these twelve men returned with a glowing report. The land was amazing! It was everything God promised it would be, a land flowing with milk and honey. The spies found only one problem, the Canaanite people. In fact, the spies said the Canaanites were giants and reported that they were in their “own sight as grasshoppers” (Numbers 13:33). Their final assessment was this, “We be not able to go up against the people; for they are stronger than we” (Numbers 13:31).

Many are facing times of great difficulty and loss. Our promise is not a physical land of rest, but a spiritual one. We can get there, and this Old Testament story reminds us to maintain the attitudes that will help us arrive. The spirit of pessimism is the spirit that refuses to believe that God can and will do all that He has promised. If we do not believe that He will keep His promises, our lack of faith will keep us from trying to do what is pleasing to Him (Hebrews 11:6). We can be like the ten spies and have a dreary outlook. We can be decide that sin is too difficult to overcome and be doomed to wander in a barren wilderness of hopelessness. Or, we can choose to be like Joshua and Caleb and approach life with an optimism that only a deep, abiding faith in God can create. We can be confident that, by the power of God, we can overcome the giants of Satan, self and sin. In spite of all he faced, the Apostle Paul said, “I can do all things through Christ which strengthened me” (Philippians 4:13). We too can approach the Christian life with optimism and know that we are well able to overcome.

The spirit of pessimism is one of those great hurdles that can trip us up and slow us down. Optimism will enable us to enter into that land of rest, the place Jesus has gone to prepare for us (John 14:2). It is one of the key ingredients to being successful as a Christian.

Order of Service

Opening Remarks	Chris Windham
Song Leader	Stephen Petrosky
Prayer	Ray Parks
Communion	Russell Haydon Luke Haydon
Sermon	Clay Bond
Offering	
Closing Remarks	Chris Windham
Dismissal Prayer	Jarrett Haydon

Announcements:

- Potluck Fellowship
- Business Meeting 1-27-2019 after evening services

Wednesday Devotional

Jan. 9	Sam Phillips
Jan. 16	Clay Bond
Jan. 23	Russell Haydon

...Prayer List...

Gay Kyle, Eugene & Barbara Haydon, Don Walker, Gary Schneider, Kathy Ivanciw's mother Shirley, Butch Crownover, Chris' cousin Tyler, Melvin Wright

Remember our college students who are away at school: Jarrett & Luke Haydon

Shut-Ins: Robbi George

Attendance: Sunday AM: 30 PM: 27 Wednesday: 23 Contribution: \$2940.73