We See What We Choose To See

"Oh Lord, Open my Eyes"

Numbers 13:25-33 NKJV - And they returned from spying out the land after forty days. [26] Now they departed and came back to Moses and Aaron and all the congregation of the children of Israel in the Wilderness of Paran, at Kadesh; they brought back word to them and to all the congregation, and showed them the fruit of the land. [27] Then they told him, and said: "We went to the land where you sent us. It truly flows with milk and honey, and this is its fruit. [28] Nevertheless the people who dwell in the land are strong; the cities are fortified and very large; moreover we saw the descendants of Anak there. [29] The Amalekites dwell in the land of the South; the Hittites, the Jebusites, and the Amorites dwell in the mountains; and the Canaanites dwell by the sea and along the banks of the Jordan." [30] Then Caleb quieted the people before Moses, and said, "Let us go up at once and take possession, for we are well able to overcome it." [31] But the men who had gone up with him said, "We are not able to go up against the people, for they are stronger than we." [32] And they gave the children of Israel a bad report of the land which they had spied out, saying, "The land through which we have gone as spies is a land that devours its inhabitants, and all the people whom we saw in it are men of great stature. [33] There we saw the giants (the descendants of Anak came from the giants); and we were like grasshoppers in our own sight, and so we were in their sight."

Same Situation, Different Vision, Different Destiny

Two people can look at the same situation, face the same challenges, and receive the same information, yet come to completely different conclusions because of the perspective through which they interpret what they see.

1. The twelve spies - same land but different vision. In Numbers 13, Moses sent twelve spies to explore the Promised Land.

- All twelve saw the same land, the same cities, the same giants, and the same opportunities. But they returned with two different reports.
- Ten spies saw obstacles according to Numbers 13:31–33
- They focused on the giants, fortified cities, and their own limitations.
- Their conclusion was that they could not conquer the land.

- Joshua and Caleb saw possibilities through God's promise: Numbers 13:30 NKJV - Then Caleb quieted the people before Moses, and said, "Let us go up at once and take possession, for we are well able to overcome it."

- Caleb did not deny the existence of giants. He simply refused to allow the giants to become greater than God's promise.

    1. **Do not be afraid of them, for the LORD your God Himself fights for you." – Deuteronomy 3:22 (NKJV)**

    2. **God is not a man, that He should lie… Has He said, and will He not do? Or has He spoken, and will He not make it good?" – Numbers 23:19 (NKJV)**

    3. **"Yet in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us." – Romans 8:37 (NKJV)**

Spiritual revelation

- Ten spies saw giants; Joshua and Caleb saw God's faithfulness.

- Ten spies saw defeat; Joshua and Caleb saw victory.

- Ten spies saw their limitations; Joshua and Caleb trusted God's power.

- **Ten spies allowed fear to determine their future; Joshua and Caleb allowed faith to guide their response.**

What dominates your vision will often influence the direction of your decisions.

2. **Elisha's servant – seeing the enemy but missing God's Army: 2 Kings 6:15-17**. When the Syrian army surrounded the city, Elisha's servant became afraid.

- He saw the enemy's soldiers, horses, and chariots, But Elisha saw the situation differently.

- He prayed: "LORD, I pray, open his eyes that he may see." (2 Kings 6:17, NKJV)

- God opened the servant's eyes, and he saw the mountain filled with horses and chariots of fire.

Spiritual revelation

- The servant's problem was not that he could not see. He could see the enemy clearly.

- His problem was that he could not yet see the divine provision surrounding him.

- **Sometimes what we see is real, but it is not the whole reality.**

Do not allow what you can see to make you forget the God you cannot see.

Five prophetic declarations

2. **I will not allow my challenges to become greater than God's promises**

3. **I will not interpret my future through my present circumstances.**

4. **I will ask God to open my spiritual understanding.**

5. **I will choose faith over fear without denying reality.**

6. **I will keep my attention on God's faithfulness.**

He is Able

He is able, more than able
To accomplish what concerns me today
He is able, more than able
To handle anything that comes my way

Chorus

He is able, more than able
To do much more than I could ever dream
He is able, more than able
To make me what He wants me to be

Mark 4:40 NKJV
But He said to them, "Why are you so fearful? How is it that you have no faith?"