

# Deuteronomy 1:28

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Whither shall we go up? our brethren have discouraged our heart, saying, The people is greater and taller than we; the cities are great and walled up to heaven; and moreover we have seen the sons of the Anakims there.

## Analysis

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The rhetorical questions—'Whither shall we go up?'—express hopeless despair. The spies' report emphasized obstacles: strong people, fortified cities, giants ('Anakim'). The phrase 'our brethren have discouraged our heart' shows how faithlessness spreads, as fear is contagious. Yet the same facts that paralyzed ten spies energized Joshua and Caleb—the difference wasn't information but faith. What we focus on determines our response.

## Historical Context

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The Anakim were descendants of Anak, known for unusual height and strength, dwelling in fortified hill country cities. Their reputation spread fear throughout Canaan (Joshua 2:11). Yet God had already promised to drive them out (Deuteronomy 9:3), making their size irrelevant to faith.

## Related Passages

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**Romans 10:9** — Confession and belief for salvation

**Ephesians 2:8** — Salvation by grace through faith

## Study Questions

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1. What 'giants' in your life seem larger than God's promises?
2. How can you guard against allowing others' fear to discourage your faith?

## Interlinear Text

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אָנָּה הָאֵל H575	אָנָּה חֲנוּ H587	עַל יָם H5927	אֶחָיו H251	הֵמָּה סוּ H4549	אֶת H853
		Whither shall we go up	our brethren	have discouraged	
לִבֵּי נֹו H3824	לֵאמֹר H559	עַם H5971	גָּדֹל תִּ H1419	וְרָם H7311	מִמֶּנּוּ נֹו H4480
our heart	saying	The people	are great	and taller	than we the cities
					H5892
גָּדֹל תִּ H1419	וּבְצוּרָה תִּ H1219	בִּשְׁמַיִם יָם H8064	וְגַם H1571	בְּנֵי י H1121	עֲנָקִים יָם H6062
are great	and walled up	to heaven	the sons	of the Anakims	
	כֵּן יֹו H7200	שָׁם: H8033			
	and moreover we have seen				

## Additional Cross-References

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**Joshua 15:14** (Parallel theme): And Caleb drove thence the three sons of Anak, Sheshai, and Ahiman, and Talmai, the children of Anak.

**Joshua 11:22** (Parallel theme): There was none of the Anakims left in the land of the children of Israel: only in Gaza, in Gath, and in Ashdod, there remained.

**Joshua 14:8** (Parallel theme): Nevertheless my brethren that went up with me made the heart of the people melt: but I wholly followed the LORD my God.

**Judges 1:20** (Parallel theme): And they gave Hebron unto Caleb, as Moses said: and he expelled thence the three sons of Anak.

