

# Numbers 13:28

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Nevertheless the people be strong that dwell in the land, and the cities are walled, and very great: and moreover we saw the children of Anak there.

## Analysis

The 'nevertheless' introduces the fatal objection: the people are strong and the cities fortified. The conjunction contrasts Canaan's goodness with its perceived impregnability. That the people 'be strong' and cities 'walled, and very great' was true, but irrelevant in light of God's promise. They saw giants; they should have remembered God parting the Red Sea.

## Historical Context

Canaanite cities were indeed fortified with impressive stone walls, towers, and gates. Archaeological excavations at sites like Megiddo and Hazor reveal substantial Iron Age fortifications that would have daunted any ancient army.

## Related Passages

**Hebrews 11:1** — Definition of faith

**James 2:17** — Faith and works

**Colossians 1:16** — All things created through Christ

**Psalm 19:1** — Heavens declare God's glory

## Study Questions

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1. What obstacles in your life seem insurmountable when you forget God's past faithfulness?
2. How does focusing on problems rather than God's promises paralyze obedience?

## Interlinear Text

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וְאַפָּה	פָּעַל	עַל	בָּעֵם	בַּשְׁבִּיבָּה	בְּאֶרֶץ	בְּאֶלְמָנָה	וְאַנְקָרִים
Nevertheless	H3588	be strong	the people	that dwell	in the land	and the cities	
	H657		H5794	H5971	H3427	H776	H5892
בָּצָר וְתִּגְדַּלְתָּ	מְאֹד	וְגַם	וְלֹא	בְּעֵנָה לְ	כִּאֵין		
are walled	great	and very	H1571	the children	of Anak	and moreover we saw	
H1219	H1419	H3966		H3211	H6061	H7200	
שָׁמָן							
	H8033						

## Additional Cross-References

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**Deuteronomy 1:28** (Parallel theme): 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.

**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.

**Numbers 13:33** (Parallel theme): And there we saw the giants, the sons of Anak, which come of the giants: and we were in our own sight as grasshoppers, and so we were in their sight.

**Deuteronomy 2:21** (Parallel theme): A people great, and many, and tall, as the Anakims; but the LORD destroyed them before them; and they succeeded them, and dwelt in their stead:

**Deuteronomy 3:5** (Parallel theme): All these cities were fenced with high walls, gates, and bars; beside unwalled towns a great many.

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