

# Numbers 14:23

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Surely they shall not see the land which I swear unto their fathers, neither shall any of them that provoked me see it:

## Analysis

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God swears that the faithless generation 'shall not see the land which I swear unto their fathers.' The irony is profound: they refused to enter when commanded, now they cannot enter when willing (v. 40-45). This illustrates the tragedy of missed opportunity when God's patience expires. Yet He remains faithful to covenant promises—their children would enter (v. 31).

## Historical Context

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The land promised to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob (Genesis 12:7, 26:3, 28:13) would be inherited not by the Exodus generation but by their children. God's faithfulness spans generations even when individuals fail.

## Related Passages

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**James 2:17** — Faith and works

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

## Study Questions

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1. What opportunities to obey God might you forfeit by delay and unbelief?
2. How does God's faithfulness to His promises comfort you even when individuals fail?

## Interlinear Text

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אִם	וְרָאוּהָ:	אֶת	הָאֲרֶץ	אֲשֶׁר	נִשְׁבַּע עָמִי
<b>Surely they shall not</b>	<b>me see</b>	H853	<b>the land</b>	H834	<b>which I sware</b>
H518	H7200		H776		H7650
לְאֲבֹתָם	וְכָל	מִן־אֵצֶל	לֹא	וְרָאוּהָ:	
<b>unto their fathers</b>	H3605	<b>neither shall any of them that provoked</b>	H3808	<b>me see</b>	
H1		H5006		H7200	

## Additional Cross-References

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**Numbers 32:11** (Parallel theme): Surely none of the men that came up out of Egypt, from twenty years old and upward, shall see the land which I sware unto Abraham, unto Isaac, and unto Jacob; because they have not wholly followed me:

**Numbers 26:64** (Parallel theme): But among these there was not a man of them whom Moses and Aaron the priest numbered, when they numbered the children of Israel in the wilderness of Sinai.

**Ezekiel 20:15** (Parallel theme): Yet also I lifted up my hand unto them in the wilderness, that I would not bring them into the land which I had given them, flowing with milk and honey, which is the glory of all lands;