

Numbers 14:7

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And they spake unto all the company of the children of Israel, saying, The land, which we passed through to search it, is an exceeding good land.

Analysis

Joshua and Caleb testified that the land was 'exceeding good'—directly contradicting the evil report of the other ten spies. Their positive assessment wasn't naive optimism but faith-filled realism: they acknowledged the same facts but interpreted them through confidence in God's promise. Faith transforms how we perceive circumstances.

Historical Context

The phrase 'exceeding good' (literally 'good good exceedingly' in Hebrew) emphasizes superlative quality. These two spies had seen the same giants, fortifications, and obstacles as the others, yet their conclusion differed radically because they factored God's power into their calculation.

Related Passages

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Study Questions

1. How does faith in God's promises change your interpretation of difficult circumstances?
2. In what situation do you need to view obstacles through the lens of God's faithfulness?

Interlinear Text

וַיֹּאמְרוּ	אֶל	כָּל	עַד ת	בְּנֵי	יִשְׂרָאֵל
And they spake	H413	H3605	unto all the company	of the children	of Israel
H559			H5712	H1121	H3478
וַיֹּאמְרוּ	הָאָרֶץ	אֲשֶׁר	עָבַרְנוּ	בָּהּ	לְתוֹר
And they spake	The land	H834	which we passed	H0	through to search
H559	H776		H5674		H8446
הִיא	טוֹבָה	הָאָרֶץ	מְאֹד:	מְאֹד:	
H853	good	The land	it is an exceeding	it is an exceeding	
	H2896	H776	H3966	H3966	

Additional Cross-References

Numbers 13:27 (Parallel theme): And they told him, and said, We came unto the land whither thou sentest us, and surely it floweth with milk and honey; and this is the fruit of it.

Deuteronomy 1:25 (Good): And they took of the fruit of the land in their hands, and brought it down unto us, and brought us word again, and said, It is a good land which the LORD our God doth give us.