



Deborah's Messianic Ministries

Teaching - Training - Worship Center

Proclaiming The Way of Messiah

**Sh'lach L'cha /Send Forth
Torah Portion: Numbers 13:1-15:41
Haftarah: Joshua 2:1-24
Rabbin/Dr. Deborah Brandt**

What is Our Mission

Outline of Parasha Forty Years near Kadesh (13:1–19:22)

A. The mission of the spies and the national rebellion (13:1–14:45)

1. Spies sent out (13:1–16)
2. Mission accomplished (13:17–24)
3. The spies' report of their mission (13:25–33)
4. The people's reaction (14:1–12)
5. Moses' plea for forgiveness (14:13–19)
6. God's response to Moses' prayer (14:20–35)
7. Death of the faithless spies (14:36–38)
8. An unsuccessful attempt at conquest (14:39–45)

B. The law-giving at Kadesh (15:1–41)

1. Meal, oil, and wine to accompany sacrifice (15:1–16)
2. The dough offering (15:17–21)
3. Sacrifices for unintentional sins (15:22–31)
4. A sabbath breaker executed (15:32–36)
5. Tassels on clothes (15:37–41)

Haftarah – Joshua 2:1 – 24



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Key Hebrew Words

SH'LACH L'CHA	Send for yourself
Shalach	Send
Nasi	Prince
Tov	Good
Ra'ah	Evil
Dibbah	Evil Report

Torah Overview

13:1–19:22 *Forty Years near Kadesh*. The central section of the book of Numbers brings together events spanning 40 years, when the Israelites lived in and near Kadesh-barnea. Kadesh is a large oasis about 50 miles (80 km) southwest of Beersheba (see map). It marked the southern limit of the land of Canaan, according to 34:4. So when Israel reached there, they were on the verge of entering the Promised Land. But as a result of the rebellion prompted by the spies' negative reports, God punished the people by making them wait 40 years to enter the land. A few important episodes from this period are recounted in chs. 13–19.

13:1–14:45 The Mission of the Spies and the National Rebellion. The significance of this episode is indicated by its length. It stands alongside the golden calf episode (Exodus 32–34) as one of the two great apostasies of the wilderness wanderings. On the former occasion, Israel broke the first two commandments (Ex. 20:3–6) and the Lord threatened to annihilate them and create a new people from Moses' descendants (Ex. 32:9–10). Only Moses' intercession persuaded God to relent (Ex. 32:11–14). This time the people turn their backs on the Promised Land and propose returning to Egypt. Again the Lord threatens their destruction, which is averted only by Moses' intercession.

13:1–16 *Spies Sent Out*. Twelve tribal leaders are selected to go from Paran to “spy out the land of Canaan” (v. 2) and to bring back a report concerning the quality of the land and the morale of its inhabitants, probably with the intention of strengthening the faith of the Israelites.

13:4–16 This list of tribal leaders differs from that in chs. 1–2; perhaps younger, more energetic leaders were needed for the spying mission. **In 13:16, Hoshea (“he saves”) is renamed Joshua (“Yahweh saves”), anticipating the faith he shows in 14:6.**¹

¹ Crossway Bibles. (2008). [The ESV Study Bible](#) (p. 285). Wheaton, IL: Crossway Bibles.



The Journey of the Spies

When the Israelites first arrived at Kadesh-barnea, Moses dispatched 12 spies to scout out the Promised Land of Canaan. For 40 days the spies traveled throughout Canaan, from the Negeb to Rehob and back again—a distance of over 500 miles (805 km).²

13:31 We are not able to go up against the people, for they are stronger than we are. This statement reflects lack of faith in the Lord, for the spies are evaluating the situation only from a human perspective. As a result, they have no courage. By contrast, trust in the Lord would produce genuine courage, as it does when the people of Israel are given a second opportunity to enter and conquer the Promised Land after 40 years of wandering in the wilderness (cf. Josh. 1:5–9).

13:31 The unbelief of Israel contrasts both with the faithfulness of Messiah Yeshua (Matt. 4:1–10) and the faith of Believers (Heb. 3:7–4:3).³

² Crossway Bibles. (2008). [The ESV Study Bible](#) (p. 286). Wheaton, IL: Crossway Bibles.

³ Crossway Bibles. (2008). [The ESV Study Bible](#) (p. 286). Wheaton, IL: Crossway Bibles.



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14:13–19 *Moses' Plea for Forgiveness.* Moses prays here, as he did after the making of the golden calf (Exodus 32), acting as often in the Torah, as a covenant mediator (cf. Num. 12:3–4). He points out that, were God to fulfill his threat to annihilate Israel, the nations would say that **the LORD was not able to bring this people into the land** (cf. Ex. 32:12). He reminds God that he promised Abraham that his descendants would inherit the land (cf. Ex. 32:13), and finally he quotes God's own description of his character to prove that he ought to forgive (Ex. 34:6–7; Num. 14:18–19).⁴

14:20–35 *God's Response to Moses' Prayer.* God's response is somewhat surprising. On the one hand, he declares: **I have pardoned, according to your word** (i.e., he has drawn back from destroying Israel immediately). But that does not mean they can go ahead with their planned entry to Canaan. In fact, the disobedient Israelites will get what they asked for. They wanted to return to Egypt (v. 3); they are told to go into the wilderness by the Red Sea (v. 25). They said they did not want to enter the land because they would die there (vv. 2–3); they are told they will never enter it, but die in the wilderness (vv. 27–38). They feared that their **little ones ... would become a prey** (see v. 3); but it is the children who in 40 years' time will enter the land (v. 31).⁵

Practical Application of Torah

The Report

(Num 13:25 TLV) **They returned from investigating the land after 40 days.**

(Num 13:26 TLV) They traveled and returned to Moses, Aaron and the entire community of Bnei-Yisrael at Kadesh in the wilderness of Paran. **They gave their report to them and the entire assembly. They showed the land's fruit.**

(Num 13:27 TLV) **They gave their account to him and said,** “We went into the land where you sent us. **Indeed it is flowing with milk and honey—this is some of its fruit.**

(Num 13:28 TLV) **Except,** the people living in the land are powerful, and the cities are fortified and very large. **We even saw** the sons of Anak there!

(Num 13:29 TLV) Amalek is living in the land of the Negev, the Hittites, Jebusites, and Amorites are living in the mountains, and the Canaanites are living near the sea and along the bank of the Jordan.”

(Num 13:30 TLV) **Then Caleb quieted the people before Moses, and said,** “**We should definitely go up and capture the land, for we can certainly do it!**”

(Num 13:31 TLV) **But the men who had gone up with him said,** “**We cannot attack these people, because they are stronger than we.**”

(Num 13:32 TLV) **They spread among Bnei-Yisrael a bad report** about the land they had explored, saying, “The land through which we passed to explore devours its residents. All the people we saw there are men of great size!

⁴ Crossway Bibles. (2008). [The ESV Study Bible](#) (pp. 286–287). Wheaton, IL: Crossway Bibles.

⁵ Crossway Bibles. (2008). [The ESV Study Bible](#) (p. 287). Wheaton, IL: Crossway Bibles.



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(Num 13:33 TLV) We also saw there the Nephilim. (The sons of Anak are from the Nephilim.) **We seemed like grasshoppers in our eyes as well as theirs!”**

The Rebellion

(Num 14:1 TLV) All through that night, the entire community raised up their voices. **The people wept.**

(Num 14:2 TLV) All Bnei-Yisrael grumbled against Moses and Aaron and the whole community said, **“If only we had died in Egypt! If only we had died in this wilderness!**

(Num 14:3 TLV) **Why is Adonai bringing us to this land to fall by the sword? Our wives and children will be like plunder! Wouldn't it be better for us to return to Egypt?”**

(Num 14:4 TLV) **They said to each other, “Let's choose a leader and let's go back to Egypt!”**

(Num 14:5 TLV) Then **Moses and Aaron fell on their faces** before the entire assembly of the community of Bnei-Yisrael.

Seven Effects of the Evil Report

1. All the congregation cried aloud and wept all night.
2. All Israel complained against Moses and Aaron (Num 14:2).
3. They would rather have died in Egypt or in the wilderness, than face the giants and possible death by their hands.
4. Israel accused God of deceiving them (Num 14:3).
5. They arose in open rebellion to make a captain and return to Egypt (Num 14:3-4, Num 14:9).
6. It produced fear and cowardice (Num 14:3, Num 14:9).
7. It aroused mob violence against their leaders whom they'd respected and trusted until now (Num 14:10).

(Num 14:6 TLV) **Joshua son of Nun and Caleb son of Jephunneh, who were among those who had explored the land, tore their clothes.**

(Num 14:7 TLV) **They said to the whole assembly of Bnei-Yisrael, “The land through which we passed is an exceptionally good land!**

(Num 14:8 TLV) **If Adonai is pleased with us, He will lead us into that land and will give it to us—a land flowing with milk and honey.**



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(Num 14:9 TLV) Only don't rebel against Adonai, and don't be afraid of the people of the land. They will be food for us. The protection over them is gone. Adonai is with us! Do not fear them."

The Judgment

Num 14:18 'Adonai is slow to anger and abundant in lovingkindness, forgiving iniquity and transgression. Still, He does not leave the guilty unpunished, bringing the iniquity of the fathers upon the children to the third and fourth generations.'

Num 14:19 Forgive now the guiltiness of this people in accordance with the greatness of Your lovingkindness, just as You have pardoned this people from Egypt until now!"

Num 14:20 Adonai answered, "I have forgiven them just as you have spoken.

Num 14:21 But as certainly as I live and as certainly as the glory of Adonai fills the entire earth,

Num 14:22 none of the people who saw My glory and My miraculous signs I performed in Egypt and in the wilderness—**yet tested Me these ten times and did not obey My Voice—**

Num 14:23 not one of them will see the land I promised to their forefathers. None of those who treated Me with contempt will see it!

Ten Times when Israel Tempted God

1. By murmuring and accusing God of deceiving them and deliberately leading them into a trap so the Egyptians could kill them (Exo 14:11-12).
2. By murmuring at Marah for water (Exo 15:23-26).
3. By murmuring for flesh and bread before reaching Sinai (Exo 16:1-18).
4. By willful disobedience in leaving manna until morning (Exo 16:19-22).
5. By murmuring for water at Rephidim (Exo 17:1-7).
6. By making a golden calf and quickly going back to idolatry (Exo 32:1-35).
7. By murmuring at Taberah (Num 11:1-3).
8. By murmuring for flesh (Num 11:4-35).
9. By unbelief in God and His words and asking that spies be sent into the land—as if they doubted that God told the truth (Num 13:1-25 with Deu 1:20-25).
10. By rebellion at Kadesh (Numbers 13:26-14:37; Deu 1:26-46).

Num 14:24 However, My servant Caleb, because a different spirit is with him and he is wholeheartedly behind Me, I will bring him into the land where he went—his offspring will inherit it.



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The Spirit of Faith and Wisdom

(1Co 2:3 TLV) I was with you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling.

(1Co 2:4 TLV) My speech and my preaching were not with persuasive words of wisdom, **but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power—**

(1Co 2:5 TLV) **so that your faith would not be in the wisdom of men but in the power of God.**

(1Co 2:6 TLV) We do speak wisdom, however, among those who are mature—but not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are coming to nothing.

(1Co 2:7 TLV) **Rather, we speak God's wisdom in a mystery—a wisdom that has been hidden, which God destined for our glory before the ages.**

(1Co 2:8 TLV) None of the rulers of this age understood it—for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory.

(1Co 2:9 TLV) But as it is written, **“Things no eye has seen and no ear has heard, that have not entered the heart of mankind—these things God has prepared for those who love Him.”**

(1Co 2:10 TLV) **But God revealed these things to us through the Ruach.** For the Ruach searches all things—even the depths of God.

(1Co 2:11 TLV) For who among men knows the things of a man, except the man's spirit within him? In the same way, **no one knows the things of God except the Ruach Elohim.**

(1Co 2:12 TLV) **Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God—so we might come to know the things freely given to us by God.**

Whose Report will you believe? We are called to walk by Faith and not by Sight

(Heb 11:1 TLV) **Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of realities not seen.**

(Heb 11:6 TLV) **Now without faith it is impossible to please God. For the one who comes to God must believe that He exists and that He is a rewarder of those who seek Him.**

a [faith] Greek: pistis (G4102), faith (note, 2Th 3:2).

Eighteen Definitions of Faith

1. Substance of things hoped for (Heb 11:1)
2. Evidence of things not seen (Heb 11:1, Heb 11:7)
3. Invisible backing of elders (Heb 11:2)
4. Creative power of divine works (Heb 11:3)



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5. Divine testimony of right doing (Heb 11:4)
6. Cancellation of natural laws (Heb 11:5)
7. Basis of pleasing God (Heb 11:6)
8. Dependence upon God's word (Heb 11:7)
9. Trust in an unknown future (Heb 11:8-10)
10. Counting things that be not as though they were (Heb 11:11-12; Rom 4:17)
11. Seeing invisible things (Heb 11:13-16)
12. Assurance of God's faithfulness (Heb 11:17-19; Heb 10:23)
13. Confidence in things to come (Heb 11:20-31; Heb 3:6, Heb 3:14; Heb 10:35; Eph 3:12; 1Jn 3:21)
14. Stimulus of the Messianic faith (Hebrews 11:32-12:2)
15. The life-blood of the just (Heb 10:38)
16. Shield of Believers armor (Eph 6:16)
17. Down payment of things desired (Heb 3:6, Heb 3:12-14; Heb 6:11-12; Heb 10:22-23, Heb 10:35-39)
18. Guarantee of answered prayer (Mat 21:22; Mar 11:22-24; Heb 11:6; Jas 1:1-27)

b [substance] Greek: hypostasis (G5287), a support; ground work; confidence; subsistence; reality; essence (note, Heb 1:3). Used in the Papyri of title deeds.

c [things hoped for]

<p>Do not doubt in your heart when you pray according to His Word.</p>

(Mar 11:21 TLV) Peter remembered and said to Yeshua, **“Rabbi, look! The fig tree You cursed has shriveled up!”**

(Mar 11:22 TLV) And Yeshua answered, saying to them, **“Have faith in God!**

(Mar 11:23 TLV) Amen, I tell you, if someone says to this mountain, ‘Be taken up and thrown into the sea,’ and **does not doubt in his heart but trusts that what he says is happening, so shall it be for him.**

(Mar 11:24 TLV) For this reason I say to you, **whatever you pray and ask, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours.**

(Mar 11:25 TLV) Whenever you stand praying, if you have anything against anyone, forgive him, so that your Father in heaven may also forgive you your transgressions.”

We know that Yeshua expects God's people to put forth the fruit of righteousness, and that



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unproductive branches are thrown in the fire ([Mat 7:16-20](#); [Mat 12:33](#); [Mat 13:4-9](#), [Mat 13:18-23](#); [Joh 15:1-8](#)). Thus the drying-up of the fig tree is an acted-out warning. In keeping with [Pro 27:18](#) ("He who tends a fig tree will eat his fruit, and he who serves his master will be honored") Yeshua here is teaching his followers what it means to serve their master, God: it means simply to **have the kind of trust that comes from God** ([Mar 11:22](#)), and that they will wither away if they don't. Yeshua neither acts from pique nor performs arbitrary miracles like a magician; every one of his supernatural acts has spiritual significance. JNTC

Ten Conditions of Answered Prayer

1. Have the faith of God ([Rom 4:17](#); [Heb 11:3](#); [Gal 5:22-23](#)).
2. Pray: say in no uncertain terms what you want ([Mar 11:23-24](#); [Mat 17:20](#); [Mat 21:21-22](#); [Joh 15:7](#)).
3. Have unlimited faith without qualifying and limiting God's will or what you want ([Mar 11:23-24](#); [Mat 17:20](#); [Mat 21:21-22](#); [Mar 9:23](#); [Joh 15:7](#), [Joh 15:16](#)).
4. Refuse to doubt in the heart ([Mar 11:23](#); [Mat 17:20](#); [Jas 1:5-8](#)).
5. Believe that whatever is asked will be given ([Mar 11:23-24](#); [Mat 7:7-11](#); [Mat 17:20](#); [Mat 21:21-22](#); [Heb 11:6](#)).
6. Believe that whatever is asked is already granted ([Mar 11:24](#); [Mat 17:20](#); [1Jn 5:14-15](#)).
7. Stand in faith that it will come to pass what is asked ([Mar 11:23-24](#); [Mat 17:20](#); [Mar 9:23](#)).
8. Believe that what you want is God's will ([Mar 11:24](#); [Joh 15:7](#); [Mat 17:20](#); [Mat 21:21-22](#); [Heb 11:6](#); [Jas 1:5-8](#)). Salvation is God's will and salvation brings provision for

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yēšû'āh: A feminine noun meaning salvation, **deliverance, help, victory, prosperity**. The **primary meaning is to rescue from distress or danger**. It is used to signify help given by other human beings ([1Sa 14:45](#); [2Sa 10:11](#)); help or security offered by fortified walls, delivering in the sense of preventing what would have happened if the walls were not there ([Isa 26:1](#)); one's **welfare and safety** ([Job 30:15](#)); salvation by God, with reference **to being rescued by Him from physical harm** ([Exo 14:13](#); [2Ch 20:17](#)); being rescued from the punishment due for sin ([Psa 70:4](#) [5]; [Isa 33:6](#); [Isa 49:6](#); [Isa 52:7](#)). Used in the plural, it signifies works of help ([Psa 44:4](#) [5]; [Psa 74:12](#)); and God's salvation ([2Sa 22:51](#); [Psa 42:5](#) [6]; [Psa 116:13](#)).

9. Never say "if it be Thy will" concerning anything you ask that is definitely promised of God in His word ([Mar 11:23](#); [Psa 84:11](#); [2Co 1:20](#); [2Pe 1:3-4](#)).
10. Have a clean heart and life with God and man ([Mar 11:25](#); [Joh 15:7](#); [1Jn 3:22-23](#)).



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"Whatsoever," "anything," "all things," "what ye will," "what things soever ye desire," "Whatsoever he saith," and other unlimited terms are found in Scripture, assuring the possibilities and absolute certainty of answered prayer.