

## **First Church of God**

**July 14, 2013**

### **Sermon Notes**

**Pastor Robert G. White**

### **“Following God’s Will— In Spite of the Giants”**

**Numbers 13:25-32**

<sup>25</sup>AT the end of forty days they returned from exploring the land. <sup>26</sup>They came back to Moses and Aaron and the whole Israelite community at Kadesh in the Desert of Paran. There they reported to them and to the whole assembly and showed them the fruit of the land. <sup>27</sup>They gave Moses this account: “We went into the land to which you sent us, and it does flow with milk and honey! Here is its fruit. <sup>28</sup>But the people who live there are powerful, and the cities are fortified and very large. We even saw descendants of Anak there. <sup>29</sup>The Amalekites live in the Negev;

*the Hittites, Jebusites and Amorites live in the hill country; and the Canaanites live near the sea and along the Jordan.”*

<sup>30</sup>Then Caleb silenced the people before Moses and said, “We should go up and take possession of the land, for we can certainly do it.”

<sup>31</sup>But the men who had gone up with him said, “We can’t attack those people; they are stronger than we are.” <sup>32</sup>And they spread among the Israelites a bad report about the land they had explored. They said, “The land we explored devours those living in it. All the people we saw there are of great size. <sup>33</sup>We saw the Nephilim there (the descendant of Anak come from the Nephilim). We seemed like grasshoppers in our own eyes, and we looked the same to them.”

## **INTRODUCTION**

Helen Keller was once asked what would be worse than being blind. She replied, “To have sight and have no vision.”

## I. THEY FOLLOWED IN **FEAR**.

**(Numbers: 13: 25 – 29)**

<sup>25</sup>AT the end of forty days they returned from exploring the land. <sup>26</sup>They came back to Moses and Aaron and the whole Israelite community at Kadesh in the Desert of Paran. There they reported to them and to the whole assembly and showed them the fruit of the land. <sup>27</sup>They gave Moses this account: “We went into the land to which you sent us, and it does flow with milk and honey! Here is its fruit. <sup>28</sup>But the people who live there are powerful, and the cities are fortified and very large. We even saw descendants of Anak there. <sup>29</sup>The Amalekites live in the Negev; the Hittites, Jebusites and Amorites live in the hill country; and the Canaanites live near the sea and along the Jordan.”

A. They **underestimated** the power of God.

**(Numbers 14:22 – 23)**

“Not one of the men who saw my glory and the miraculous signs I performed in Egypt and in the

desert but who disobeyed me and tested me ten times — not one of them will ever see the land I promised on oath to their forefathers. Not one who has treated me with contempt will ever see it.”

B. They fell **short** of God’s best for them.

**(Numbers 14:30 – 33)**

“Not one of you will enter the land I swore with uplifted hand to make your home, **except** Caleb son of Jephunneh and Joshua son of Nun. As for your children that you said would be taken as plunder, I will bring them in to enjoy the land you have rejected. But you — your bodies will fall in this desert. Your children will be shepherds here for forty years, suffering for your unfaithfulness, until the last of your bodies lie in the desert.”

C. They paid a terrible **price** for their mistake.

**“One wrong decision or impulsive action could mean a life—time of regret.”**

**—Anonymous—**