

Glen Park Gospel Church
Tuesday Evening Bible Study Group Notes

Rev Chris Trinham

From Egypt to Canaan

No 10

Kadesh: Land of Giants

First Read: Numbers 13:1-14:38

Lets Set the Scene. Read Deuteronomy 1:19-24. This passage tells us that the idea of spying out the Land came from the people. They knew that God planned for them to enter in and possess it. They knew the battle would be tough. They knew (See Numbers 14:9) that God had melted the hearts of the people there when they heard how God had dealt with the Egyptian army and how God had accompanied the Hebrews on their desert journey. However they feared to trust and obey God.

What turned Hebrews hearts to water too?

1. Their hearts were still in Egypt. Numbers 11:5. We too ought not be hankering after the things that belong to the old life we lived before we knew the Lord. We have better things to fill our affections Hebrews 12:21-24.
2. They exhibited a rebellious spirit. They had a long history of dissatisfaction and mistrust, as our studies have shown.
3. They still cowered as underdog slaves.

"There also we saw the Nephilim (the sons of Anak are part of the Nephilim); and we became like grasshoppers in their sight, and so we were in their sight." Numbers 13:33.

Sometimes Christians have a similar attitude. "I am only a sinner saved by grace". In reality, I was once a slave to sin, but now I am a child of the King. That's what it means to be saved by grace.

Two Hebrew Words in our Study

Nephilim means fallen ones
Rephaim means giants

'Anak are part of the Nephilim' v33 is better read ... the sons of Anak are descendants of the Nephilim ...

These were the super-enemy. They were, powerful, valiant men of war, and they cowered the Hebrew leaders, sending

them running with their tails between their legs. "We became like grasshoppers in our own sight, and so we were in their sight."

It was sheer funk, and fear is the enemy of faith. What upset them?

About Nephilim:

The correct translation of the word is not 'giants' as in the KJV, but 'feller' or 'fallen ones' (Young). There is one other use of this word. It is in Genesis 6:1-4, before the flood:

Now it came about, when men began to multiply on the face of the land, and daughters were born to them, the sons of God saw that the daughters of men were beautiful; and they took wives for themselves, whomever they chose. Then the LORD said, "My Spirit shall not strive with man forever, because he also is flesh; nevertheless his days shall be one hundred and twenty years." The Nephilim were on the earth in those days, and also afterward, when the sons of God came in to the daughters of men, and they bore *children* to them. Those were the mighty men who *were* of old, men of renown. Genesis 6:1-4.

There are three views identifying these 'sons of God': ('God'- Heb. elohiym - God ,god, judge, mighty). They were:

1. princes or the heads of tribes.
2. The daughters of men are the daughters of Seth, and the sons of God are the sons of Cain, a mighty founder of civilisation Gen 5:17-24.
3. The sons of God are angels.

In Gen 6:1,3&4 the words 'man' and 'men' are significant. 'Mighty *men*' v4 means male persons. Elsewhere it is 'Adam',

singular, which ought to read either 'Adam' the first man, or 'mankind' as the context demands. Bullenger says the word in v3 refers to Adam himself, who, although created and not born, was 'also flesh'. It was he who had 120 years of life remaining and this reference dates God's pronouncement in this verse.

The 'sons of God' is a term used in early Old Testament books for angels. See Job 1:6, 2:1, 38:7 and also Psalm 89:6. Angels are also called spirits. See Psalm 104:4 and Hebrews 1:7&14.

That some angels fell from their appointments is clear from Jude 6&7 and their sin included sexual activity. The people of Sodom and Gomorrah also sinned by going after strange flesh, that is flesh of a different kind.

In Sodom it was homosexuality. In

Adam's day it was human flesh, still flesh of a different kind, and it resulted in progeny who were powerful, and by implication a warrior, a tyrant (Strong.) These sons of God, fallen angels, the Nephilim were Satan's messengers, corrupting the human race, in order to frustrate God's plan to bring His Anointed, the perfect man who died at Calvary to redeem all those who believe. If Jesus were not fully, wholly man He could not truly represent mankind, because He would be something else. This corruption was so advanced in Noah's day it called for drastic action.

Only Noah found grace in God's eyes, in that He and His family were uncorrupted.

He is described as being 'blameless'. This word means whole, or complete, or 100%. The purpose and design of the flood was to begin the race again with a pure line, Noah's and only Noah's.

The twelve spies found that the progeny of the Nephilim were in the land God had marked out for them. Satan's strategy once almost successful was tried again Genesis 6:4b. This is a resurgence which was by God's command eventually removed by the conquest.

Their size, strength, number and organization petrified the Hebrews. Only Joshua and Caleb stood against this rebellion in the Hebrew ranks. No argument, plea or appeal could move them.

What internal and external evidence is there for these things?

In Deuteronomy 3:1-11, there is a record that Moses commenced the task of removing the Canaanite inhabitants from the land of promise before he handed leadership over to Joshua. The bed, over 4 metres long, was cited to his immediate readers. The point of this is that it was good evidence to them.

If you want to investigate further, go to: <http://home.att.net/~warplover/index3.html> for a description of the country of Bashan and its cities before modern redevelopment.

Bible quotations in this study are from the NASB, unless otherwise acknowledged.

Welcome Glen Park Gospel Church
Lower Road, Eltham North
Sundays 10.30 am

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