

APPLICATION POINT

Caleb's inspired testimony assures us that regarding the Lord that **"every promise made will a promise kept,"** despite the prolong duration of time and associated changes of external conditions that will arise.



OVERVIEW BRIEF

Caleb had waited for the Promise of God for 45 years. Likewise, remaining steadfast and patiently awaiting for the Lord to fulfill His "great and precious promises" to us (Christ followers) also poses a perpetual challenge, but yet we have been enabled to wait for the fulfillment of His divine promises although a lengthy duration of time may transpire before it is manifested.

If Caleb could wait expectantly, so could we. His actions demonstrated the enduring vision of true "operational" faith.

Again, observe the stressed detail highlighted in the record. In **Joshua 14:10** he specifically stated, "And now, behold, the LORD hath kept me alive, as he said, these forty and five years, even since the LORD spake this word unto Moses, while [the children of] Israel wandered in the wilderness: and now, lo, I [am] this day fourscore and five years old."

From his statement we are able to glean several timeless biblical precepts that yet apply to our lives today.

Foremost, we observe that the enduring posture of true faith does not change despite the passage of a considerable amount of time.

Over the transpiring 45 years Caleb could have changed his attitude toward serving God and began living less intensely and at "a distance" because the object of his expectations lay far beyond the horizon of those many days of wandering.

This is a very important point that we need to seriously consider today because many of us are too presently residing in a lengthy interim or season in our lives where the prevailing challenge of endurance or perseverance that shows no evidence of ending in the near term.

Another practical precept we can identify in Caleb's declaration is that in many instances the path of spiritual advancement lies through the valley experiences of others we are closely associated with.



FOCUS VERSE: And what is the exceeding greatness of His power toward us who believe, according to the working of His mighty power .

Ephesians 1:19 (KJV)

CENTRAL TEXT:

Joshua 14:10-15

Joshua 14:10 And now, behold, the LORD has kept me alive, as He said, these forty-five years, ever since the LORD spoke this word to Moses while Israel wandered in the wilderness; and now, here I am this day, eighty-five years old.

11 As yet I am as strong this day as on the day that Moses sent me; just as my strength was then, so now is my strength for war, both for going out and for coming in.

12 Now therefore give me this mountain, whereof the Lord spake in that day; for thou heardest in that day how the Anakims were there, and that the

cities were great and fenced: if so be the Lord will be with me, then I shall be able to drive them out, as the Lord said.

13 And Joshua blessed him, and gave unto Caleb the son of Jephunneh Hebron for an inheritance.

14 Hebron therefore became the inheritance of Caleb the son of Jephunneh the Kenezite unto this day, because that he wholly followed the Lord God of Israel.

15 And the name of Hebron before was Kirjatharba; which Arba was a great man among the Anakims. And the land had rest from war.