

Old Testament Character Studies: Caleb / Korah

Sunday, December 4 and Wednesday, December 7

Caleb (Sunday, December 4)

- In Numbers 13: 1 – 2, what mission did God give to Moses? Subsequently, in Numbers 13: 17 – 20, what directions does Moses give to the 12 men selected to conduct this mission?
- From Numbers 13: 26 – 29, describe the observations of the majority of the spies as they gave their report. What did this indicate about their faith?
- In comparison, describe Caleb's reaction as recorded in Numbers 13: 30. What did his response indicate about his faith?
- In Numbers 13: 31 – 33, how did the other spies change the nature of their report based on the comment that Caleb had made (recorded in Verse 30)?
- From Numbers 14: 1 – 4, what effect did the negative report from the majority of the spies have on the people? What lesson does this account provide regarding how we influence others? (*Galatians 5: 7 – 10; 1 Peter 2: 11 – 12*)
- From Numbers 14: 6 – 9, describe the response of Caleb and Joshua. What does this teach us about trusting God?
- As recorded in Numbers 14: 10, how did the people respond to Caleb and Joshua's statement of faith? How should we respond when we encounter opposition to our faith? (*Matthew 5: 44; Romans 12: 14; 1 Peter 3: 8 – 9*)
- What was the consequence of this event, as recorded in Numbers 14: 26 – 31?
- Later, in the Book of Joshua, what do we learn about Caleb's character and his willingness to serve the Lord? (*Joshua 14: 6 – 15*)

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Korah (Wednesday, December 7)

- From Numbers 16: 1 – 3, what do we know about Korah's background? Who else was involved in this rebellion, and what charge did this group bring against Moses and Aaron? (*Numbers 4: 15; James 5: 9*)
- In Numbers 16: 4 – 11, how does Moses respond to Korah and his supporters? What point does Moses make about the status of the tribe of Levi, and how can we relate to his message? (*1 Peter 2: 9; Galatians 5: 13*)
- In Numbers 16: 12 – 14, what accusation did the rebels bring against Moses and Aaron? How did this differ from the initial charge recorded in Verse 3?
- As recorded in Numbers 16: 20 – 24, what was God's intended response? How do Moses and Aaron react, and how does their response affect God's course of action?
- Describe the statement that Moses makes to the people as recorded in Numbers 16: 28 – 30.
- In Numbers 16: 31 – 35, what happened to Korah and his supporters? Why didn't God limit this outcome exclusively to Korah as the leader of the rebellion, but also destroyed all those who were involved? (*1 Corinthians 4: 5; 2 Corinthians 5: 10*)
- In Numbers 16: 36 – 40, what became of the censers that belonged to the rebels?
- As indicated in Numbers 16: 41 – 50, how did the people respond to the events concerning Korah's rebellion? How did God react, and how did Moses and Aaron once again intercede on the people's behalf?
- As recorded in Numbers Chapter 17, how was this particular incident finally resolved? According to Numbers 17: 10 – 11, how was this event to be commemorated to serve as a lasting reminder about obedience and faith? (*Hebrews 9: 3 – 4*)