

Generations...

I. Introduction

II. Caleb is chosen to **LEAD**

from the tribe of Judah, Caleb son of Jephunneh; Numbers 13:6 (NIV)

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." Numbers 13:30 (NIV)

Not Everyone Agreed

But the men who had gone up with him said, "We can't attack those people; they are stronger than we are." 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. We saw the Nephilim there (the descendants of Anak come from the Nephilim). We seemed like grasshoppers in our own eyes, and we looked the same to them." Numbers 13:31-33 (NIV)

The Effect is Immediate:

That night all the people of the community raised their voices and wept aloud. Numbers 14:1 (NIV)

Joshua son of Nun and Caleb son of Jephunneh, who were among those who had explored the land, tore their clothes and said to the entire Israelite assembly, "The land we passed through and explored is exceedingly good. If the LORD is pleased with us, he will lead us into that land, a land flowing with milk and honey, and will give it to us. Only do not rebel against the LORD. And do not be afraid of the people of the land, because we will swallow them up. Their protection is gone, but the LORD is with us. Do not be afraid of them." But the whole assembly talked about stoning them. Then the glory of the LORD appeared at the Tent of Meeting to all the Israelites. Numbers 14:6-10 (NIV)

III. Caleb's **DECLARATION** - in Joshua Chapter 14

Verses 5-11

How does this happen?

How can I be effective in my youth and still effective when I am elderly?

How does Caleb maintain his drive, energy and passion?

1. Vision Produces **OBEDIENCE**

But my brothers who went up with me made the hearts of the people melt with fear. I, however, followed the Lord my God wholeheartedly. (v. 8) So on that day Moses swore to me, "The land on which your feet have walked will be your inheritance and that of your children forever, because you have followed the Lord my God wholeheartedly." (v. 9) So Hebron has belonged to Caleb son of Jephunneh the Kenizzite ever since, because he followed the Lord, the God of Israel, wholeheartedly. (v. 14)

2. Vision Produces **HOPE**

Now then, just as the Lord promised, he has kept me alive for forty-five years since the time he said this to Moses, while Israel moved about in the desert. So here I am today, eighty-five years old! (v. 10)

3. Vision Produces **STRENGTH**

I am still as strong today as the day Moses sent me out; I'm just as vigorous to go out to battle now as I was then. (v. 11)

4. Vision Produces **DIRECTION**

Now give me this hill country that the Lord promised me that day. (v. 12)

5. Vision Produces **FAITH** (Numbers 13:25–33)

6. Vision Produces **PROTECTION**

Now then, just as the Lord promised, he has kept me alive for forty-five years. (v. 10)

7. Vision Produces **WORKS**

From Hebron Caleb drove out the three Anakites—Sheshai, Ahiman and Talmi—descendants of Anak. (15:14)

8. Vision Produces **BLESSING**

Then Joshua blessed Caleb son of Jephunneh and gave him Hebron as an inheritance. So Hebron has belonged to Caleb son of Jephunneh the Kenizzite ever since, because he followed the Lord, the God of Israel, wholeheartedly. (14:13–14)

In accordance with the Lord's command to him, Joshua gave to Caleb son of Jephunneh a portion of Judah— Kiriath Arba, that is, Hebron. (15:13)

9. Vision Produces the **RIGHT ATTITUDE**

But my brothers who went up with me made the hearts of the people melt with fear. (14:8)