

## Appendix: The Complete Text of Numbers 13-14

**13** Jehovah spoke to Moses, saying, <sup>2</sup>“Send men to explore the land of Canaan, which I am giving to the children of Israel. Send one of the leaders from each of their fathers’ tribes.” <sup>3</sup>So at Jehovah’s command Moses sent them from the wilderness of Paran; all *whom he sent* were leaders of the children of Israel. <sup>4</sup>These are their names: from the tribe of Reuben, Shammua the son of Zaccur; <sup>5</sup>from the tribe of Simeon, Shaphat the son of Hori; <sup>6</sup>from the tribe of Judah, Caleb the son of Jephunneh; <sup>7</sup>from the tribe of Issachar, Igal the son of Joseph; <sup>8</sup>from the tribe of Ephraim, Hoshea the son of Nun; <sup>9</sup>from the tribe of Benjamin, Palti the son of Raphu; <sup>10</sup>from the tribe of Zebulun, Gaddiel the son of Sodi; <sup>11</sup>from the tribe of Joseph, *that is*, the tribe of Manasseh, Gaddi the son of Susi; <sup>12</sup>from the tribe of Dan, Ammiel the son of Gemalli; <sup>13</sup>from the tribe of Asher, Sethur the son of Michael; <sup>14</sup>from the tribe of Naphtali, Nahbi the son of Vophsi; <sup>15</sup>*and* from the tribe of Gad, Geuel the son of Machi. <sup>16</sup>These are the names of the men Moses sent to explore the land. (Moses gave Hoshea the son of Nun the name Joshua.) <sup>17</sup>When Moses sent them to explore the land of Canaan he said to them, “Go up through the Negev\* and on into the hill country. <sup>18</sup>See what the land is like and whether the people who live there are strong or weak, *and whether* they are many or few *in number*. <sup>19</sup>*Evaluate* the land in which they live, is it good or bad? *Report on* the cities in which they dwell, are they *unwalled* encampments or well fortified *structures*? <sup>20</sup>*Examine* the soil, is it fertile or poor? Is there *an abundance of trees* or *is the land barren*? Make an effort to bring back some of the fruit of the land.” (It was the season for the first ripe grapes.)

<sup>21</sup>So they went up and explored the land from the wilderness of Zin as far as Rehob, toward Lebo Hamath. <sup>22</sup>They went up through the Negev\* and came to Hebron, where Ahiman, Sheshai, and Talmi, the descendants of Anak, lived. (Hebron had been built seven years before Zoan in Egypt.) <sup>23</sup>When they reached the Valley of Eshcol, they cut off a branch bearing a single cluster of grapes—two of them had to carry it on a pole between them. They also brought back some pomegranates and figs. <sup>24</sup>That place was called the Valley of Eshcol because of the cluster *of grapes* the children of Israel

cut off there. <sup>25</sup>After forty days they returned from exploring the land.

<sup>26</sup>They came back to Moses and Aaron and to the whole congregation of the children of Israel *encamped* at Kadesh in the wilderness of Paran. There they reported to them and to the whole congregation 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 certainly does flow with milk and honey! This is its fruit. <sup>28</sup>However, the people who live there are powerful, and the cities are fortified *and* very large. Furthermore, we saw the descendants of Anak there. <sup>29</sup>The Amalekites live in the Negev;\* the Hittites and the Jebusites and the Amorites live in the hill country; and the Canaanites live near the sea and along the *Jordan River*. <sup>30</sup>Then Caleb silenced the people before Moses and said, “Let us immediately go up and take possession *of the land*; for we are fully able to *succeed!*” <sup>31</sup>But the men who had gone up with him *protested*, “We are not able to attack *those* people, for they are stronger than we are.” <sup>32</sup>So they gave the children of Israel a negative report concerning the land they had explored. They said, “The land we explored devours those who live in it; and all the people we saw there are men of great size. <sup>33</sup>We also saw the Nephilim there.” (The descendants of Anak come from the Nephilim.) “*Compared to them*, we seemed like grasshoppers to ourselves and to them as well.”

**14** The whole congregation raised their voices and wailed, and that night the people wept. <sup>2</sup>All the children of Israel grumbled against Moses and against Aaron, and the whole congregation said to them, “We wish that we had died in the land of Egypt, or that we had died in this wilderness! <sup>3</sup>Why has Jehovah brought us to this land, so that we might *be killed* with the sword? Our wives and our little children will be taken as plunder! Is it not better for us to go back to Egypt?” <sup>4</sup>They said among themselves, “Let us choose a leader *for ourselves* and go back to Egypt!”

<sup>5</sup>Then Moses and Aaron fell facedown in front of the whole congregation of the children of Israel assembled *there*. <sup>6</sup>Joshua, the son of Nun, and Caleb, the son of Jephunneh, who were among those who had explored the land, tore their clothes *in grief* <sup>7</sup>and addressed the whole congregation of the children of Israel, saying, “The land we explored is a very good land. <sup>8</sup>If

Jehovah is pleased with us he will bring us into this land and give it to us. It is a land that flows with milk and honey. <sup>9</sup>Only do not rebel against Jehovah, and do not fear the inhabitants of the land. We will consume them like bread\*\*<sup>9</sup>; their protection has been removed from them and Jehovah is with us. Do not be afraid of them!” <sup>10</sup>But the whole congregation called out for them to be stoned. Then the glory of Jehovah appeared at the Tent of Meeting to all the children of Israel.

<sup>11</sup>Jehovah said to Moses, “How long will these people treat me with contempt? How long will they refuse to trust me, despite all the signs I have performed among them? <sup>12</sup>I will strike them with the pestilence and disinherit them, then I will make you into a nation greater and mightier than they are.” <sup>13</sup>But Moses *answered* Jehovah, “Then the Egyptians will hear about it, for by your power you brought these people up from among them; <sup>14</sup>and they will tell the inhabitants of this land about it. They have heard that you, Jehovah, are with these people, for you, Jehovah, are seen face to face, and your cloud stands over them, and you go before them in a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night. <sup>15</sup>Now if you kill all these people as though *they were only* one man, the nations who have heard of your fame will say, <sup>16</sup>‘Because Jehovah was not able to bring these people into the land he pledged to give them, that is why he slaughtered them in the wilderness.’ <sup>17</sup>Now, I beg you, let the Lord’s power *of restraint* be great, just as you have declared: <sup>18</sup>Jehovah is slow to anger, abounding in lovingkindness, forgiving iniquity and transgression. But he will by no means acquit *the guilty*; he punishes the children for the iniquities of the fathers to the third and fourth generations. <sup>19</sup>In accordance with the greatness of your lovingkindness, I beg you to pardon the iniquity of these people, just as you have forgiven these people from Egypt until now.”

<sup>20</sup>Then Jehovah said, “I have pardoned, as you have asked. <sup>21</sup>Nevertheless, as surely as I live and as surely as all the earth shall be filled with the glory of Jehovah, <sup>22</sup>be sure that all those men who have seen my glory and my signs, which I performed in Egypt and in the wilderness, but still have tested me these ten times and have not paid attention to my voice, <sup>23</sup>shall not see the land I pledged to their forefathers. No one who has treated me with contempt shall see it. <sup>24</sup>But because my servant Caleb has a different spirit in him and has followed me wholeheartedly, I will bring him into the land he *visited*, and

his descendants will possess it. <sup>25</sup>Since the Amalekites and the Canaanites are living in the valleys, turn back tomorrow and go into the wilderness in the direction of the Red Sea.” <sup>26</sup>Jehovah said to Moses and Aaron, <sup>27</sup>“How long shall I put up with this wicked congregation that grumbles against me? I have heard *the complaints* of the children of Israel that they make against me. <sup>28</sup>Tell them: As surely as I live, declares Jehovah, I will do to you the very things I heard you say. <sup>29</sup>Your corpses will fall in this wilderness—everyone of you twenty years old or older who was counted in the census and who has grumbled against me. <sup>30</sup>You certainly shall not enter the land I pledged to give you as a dwelling place—except Caleb the son of Jephunneh and Joshua the son of Nun. <sup>31</sup>But your little children, whom you said would be taken as plunder, them I will bring into the land, and they shall enjoy the land you have rejected. <sup>32</sup>As for you, your corpses will fall in the wilderness. <sup>33</sup>But your children shall be wanderers in the wilderness for forty years, they shall suffer for your unfaithfulness until your corpses have been consumed by the wilderness. <sup>34</sup>For forty years—one year for each of the forty days you explored the land—you will suffer for your iniquities, and you shall know what it is like to have me against you. <sup>35</sup>I, Jehovah, have spoken. I will surely do these things to this whole wicked congregation who have assembled themselves against me. They will be consumed by this wilderness and there they shall die.”

<sup>36</sup>So the men whom Moses had sent to explore the land, those who had returned and caused the whole congregation to grumble against him by presenting a negative report against the land—<sup>37</sup>those same men who presented a negative report about the land—died by a plague in the presence of Jehovah. <sup>38</sup>Of the men who went to explore the land, only Joshua the son of Nun and Caleb the son of Jephunneh survived.

<sup>39</sup>When Moses reported these words *of Jehovah* to all the children of Israel, they mourned bitterly. <sup>40</sup>Early the next morning they went up toward the high hill country. They said, “We are here! We will go up to the place Jehovah has promised *to give us!* We have sinned *in not obeying him.*” <sup>41</sup>But Moses said, “Why are you now transgressing against the commandment of Jehovah, since you cannot succeed? <sup>42</sup>Do not go up, or else you will be struck down by your enemies, because Jehovah is not with you. <sup>43</sup>The Amalekites and the Canaanites will confront you, and you will *be killed* with the

sword. Because you have turned back from following Jehovah, Jehovah will not be with you.”<sup>44</sup> Nevertheless, in their presumption they went up toward the high hill country, but neither Jehovah’s ark of the covenant nor Moses left the camp.<sup>45</sup> Then the Amalekites and the Canaanites who live in the hill country came down and attacked them and beat them down all the way to Hormah.

\*Or, “the South,” \*\*Literally, “they are bread for us”