

heritance. It was from there they were commanded to send in the spies, and have a report brought to them.

Then Caleb takes up the brief narrative himself. "Forty years old was I when Moses the servant of the Lord sent me from Kadesh-Barnea to spy out the land; and I brought him word again as it was in mine heart: though the brethren that went up with me made the heart of the people melt; yet I wholly followed the Lord my God." Thus we get the exact picture of the man, who for nearly half a century was to stand silently and obscurely in his place, and help lay the foundation of the nation, to whom God was to entrust so much. Both he and the historian concluded evidently that nothing more could be gained in following Caleb through the daily routine of his wandering in the wilderness. What his special work was we do not know, but of one thing we are assured: that his inheritance was not claimed on the strength of some solitary deed of valor he had performed two score and five years before, but because the source of his life's inspiration was that he wholly followed the Lord his God. Caleb evidently learned early in his life the meaning of faith. He found out the secret of possession. A man's faith is his acquisition of God, without faith it is impossible to please Him, because without faith it is impossible to have Him. Faith acquires God. No man can possess God who denies Him. Faith is the living link between the human and the divine. It is the act of the soul grasping and appropriating the invisible and spiritual. This, Caleb not only believed, but he lived it. His life and will were in direct harmony with God's, and this was the splendid equipment for his life's work. This is very plainly indicated at one or two points in his career, when we are permitted to get a glimpse of him at his work.

His first great task was when in company with a number of others, all representative men, he was sent into the land of Canaan to bring back a report as to the possibility of the land being conquered.

Perhaps too little importance is generally attached to this journey of inquiry that was made. But however slightly we may regard it, Caleb did not so treat it. He knew something of the