

"The Life of Caleb?" Joshua 14

In Joshua 14, we get a glimpse of Joshua's sidekick, Caleb, who began faithfully, waited patiently, and ended ambitiously. As a result, he received an enduring legacy!

Caleb

I. He began faithfully (14:6-9)

"So Joshua took the whole land, according to all that the Lord had spoken to Moses, and Joshua gave it for an inheritance to Israel according to their divisions by their tribes. Thus the land had rest from war."
—Joshua 11:23

"I will not drive them out before you in a single year, that the land may not become desolate and the beasts of the field become too numerous for you. I will drive them out before you little by little, until you become fruitful and take possession of the land."
—Exodus 23:29-30

II. He waited patiently (14:10-11)

1. For A Long Time
2. For No Fault of His Own
3. For A Purpose

III. He ended ambitiously (14:12)

1. Willingness to Initiate
2. Emotional Discontentment with Past & Present

"I press on so that I may lay hold of that for which also I was laid hold of by Christ Jesus. I do not regard myself as having laid hold of *it* yet; but one thing *I do*: forgetting what *lies* behind and reaching forward to what *lies* ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus."
—Philippians 3:12-14

3. Obsession with Glory & Purposes of God

"Therefore we also have as our ambition, whether at home or absent, to be pleasing to Him."
—2 Corinthians 5:9

"And thus I aspired to preach the gospel, not where Christ was *already* named, so that I would not build on another man's foundation."
—Romans 15:20

"The motto of our generation is, 'Safety first.' Many are looking for a safe job in which they can feather their nest, secure their future, insure their lives, reduce all risks, and retire on a fat pension. There is nothing wrong with providing for your future, but this spirit pervades our lives until life becomes soft and padded and all adventure is gone. We are so thickly wrapped in cotton wool that we neither feel the pain of the world nor hear the Word of God."
—John Stott

4. Dependence on the Spirit of God

Our Response

1. Confess Your Sin
2. Cling to His Word
3. Check Your Ambitions

IV. He received a legacy (14:13-15)