

Caleb



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CALEB

- Caleb means **“Faith/Faithful; Devotion; Whole-hearted; Bold; Brave”**

1) 1st mention of Caleb in Scripture

Numbers 13:6 (NIV)

⁶Of the tribe of Judah, Caleb son of Jephunneh;

Judah (means the **“praised”** one)



Jephunneh (means **beholder; one who beholds**)



Caleb (means **“Faith/Faithful; Devotion; Whole-hearted”**)

The root of Caleb is characterized by the following.

a) Caleb is the **“praised one”**.

Approved by God from the tribe of Judah. Judah means **“the praised one”**. The Judah anointing is characterized by those who rise up with boldness to proclaim the good news without fear.

- **Genesis 49:8-12 (NIV)**

8 “Judah, your brothers will praise you; your hand will be on the neck of your enemies; your father’s sons will bow down to you.

9 You are a lion’s cub, Judah; you return from the prey, my son. Like a lion he crouches and lies down, like a lioness—who dares to rouse him?

10 The scepter will not depart from Judah, nor the ruler’s staff from between his feet, until he to whom it belongs shall come and the obedience of the nations shall be his.

11 He will tether his donkey to a vine, his colt to the choicest branch; he will wash his garments in wine, his robes in the blood of grapes.

12 His eyes will be darker than wine, his teeth whiter than milk.

- **Numbers 14:6-9 (NIV)**

6 Joshua son of Nun and Caleb son of Jephunneh, who were among those who had explored the land, tore their clothes

7 and said to the entire Israelite assembly, “The land we passed through and explored is exceedingly good.

8 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.

9 Only do not rebel against the LORD. And do not be afraid of the people of the land, because we will devour them. Their protection is gone, but the LORD is with us. Do not be afraid of them.”

b) Caleb is from a heritage of people who “behold” (Jephunneh).

To behold, is to see or look at someone or something. Therefore, they have the ability to properly “look” and “see” (Numbers 13:6) and bring back *tangible* report (Numbers 13:23).

- **Numbers 13:6 (NIV)**

⁶ from the tribe of Judah, Caleb son of **Jephunneh**

- **Numbers 13:23 (NIV)**

²³ When they reached the Valley of Eshkol, **they cut off a branch bearing a single cluster of grapes. Two of them carried it on a pole** between them, along with some pomegranates and figs.

c) **Caleb is a faith/faithful person, devoted, an encourager, bold and brave.**

- **Numbers 14:6-9 (NIV)**

⁶ Joshua son of Nun and Caleb son of Jephunneh, who were among those who had explored the land, tore their clothes

⁷ and said to the entire Israelite assembly, “The land we passed through and explored is exceedingly good.

⁸ 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.

⁹ Only do not rebel against the LORD. And do not be afraid of the people of the land, because we will devour them. Their protection is gone, but the LORD is with us. Do not be afraid of them.”

d) **Caleb is a possessor.**

- **Numbers 13:30 (NIV)**

³⁰ 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.”**

e) **Caleb is a leader.**

- **Numbers 13:3, 6**

³ So at the LORD's command Moses sent them out from the Desert of Paran. All of them were **leaders** of the Israelites.

⁶ from the tribe of Judah, **Caleb** son of Jephunneh;

- **Exodus 34:18-19**

¹⁸ And appoint **one leader from each tribe** to help assign the land.

¹⁹ These are their names: **Caleb son of Jephunneh, from the tribe of Judah;**

f) **Caleb is known by God as a person with a different spirit (attitude) and serves God wholeheartedly;** one who follows the Lord fully and one whom He (God) has promised to bring into his (Caleb's) promise. As a result, the enemy fights Caleb with the intention of distracting, derailing and preventing Caleb from getting into the promise(s) that the Lord has for him (Caleb).

- **Numbers 14:24 (NIV)**

²⁴ But because my servant Caleb has **a different spirit** and **follows me wholeheartedly, I will bring him into the land he "went to"**, and his descendants will inherit it.

g) **Caleb's protection is guaranteed by the Lord Himself.**

- **Numbers 14:30 (NIV)**

³⁰ Not one of you will enter the land I swore with uplifted hand to make your home, **except Caleb son of Jephunneh** and Joshua son of Nun.

- Numbers 14:37-38 (NIV)

³⁷ these men who were responsible for spreading the bad report about the land were struck down and died of a plague before the LORD.

³⁸ Of the men who went to explore the land, only Joshua son of Nun and Caleb son of Jephunneh survived.

- Numbers 32:11-12 (NIV)

¹¹ ‘Because they have not followed me wholeheartedly, not one of those who were twenty years old or more when they came up out of Egypt will see the land I promised on oath to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob—

¹² not one except Caleb son of Jephunneh the Kenizzite and Joshua son of Nun, for they followed the LORD wholeheartedly.’

- Numbers 26:65 (NIV)

⁶⁵ For the LORD had told those Israelites they would surely die in the wilderness, and not one of them was left except Caleb son of Jephunneh and Joshua son of Nun.

h) Caleb will not be short-changed in life. Everything the Lord has promised Caleb will be established.

- Joshua 15:13-17 (NIV)

¹³ In accordance with the LORD’s command to him, Joshua gave to Caleb son of Jephunneh a portion in Judah—Kiriath Arba, that is, Hebron. (Arba was the forefather of Anak.)

¹⁴ From Hebron Caleb drove out the three Anakites—Sheshai, Ahiman and Talmai, the sons of Anak.

¹⁵ From there he marched against the people living in Debir (formerly called Kiriath Sepher).

¹⁶ And Caleb said, “I will give my daughter Aksah in marriage to the man who attacks and captures Kiriath Sepher.”

¹⁷ Othniel son of Kenaz, Caleb’s brother, took it; so Caleb gave his daughter Aksah to him in marriage.

Joshua 14:6-15 (NIV)

Allotment for Caleb

⁶ Now the people of Judah approached Joshua at Gilgal, and Caleb son of Jephunneh the Kenizzite said to him, “You know what the LORD said to Moses the man of God at Kadesh Barnea about you and me.

⁷ **I was forty years old** when Moses the servant of the LORD sent me from Kadesh Barnea to explore the land. And I brought him **back a report** according to **my convictions**,

⁸ but my fellow Israelites who went up with me made the hearts of the people melt in fear. I, however, **followed the LORD my God wholeheartedly**.

⁹ 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.’**

¹⁰ “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 wilderness. So here I am today, eighty-five years old!

¹¹ 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.

¹² Now give me this hill country that the LORD promised me that day. You yourself heard then that the Anakites were there and their cities were large and fortified, but, the LORD helping me, I will drive them out just as he said.”

13 Then Joshua blessed Caleb son of Jephunneh and gave him Hebron as his inheritance.

14 So Hebron has belonged to Caleb son of Jephunneh the Kenizzite ever since, because he followed the LORD, the God of Israel, **wholeheartedly**.

15 (Hebron used to be called Kiriath Arba after Arba, who was the greatest man among the Anakites.) Then the land had rest from war.