



WILL WE

GO ON

OR

GO BACK

Numbers 21:4-6

HAVING THE FAITH & LOVE TO OVERCOME



Jeff Long retweeted

**Jon Gordon** @JonGordon11 10h

10 hours ago

Something to think about from <http://TrainingCamp11.com> . Past success does not determine future success.

to get better. He saw it too many times. A team would win a championship or a player would have a great season and then they would think that all they had to do was step on the field and they would automatically achieve the same results the following year, not realizing that it was the hard work, passion, and the constant striving to improve that resulted in success. I heard the same thing from the best in education, business, health care, science, en-



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entertainment, and other fields. Each year the best recommit themselves to new goals and being better than they were the year before. "The fact is that past success does not determine future success. Future success is the result of how you work and prepare and practice and how you strive to improve every day. It's a commitment that the best of the best make every week, every day, every hour, and every moment. Force yourself to be uncomfortable, Martin. Let it

## 1 CORINTHIANS 9:24-27 (NKJV)

<sup>24</sup> Do you not know that those who run in a race all run, but one receives the prize? Run in such a way that you may obtain it. <sup>25</sup> And everyone who competes for the prize is temperate in all things. Now they do it to obtain a perishable crown, but we for an imperishable crown. <sup>26</sup> Therefore I run thus: not with uncertainty. Thus I fight: not as one who beats the air. <sup>27</sup> But I discipline my body and bring it into subjection, lest, when I have preached to others, I myself should become disqualified.



# WILL WE GO ON *or* GO BACK

## KEY

→ Possible route of the Exodus

## Started in faith

Delivered by the Lord – Ex 14  
Their spirits were high – hope strong. Exodus 15.

Over ½ million “men of war” –  
Num. 1:46-47.

## Ended in victory

40 years later ONLY A FEW  
passed over Jordan into the  
promised land - Dt 29:5; Jos 3.

BUT - IN BETWEEN THE  
PEOPLE WERE “MUCH  
DISCOURAGED BECAUSE  
OF THE WAY.”

AND MANY FELL!!

NUM. 21:4

# The Exodus

## An Outstanding World Event

Miles  
0 25 50 75

Kilometers  
0 40 80 120



# Will We GO ON or GO BACK

## 10 PLAGUES - AGAINST ALL THE GOD'S OF EGYPT



Water turned to  
blood



Frogs



Lice



Flies



Cattle Dies

1) Exodus 7:14-25; 2) 8:1-14; 3) 8:16-19; 4) 8:20-32; 5) 9:1-7;  
6) 9:8-12; 7) 9:13-35; 8) 10:1-20; 9) 10:21-29; 10) 11:1-10,29,30



Boils



Hail / Fire



Locust



Darkness



Death of  
Firstborn



# WILL WE GO ON *or* GO BACK

<sup>17</sup> Then it came to pass, when Pharaoh had let the people go, that God did not lead them by way of the land of the Philistines, although that was near; for God said, "Lest perhaps the people change their minds when they see war, and return to Egypt." <sup>18</sup> So God led the people around by way of the wilderness of the Red Sea. And the children of Israel went up in orderly ranks out of the land of Egypt. - **Exodus 13:17-18 (NKJV)**

God led them the LONG way – Ex 13:17,18



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'<sup>21</sup> And the Lord went before them by day in a pillar of cloud to lead the way, and by night in a pillar of fire to give them light, so as to go by day and night. <sup>22</sup> He did not take away the pillar of cloud by day or the pillar of fire by night from before the people. - **Exodus 13:21-22 (NKJV)**

They could know they were going the way  
the Lord wanted them to go – Ex 13:20-22



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<sup>10</sup> ... So they were very afraid, and the children of Israel cried out to the Lord. <sup>11</sup> Then they said to Moses, "Because there were no graves in Egypt, have you taken us away to die in the wilderness? Why have you so dealt with us, to bring us up out of Egypt? <sup>12</sup> Is this not the word that we told you in Egypt, saying, 'Let us alone that we may serve the Egyptians'? For it would have been better for us to serve the Egyptians than that we should die in the wilderness."

The Lord led them to a dead end– Ex 14:1–4

Pharaoh's army closes in – Ex 14:5–10

People afraid & complain – Ex 14:11,12

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<sup>13</sup> And Moses said to the people, “Do not be afraid. Stand still, and see the salvation of the Lord, which He will accomplish for you today. For the Egyptians whom you see today, you shall see again no more forever. <sup>14</sup> The Lord will fight for you, and you shall hold your peace.” - **Exodus 14:13,14**

## The Lord Saved them that day – Ex 14:13–31

<sup>30</sup> So the Lord saved Israel that day out of the hand of the Egyptians, and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore.  
<sup>31</sup> Thus Israel saw the great work which the Lord had done in Egypt; so the people feared the Lord, and believed the Lord and His servant Moses. - **Exodus 14:30,31**

## HAVING THE FAITH & LOVE TO OVERCOME



# *Will We* GO ON *or* GO BACK

## Lessons / Applications

- ✦ Satan pursues us – I Peter 5:8; 2 Cor. 11:3,14
- ✦ Leaving the world behind is NOT easy – Acts 17:30; I Jn 2:15-17; Rom 12:1,2
- ✦ The way of the Lord is not easy - it tests, proves & strengthens us - I Pet 1:1-12
- ✦ The Lord has provided salvation for US – Titus 2:11,12; Acts 22:16; I Cor. 10:1-4



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Not the shortest route to Canaan.

Not an easy beginning / But God's power clear!

God's Law was strict / the way was TOUGH!.

Filled with doubt & misgivings about the way.

Longed for their former life of bondage. Num. 11:4-6.



<sup>4</sup> Then they journeyed from Mount Hor by the Way of the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom; and the soul of the people became very discouraged on the way. <sup>5</sup> And the people spoke against God and against Moses: "Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and our soul loathes this worthless bread." <sup>6</sup> So the Lord sent fiery serpents among the people, and they bit the people; and many of the people of Israel died. - **Numbers 21:4-6 (NKJV)**



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## THEIR HUNGER . . . EX. 16



- They longed for their former life of plenty – Ex. 16:1–3; Num. 11:5
- The people complained against God – Ex. 16:4–8; Num. 11:1–6; 1 Cor 10:10
- The Lord provided – Ex. 16:13–31; Num 11:20

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## THEIR HUNGER . . . EX. 16



- Taskmasters that afflicted them. – Lives that were bitter with hard bondage – all their service with rigor. Ex 1:11–22
- Their newborn sons killed, or cast into the river. Ex1:16
- **But they had FOOD:** Cucumbers, melons, leeks, onions and garlic!!!

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## THEIR HUNGER . . . EX. 16



- Why would we long for our former life in sin? Many do!  
– 1 Cor. 10:6–13; Ep 4:17–22; 2 Pet 2:20–22; Rom 6:21
- The Christian's life is **HARD & EASY** – Luke 9:23–26; Acts 14:22; Heb 12:1–3; Mt 11:24–30; 1 Co 15:19

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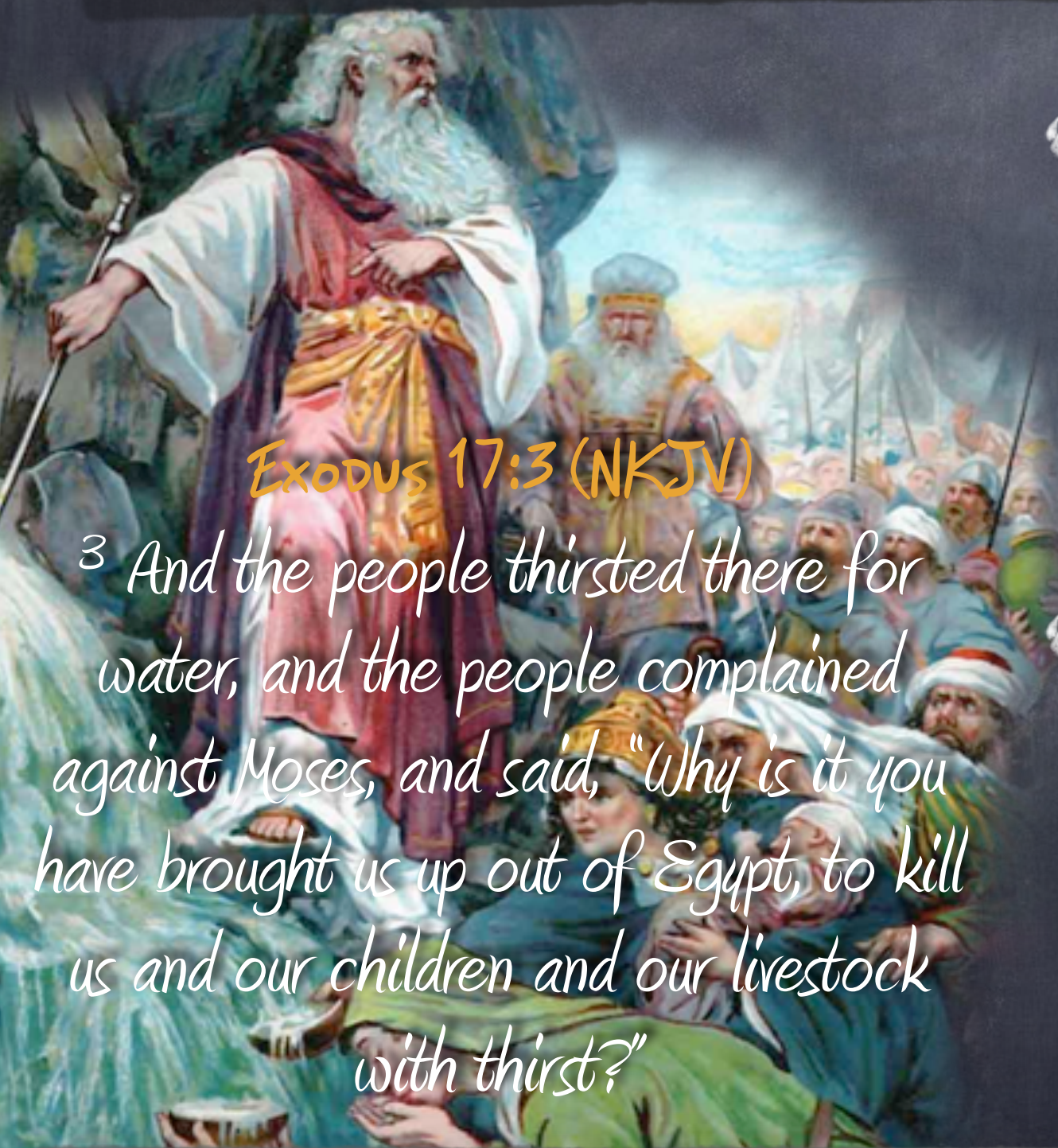
- Are we content with God's provisions? – Eph 1:3
- Are we content with God's way? – 2 Tim 3:16,17
- Are we content with God's promises? – Heb 11:13–16
- Are God's provisions, way & promises enough?

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# WILL WE GO ON *OR* GO BACK

## THEIR DOUBT . . . EX. 17:1-7



EXODUS 17:3 (NKJV)

*<sup>3</sup> And the people thirsted there for water, and the people complained against Moses, and said, "Why is it you have brought us up out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and our livestock with thirst?"*

- They claimed that they had been delivered to die – Ex. 17:1-3; Num 13:27-14:12; 20:2-4
- Is the Lord among us or not? – Ex. 17:7; Num. 11:5; Exodus 19:5-6; Deut 28:9-45

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## THEIR DOUBT . . . EX. 17:1-7



**HEBREWS 10:39 (NKJV)**

*39 But we are not of those  
who draw back to perdition,  
but of those who believe to  
the saving of the soul.*

- Those who stand for truth will suffer hardships!! – 2 Tim. 3:12; 1 Pet 1:5–7; 4:12–16.
- Do we doubt God's presence or support when things aren't going well? – Are we tempted to quit? – Many quit too soon – they quit before the victory! – Heb 3:12–14; 6:9–11; 10:32–39; 12:15; 13:5,6;

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## THEIR LEADERS . . . NUM. 16; 13,14



### NUMBERS 16:1-2 (NKJV)

*<sup>1</sup> Now Korah . . . with Dathan and Abiram . . . took men; <sup>2</sup> and they rose up before Moses with some of the children of Israel, two hundred and fifty leaders of the congregation, representatives of the congregation, men of renown.*

- Korah's gainsaying, (Moses has failed!!) divided the camp – Num. 16:1-14,21,28-38; (cf. 12:1, 2; 14:1-4. Ps. 106:16. Ac. 7:39, 51).
- The next day the congregation complained even more – Num. 16:41-49.

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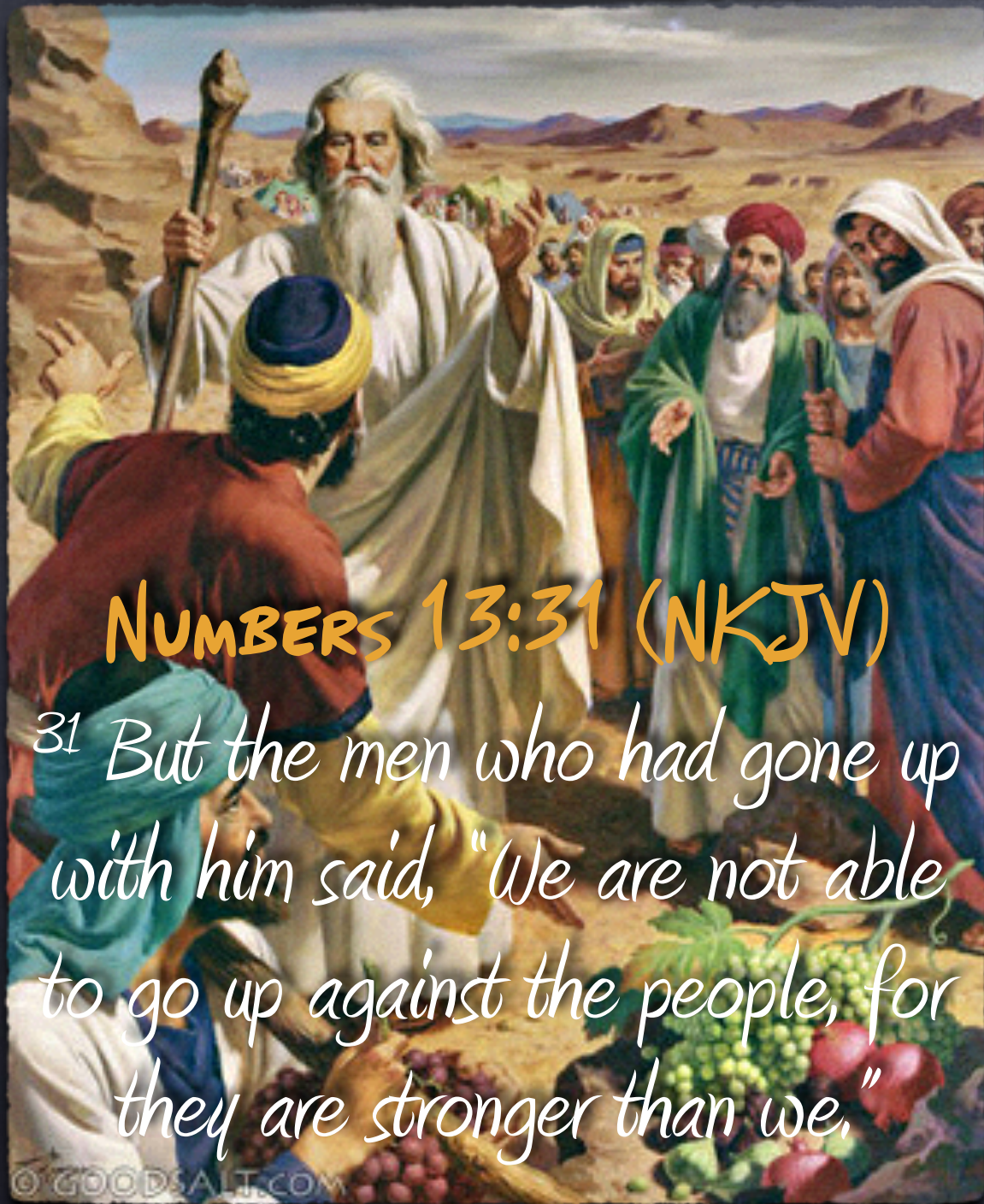
- ◉ We must respect those whom God gives authority
  - \* Elders – Heb 13:17
  - \* Parents – Eph 6:1,2
  - \* Husbands – Col 3:18
  - \* Masters – Col. 4:1
  - \* Government – Rom 13:1-7
- ◉ It is always true we Must obey God rather than men – (Acts 4:19; 5:29) – BUT – To rebel is to rebel against God!

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## THEIR LEADERS . . . NUM. 16; 13,14



**NUMBERS 13:31 (NKJV)**

*<sup>31</sup> But the men who had gone up with him said, "We are not able to go up against the people, for they are stronger than we."*

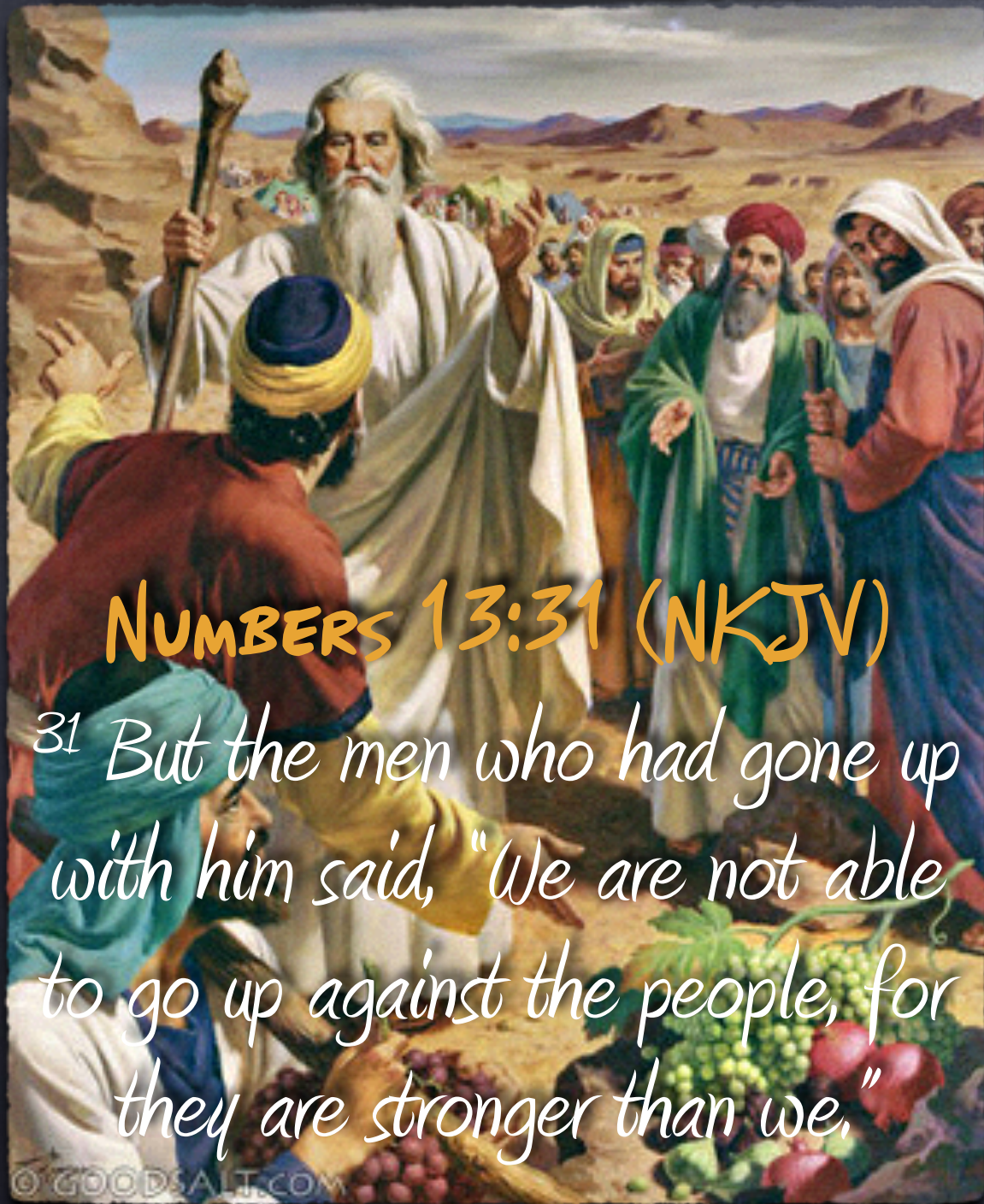
- The evil report – We CAN'T!!! – Num 13:31
- People accepted the evil report and rejected good leadership!! – Num. 14:1–10
- God's judgment! – Num 14:22–30

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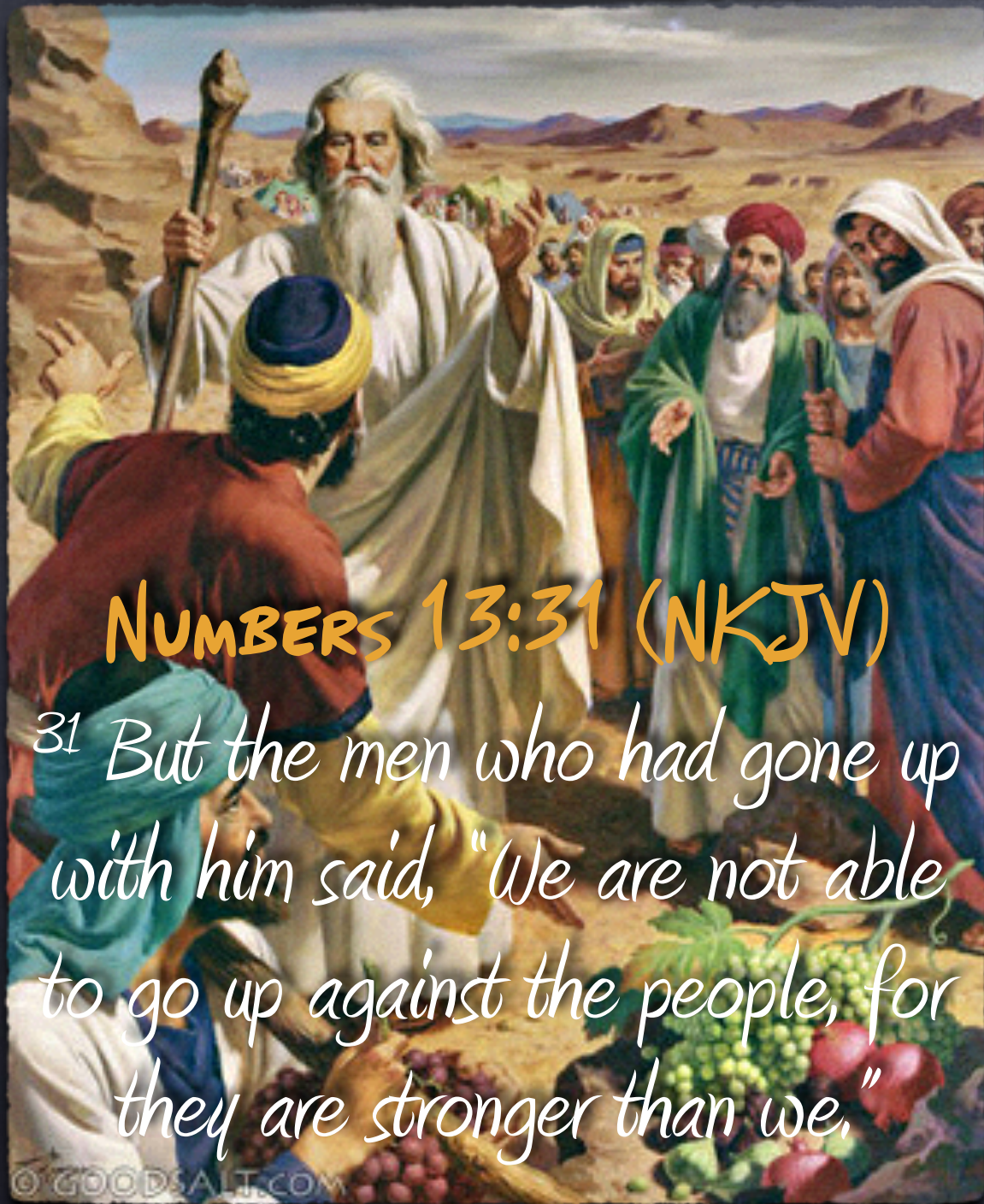
- Elders need to be men of FAITH & VISION – 1 Pet 5:1-6
- There are too many elders among churches of Christ who fail to trust God's word – claim His ways will NOT work – and compromise with the world – (Institutionalism; Recreation; Emotionalism; social emphasis; etc.)
- MUST trust God! – Acts 17:11

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👁 The church has always had trouble on the inside –

- \* Judaizers – Gal. 5:12–15
- \* Gnostics – 1 John 4:1–6
- \* Preeminent – 3 John 9
- \* Compromisers – Re 2:14
- \* Permissive – 1 Cor. 5:1–7
- \* Divisive – Rom 16:16,18

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"And the Lord sent fiery serpents among the people." - Num. 21:6.  
But the Lord provided a way to be healed!! Num. 21:7-9



# WILL WE GO ON *or* GO BACK

<sup>14</sup> And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of Man be lifted up, <sup>15</sup> that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. <sup>16</sup> For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. - John 3:14-16 (NKJV)



God wants us to begin our journey in faith –  
and have it end in victory!

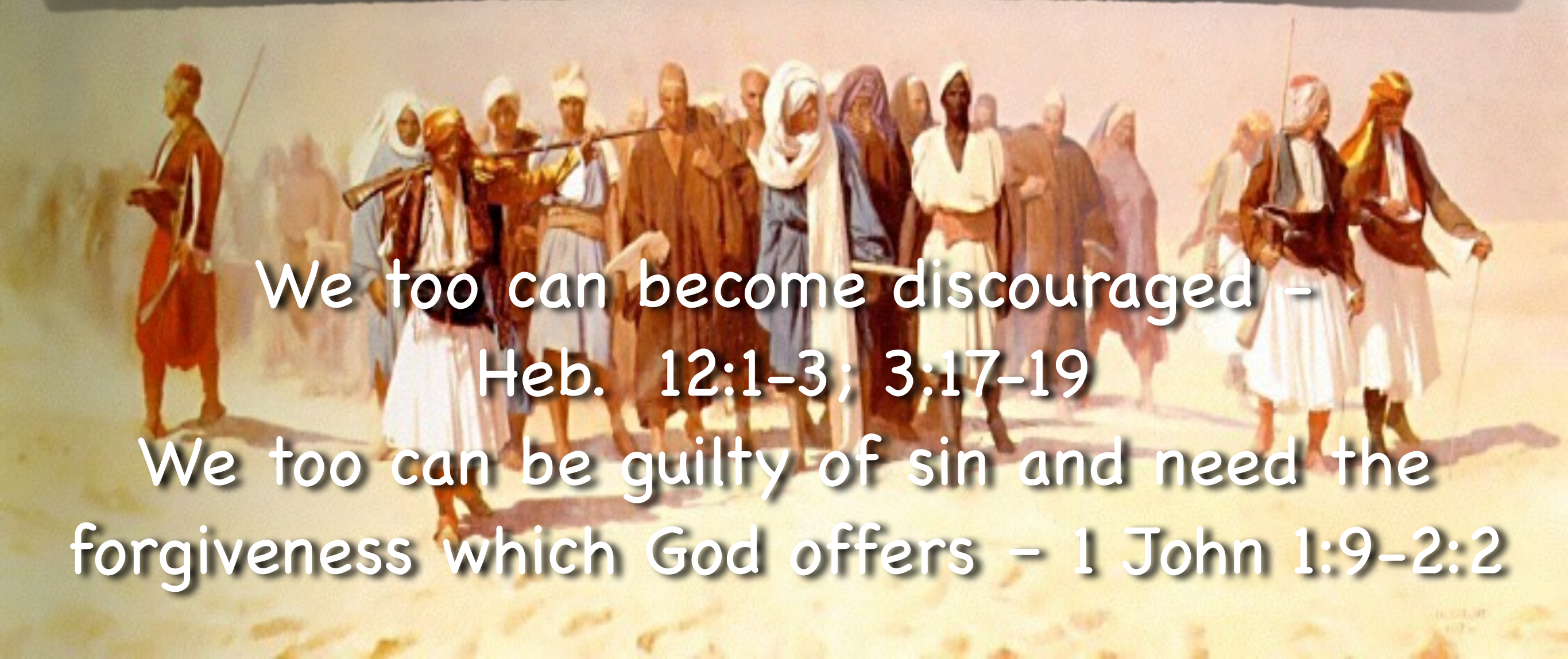
God has provided a way for our salvation – He will  
save you today! – John 3:14,15; Acts 2:38; 2 Cor 6:2



# WILL WE GO ON *or* GO BACK

<sup>35</sup> Therefore do not cast away your confidence, which has great reward. <sup>36</sup> For you have need of endurance, so that after you have done the will of God, you may receive the promise: - **Hebrews 10:35-36 (NKJV)**

<sup>3</sup> For consider Him who endured such hostility from sinners against Himself, lest you become weary and discouraged in your souls. **Hebrews 12:3 (NKJV)**



We too can become discouraged -  
Heb. 12:1-3; 3:17-19

We too can be guilty of sin and need the forgiveness which God offers - 1 John 1:9-2:2





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WILL WE HAVE THE  
FAITH & LOVE TO  
OVERCOME







# Will We GO ON *or* GO BACK

## HAVING THE FAITH & LOVE TO OVERCOME



**Charts by Don McClain**

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# HEBREWS 3:12-4:1 (NKJV)

<sup>12</sup> Beware, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief in departing from the living God; <sup>13</sup> but exhort one another daily, while it is called "Today," lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin. <sup>14</sup> For we have become partakers of Christ if we hold the beginning of our confidence steadfast to the end,



# HEBREWS 3:12-4:1 (NKJV)

<sup>15</sup> while it is said: "Today, if you will hear His voice, Do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion." <sup>16</sup> For who, having heard, rebelled? Indeed, was it not all who came out of Egypt, led by Moses? <sup>17</sup> Now with whom was He angry forty years? Was it not with those who sinned, whose corpses fell in the wilderness? <sup>18</sup> And to whom did He swear that they would not enter His rest, but to those who did not obey?



# HEBREWS 3:12-4:1 (NKJV)

<sup>19</sup> So we see that they could not enter in because of unbelief. <sup>1</sup>

Therefore, since a promise remains of entering His rest, let us fear lest any of you seem to have come short of it.