

Numbers 13:25-14:4 – Context: Spies sent to check out Canaan

At the end of forty days they returned from spying out the land.²⁶ And they came to Moses and Aaron and to all the congregation of the Israelites in the wilderness of Paran, at Kadesh; they brought back word to them and to all the congregation, and showed them the fruit of the land.²⁷ And they told him, "We came to the land to which you sent us; it flows with milk and honey, and this is its fruit."²⁸ Yet the people who live in the land are strong, and the towns are fortified and very large; and besides, we saw the descendants of Anak there.²⁹ The Amalekites live in the land of the Negeb; the Hittites, the Jebusites, and the Amorites live in the hill country; and the Canaanites live by the sea, and along the Jordan."³⁰ But Caleb quieted the people before Moses, and said, "Let us go up at once and occupy it, for we are well able to overcome it."³¹ Then the men who had gone up with him said, "We are not able to go up against this people, for they are stronger than we."³² So they brought to the Israelites an unfavorable report of the land that they had spied out, saying, "The land that we have gone through as spies is a land that devours its inhabitants; and all the people that we saw in it are of great size."³³ There we saw the Nephilim (the Anakites come from the Nephilim); and to ourselves we seemed like grasshoppers, and so we seemed to them."

14:1 Then all the congregation raised a loud cry, and the people wept that night.² And all the Israelites complained against Moses and Aaron; the whole congregation said to them, "Would that we had died in the land of Egypt! Or would that we had died in this wilderness!"³ Why is the LORD bringing us into this land to fall by the sword? Our wives and our little ones will become booty; would it not be better for us to go back to Egypt?"⁴ So they said to one another, "Let us choose a captain, and go back to Egypt."

What image or word(s)/phrase/image give you pause or captures your attention?

How does this connect with you? (why this image, this word/phrase?)