

A person stands on a rocky peak with arms raised, looking towards a glowing, hazy landscape with a castle in the distance. The scene is bathed in a warm, golden light, suggesting a sunrise or sunset. The castle in the background has multiple towers and spires, and the overall atmosphere is one of hope and achievement.

**LEADING THE WAY TO THE  
PROMISED  
LAND**

Elder : Cedric Lebrun

Date: 05-28-23

# MORNING READING

**Psalm 16 (NLT)**

**A Psalm of David.**

**1** Keep me safe, O God, for I have come to you for refuge.

**2** I said to the LORD, “You are my Master! Every good thing I have comes from you.”

**3** The godly people in the land are my true heroes! I take pleasure in them!

**4** Troubles multiply for those who chase after other gods. I will not take part in their sacrifices of blood or even speak the names of their gods. **5** LORD, you alone are my inheritance, my cup of blessing. You guard all that is mine.

**6** The land you have given me is a pleasant land. What a wonderful inheritance!

**7** I will bless the LORD who guides me; even at night my heart instructs me.

**8** I know the LORD is always with me. I will not be shaken, for he is right beside me.

**9** No wonder my heart is glad, and I rejoice. **[b]** My body rests in safety.

**10** For you will not leave my soul among the dead **[c]** or allow your holy one **[d]** to rot in the grave. **11** You will show me the way of life, granting me the joy of your presence and the pleasures of living with you forever.

# MAIN READING

## Numbers 13 NIV

### Exploring Canaan

**1** The LORD said to Moses, **2** “Send some men to explore the land of Canaan, which I am giving to the Israelites. From each ancestral tribe send one of its leaders.”

**3** So at the LORD’s command Moses sent them out from the Desert of Paran.

All of them were leaders of the Israelites.

**4** These are their names:

## **Numbers: 6-8**

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

**7** from the tribe of Issachar, Igal son of Joseph;

**8** from the tribe of Ephraim, Hoshea son of Nun; (Joshua)

## **Numbers 13:16-33**

**16** These are the names of the men Moses sent to explore the land. (Moses gave Hoshea son of Nun the name Joshua.)

**17** When Moses sent them to explore Canaan, he said, "Go up through the Negev and on into the hill country.

**18** See what the land is like and whether the people who live there are strong or weak, few or many.

**19** What kind of land do they live in? Is it good or bad? What kind of towns do they live in? Are they unwalled or fortified?

**20** How is the soil? Is it fertile or poor? Are there trees in it or not?

**Do your best to bring back some of the fruit of the land.” (It was the season for the first ripe grapes.)**



**21** So they went up and explored the land from the Desert of Zin as far as Rehob, toward Lebo Hamath.

**22** They went up through the Negev and came to Hebron, where Ahiman, Sheshai and Talmai, the descendants of Anak, lived. (Hebron had been built seven years before Zoan in Egypt.)

**23** When they reached the Valley of Eshkol,[a] 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.

**24** That place was called the Valley of Eshkol because of the cluster of grapes the Israelites cut off there.

**25** At the end of forty days they returned from exploring the land.

## **Report on the Exploration**

**26** They came back to Moses and Aaron and the whole Israelite community at Kadesh in the Desert of Paran. There they reported to them and to the whole assembly and showed them the fruit of the land.

**27** They gave Moses this account: “We went into the land to which you sent us, and it does flow with milk and honey! Here is its fruit.

**28** But the people who live there are powerful, and the cities are fortified and very large. We even saw descendants of Anak there. **29** The Amalekites live in the Negev; the Hittites, Jebusites and Amorites live in the hill country; and the Canaanites live near the sea and along the Jordan.” **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.”

**31** But the men who had gone up with him said, “We can’t attack those people; they are stronger than we are.” **32** And they spread among the Israelites a bad report about the land they had explored. They said, “The land we explored devours those living in it. All the people we saw there are of great size. **33** We saw the Nephilim there (the descendants of Anak). We seemed like grasshoppers in our own eyes, and we looked the same to them.

A person stands on a rocky outcrop with their arms raised in triumph, silhouetted against a bright, glowing light. In the background, a large, ornate castle with multiple towers and spires is visible, set against a hazy, golden sky. The overall scene is one of achievement and hope.

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