

is not going to permit to come to fruition because they have proved themselves unworthy of going into the land at this time. And so that leads on to a brief passage --

J. The Punishment of the Disobedient Spies. 14:36-38. The men whom Moses sent to search the land, who returned and made all the congregation to murmur against him, by bringing up a slander upon the land, Even those men who did bring the evil report upon the land, died by the plague before the Lord. But Joshua, the son of Nun, and Caleb, the son of Jephunneh who were of the men who went to search the land, lived still.

So here we have these 10 spies dying of the plague withing a very short time after they came back and brought this bad report to the people. Now this is typical of the way in which God leading the people in the wilderness here worked in marvellous ways in order that His purposes would surely be carried out. And we have a similar situation in the beginning of the history of the Christian Church where Annanias and Saphariah lied to the Holy Ghost, and God spote them both dead. But we cannot expect that such miracles, such deeds of God will ordinarily happen in our day. Because we are in a very different situation. Here people had tried to put the knowledge of God out of their hearts and minds. The world turned against God, and then God took the family of Abraham. And then God developed that family into a nation and brought that nation up out of Egypt into Palestine and worked His many miracles in order that the knowledge of God might remain alive for a time, and that the foundation might be made through which the Lord Jesus Christ would come into the world. And similarly after the death of Christ and His resurrection, God protected the little flame, He protected it with miracles, with signs, with wonder working in order to keep it going until the little flame would become a burning fire over many sections of the world. But since that time God allows the success or failure of his work(Word) humanly speaking in different parts of the world to depend to a very large extent upon loyalty, faithfulness, and activity of his people. And there have been areas in the world that have been great centers of Christian truth in which the truth has almost entirely died out and God has not worked miracles in order to allow it to continue. Now if there were some individuals who pray and work had in those areas, God would doubtless with great providential works would have assisted their work, but it was human failure that