

**The Spirit of Obedience**  
**“...My servant Caleb...he has**  
**a different spirit in him...”**  
**Numbers 14:24**

## Background – Numbers 13 and 14

- **After deliverance from Egyptian bondage, the people were ready to enter the land – 13:2**
- **A man from each tribe, twelve in all, were selected to search out the land and return with a report**
- **The land was great, “flowing with milk and honey,” but there were giants there!**

# The Results of Their Survey

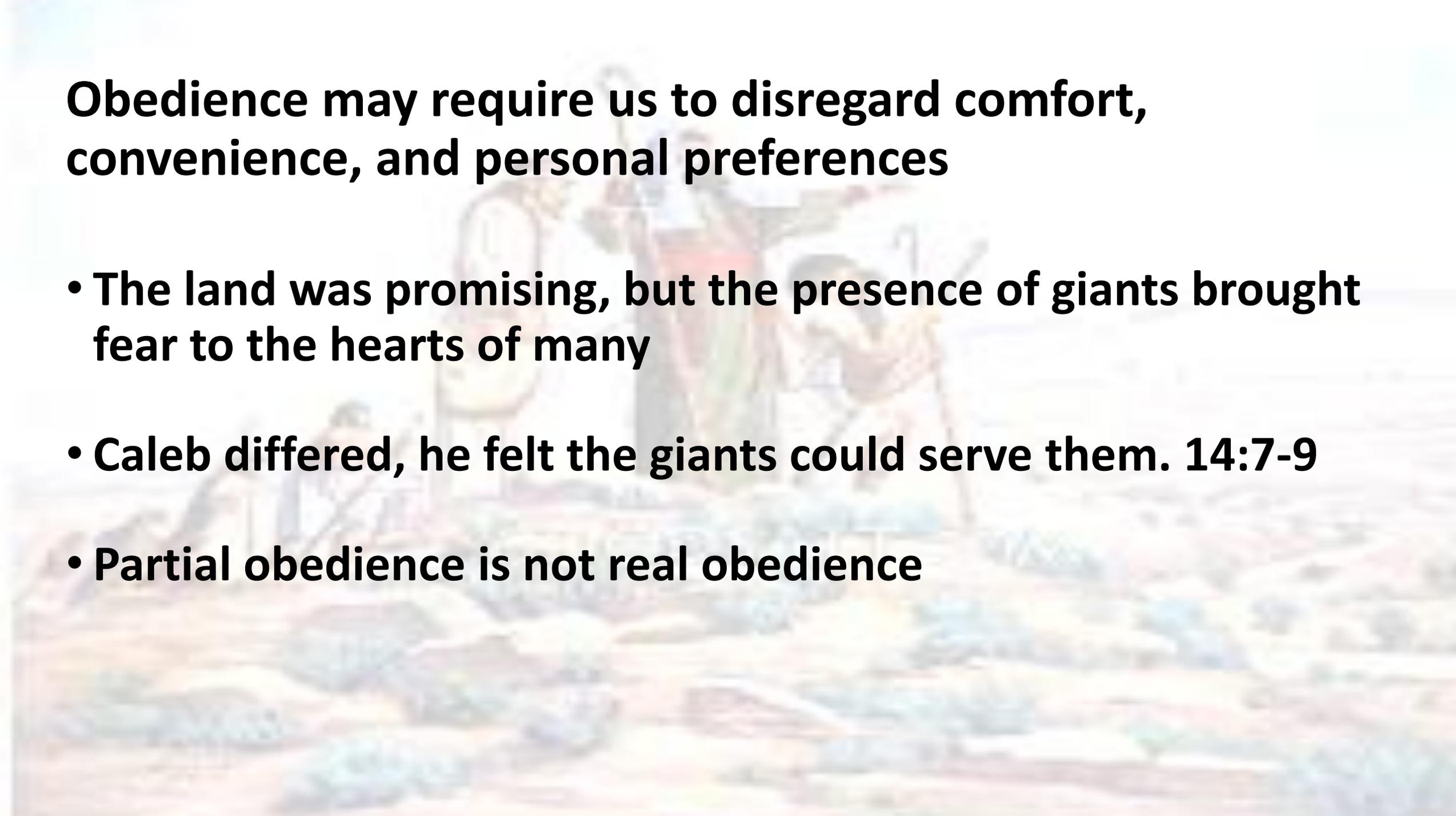
- **Caleb's report was optimistic, but 10 others convinced the people otherwise, 13:30-33; 14:1-10**
- **God decided that He would destroy the murmurers, but Moses interceded, 14:11-19**
- **God chose to pardon the people but deny access to those over 20 years old (except Joshua and Caleb because of their spirit of obedience) 14:20-35**
- **The murmurers died, but Joshua and Caleb eventually entered – Joshua 14:6-15**

# Lessons for us – The Joy and Peace of Obedience

- **Obey God's will promptly – Caleb said:**
- **“Let us go up at once and take possession, for we are well able to overcome it.” Numbers 13:30**
- **Saul of Tarsus did that: “Immediately there fell from his eyes *something* like scales, and he received his sight at once; and he arose and was baptized.” Acts 9:18**

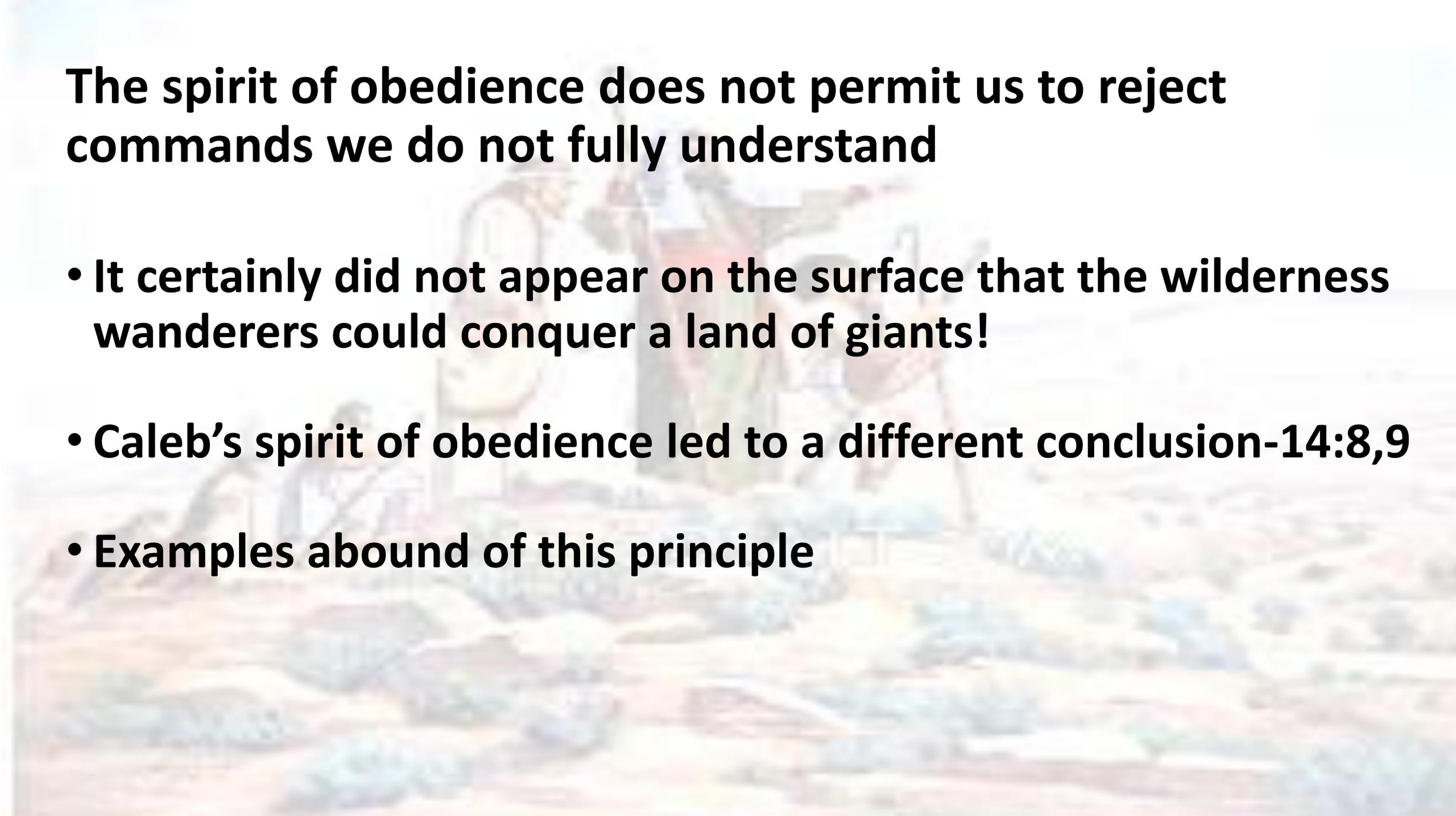
# **Obey God even when others will not**

- **Those who went with Joshua and Caleb did not share their spirit of obedience 13:31 – 14:10**
- **Joshua and Caleb pleaded with them not to rebel but to obey God. The rebels wanted to stone them. 14:6-10**
- **Some of the strongest Christians I know are the only members of their families to embrace new testament truth**



**Obedience may require us to disregard comfort, convenience, and personal preferences**

- **The land was promising, but the presence of giants brought fear to the hearts of many**
- **Caleb differed, he felt the giants could serve them. 14:7-9**
- **Partial obedience is not real obedience**



**The spirit of obedience does not permit us to reject commands we do not fully understand**

- **It certainly did not appear on the surface that the wilderness wanderers could conquer a land of giants!**
- **Caleb's spirit of obedience led to a different conclusion-14:8,9**
- **Examples abound of this principle**

# **Obedience requires that we overcome obstacles**

- **The devil will always see that there is opposition and excuses for not obeying God**
- **Jesus taught on this subject – Luke 14:16-24**
- **The “spirit of obedience” is absolutely necessary if we would please God and enjoy the peace God promises!**

