

I'd like to talk for a few minutes tonight on the idea that the source of our strength determines the manner in which we interpret what happens in our life. As an illustration, I would like to use the story of when the Israelites stood at the edge of the promised land. Before them was a problem: they had to take the land away from those who lived there. To get an idea of how this could be accomplished, they sent 12 spies into the land. Now, 10 of them, because they trusted in human strengths, saw the problems as unsolvable. 'We are like grasshoppers in their sight!' they cried. And the people murmured, saying, 'Why did the Lord bring us into this land?' But there were two of the spies, who lived by the strength of the Lord, who said, 'Let us go up at once!'

There are many times when we, too, have a problem in life. And, like the 10 spies, we throw up our hands in despair and say, 'Why did God allow this to happen to me?' But the only way that we can correctly interpret the events that occur in our lives is to use the strength or power that is available, for in Ps 68:35 we read that 'The God of Israel ... gives strength and power to his people.' (RSV) We generally don't take advantage of all of this. We don't see where the outlets for God's power are. But they are in abundant supply. It's not like we have to hunt down an outlet or worry about overloading. God's power is infinite, and he promises it to us through his Son, if we will accept him.
{Power for today}