

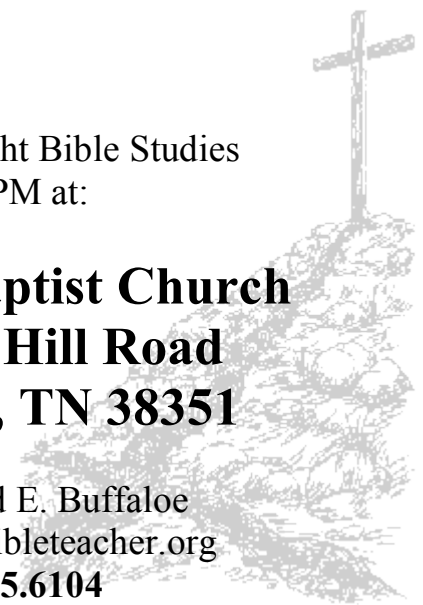
These Are The Words Studying through the Book of Deuteronomy

# Study 2 Vision

Wednesday Night Bible Studies  
7:00 PM at:

**Rock Hill Baptist Church**  
**605 Rock Hill Road**  
**Lexington, TN 38351**

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## 1.4 Why Do We Need A Vision?

In our last study, we talked about the *vision* that God wanted His people to have. Why is it necessary that Christians, the Church of Jesus Christ, be *visionary*? The Bible tells us that:

**(Proverbs 29:18 KJV) Where there is no vision<sup>1</sup>, the people perish: but he that keepeth the law, happy is he.**

The word vision<sup>1</sup> {chazown [pronounced khaw-zone’]} means "revelation from God". The people of God are not called to just *any old vision* - we are not called to follow a vision of our own imaginations. God condemns this type of vision:

**(Jeremiah 23:16 KJV) Thus saith the LORD of hosts, Harken not unto the words of the prophets that prophesy unto you: they make you vain: they speak a vision<sup>1</sup> of their own heart, and not out of the mouth of the LORD.**

You see, when the Bible says *without vision the people perish*, it is not referring to the whim of man, nor the desire of the local leaders. Vision that *has value* comes from the Lord our God (**Lamentations 2:9**). When a people begin to follow a vision that *does not come from God*, then they are destined to fail. Further, they anger God when they follow a direction or a vision apart from that which God directs (**Ezekiel 12:22-24**). You can follow the *wrong vision* and be hurt.

But if you follow *no vision*, you will perish, according to God's Word. This is what happened to the first generation of Israel.

1. The word vision<sup>1</sup> {chazown [pronounced khaw-zone']} means \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Vision that *has value* comes from \_\_\_\_\_ (Lamentations 2:9).

### 1.5 Why The First Generation of Israel Failed



(Deuteronomy 1:28-33 KJV) Whither shall we go up? our brethren have discouraged our heart, saying, The people is greater and taller than we; the cities are great and walled up to heaven; and moreover we have seen the sons of the Anakims there. {29} Then I said unto you, Dread not, neither be afraid of them. {30} The LORD your God which goeth before you, he shall fight for you, according to all that he did for you in Egypt before your eyes; {31} And in the wilderness, where thou hast seen how that the LORD thy God bare thee, as a man doth bear his son, in all the way that ye went, until ye came into this place. {32} Yet in this thing ye did not believe the LORD your God, {33} Who went in the way before you, to search you out a place to pitch your tents in, in fire by night, to show you by what way ye should go, and in a cloud by day.

Why did the first generation of Israel fail to enter the Promised Land? There are several reasons. First of all, they looked at man rather than looking at God. Second, they forgot Who God is. Third, they forgot what God had already accomplished for them. Let's look at each of these areas one by one.

#### 1.5a They looked at man rather than God:



(Deuteronomy 1:28 KJV) Whither shall we go up? our brethren have discouraged<sup>2</sup> our heart, saying, The people is greater and taller than we; the cities are great and walled up to heaven; and moreover we have seen the sons of the Anakims there.

Israel listened to the word of man instead of the Word of God. This *negative word* they received "**discouraged<sup>2</sup> our heart**". This is the *Hiphil Perfect* of the Hebrew word macac {pronounced maw-sas'}, which means *to cause to melt*. This same verb is used in **Psalm 97:5**, where we read:

(Psalms 97:5 KJV) The hills melted<sup>2</sup> like wax at the presence of the LORD, at the presence of the Lord of the whole earth.

What a statement! "Our hearts melted like wax in the sun". What caused Israel to lose heart like this? Because they chose to listen to man rather than God. God told them to cross the Jordan and possess the Promised Land, but the ten spies told them that they would come up against *overwhelming odds*. Did the spies tell any lies?

3. Why did the first generation of Israel fail to enter the Promised Land? There are several reasons. First of all, they \_\_\_\_\_ rather than looking at God. Second, they forgot \_\_\_\_\_. Third, they forgot \_\_\_\_\_.

4. Did the spies tell any lies? \_\_\_\_\_

Look in our parallel text in Numbers 13:

**(Numbers 13:28-29 KJV) Nevertheless the people be strong that dwell in the land, and the cities are walled, and very great: and moreover we saw the children of Anak there. {29} The Amalekites dwell in the land of the south: and the Hittites, and the Jebusites, and the Amorites, dwell in the mountains: and the Canaanites dwell by the sea, and by the coast of Jordan.**

No, the spies *never told a lie*. The cities that Israel would be attacking were large, walled, and well fortified. The **children of Anak** lived in this area. Smith's Bible dictionary tells us that the **children of Anak** were:

**"... a race of giants, descendants of Arba, Joshua 15:13; 21:11, dwelling in the southern part of Canaan, and particularly at Hebron, which from their progenitor received the name of "city of Arba." Anak was the name of the race rather than that of an**

5. The children of Anak were a strong, tall, powerful nation of warriors. The Israelites believed themselves to be \_\_\_\_\_ than these people, and even supposed that these people *themselves* would consider Israel ridiculously \_\_\_\_\_.

**individual Joshua 14:15. The race appears to have been divided into three tribes or families, bearing the names Sheshai, Ahiman and Talmi. .... with a warlike appearance.."**

The children of Anak were a strong, tall, powerful nation of warriors. The Israelites believed themselves to be weaker than these people, and even supposed that these people *themselves* would consider Israel ridiculously weak. Listen Beloved: this may have been true, but

### **1.5b Israel forgot Who God is:**

**(Deuteronomy 1:29-30 KJV) Then I said unto you, Dread not, neither be afraid of them. {30} The LORD your God which goeth before you, he shall fight for you ...**



focal verse

Yes, everything that the spies said was true. However, Israel forgot WHO told them to go across the Jordan. Moses tells Israel that their Leader is:

**The LORD<sup>3</sup> your God<sup>4</sup>**

The word **LORD<sup>3</sup>** is the Hebrew **Yehovah<sup>3</sup>** {pronounced yeh-ho-vaw'}, a name of God that is derived from the Hebrew **hayah** {pronounced haw-yaw}. This is the same

name that God gave Moses when He called Moses to lead Israel out of Egypt in the midst of the burning bush. God told Moses that Israel *was being called to a life of service*:

**(Exodus 3:12 KJV) And he {God} said, Certainly I will be with thee; and this shall be a token unto thee, that I have sent thee: When thou hast brought forth the people out of Egypt, ye shall serve God upon this mountain.**

God said, "Moses, I'm sending you to bring my people, a people whose fathers I made covenant with, out of Egypt. Go tell Pharaoh to let My people go". But Moses knew that he hadn't won any friends in Pharaoh's court when he killed an Egyptian taskmaster (**Exodus 2:12**). Moses also knew that the elders of Israel would ask him WHY he thought he had the right to command and lead that nation. After all, hadn't Moses just recently *been a part of Pharaoh's court*? So Moses asked God:

**(Exodus 3:13 KJV) And Moses said unto God, Behold, when I come unto the children of Israel, and shall say unto them, The God of your fathers hath sent me unto you; and they shall say to me, What is his name? what shall I say unto them?**

Moses' request was very simple. He said, "God, when they question me - and I know they'll question me - what Name should I tell them sent me?" You see, the Egyptians *worshiped many gods and goddesses*, and Israel had been exposed to this literal multitude of gods. "Who are you, Lord? Who do I say sent me?" God's

answer to Moses was wonderful. The Lord said:

**(Exodus 3:14 KJV) And God said unto Moses, I AM THAT I AM: and he said, Thus shalt thou say unto the children of Israel, I AM hath sent me unto you.**


God said, "Tell them that {hayah [pronounced haw-yaw]}, I AM {Qal Imperfect} sent you". **Who sent you, Moses?** THE SELF EXISTENT GOD sent me. The One Who has no beginning nor any end. That's Who sent me - the I AM". This name that God gave for Himself - HAYAH - later was modified into that wonderful name of God YHVH or YHWH, a name that is *breathed* and that we often transliterate as *Yahweh* or *Jehovah*. This name of God is His *most sacred name*.

Here's something very interesting: In every instance where you see the word LORD or the word GOD in all UPPER CASE LETTERING in the King James version of the Bible, this is the name of God YHVH or JeHoVaH. This is *in every instance, Beloved*. So let's look at our focal text again:

6. God said, "Tell them that {hayah [pronounced haw-yaw]}, I AM {Qal Imperfect} sent you". **Who sent you, Moses?** \_\_\_\_\_ sent me.

7. In every instance where you see the word LORD or the word GOD in all UPPER CASE LETTERING in the King James version of the Bible, this is the name of God \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_.

**(Deuteronomy 1:29-30 KJV) Then I said unto you,**

 focal verse **Dread not, neither be afraid of them. {30} The LORD<sup>3</sup> your God<sup>4</sup> which goeth before you, he shall fight for you ...**


Notice that the word LORD is in all UPPERCASE. This is the Hebrew YHVH, the most holy name of God we called Jehovah - the Self Existent One. This is not just the Self Existent One, but this is **the Lord<sup>3</sup> your God<sup>4</sup>**. That word **God<sup>3</sup>** is the Hebrew {‘elohiyim el-o-heem’}, which *is a plural in the Hebrew*. It is not translated gods, but it is translated "**God**", and this word itself expresses the Trinity of God. This is **JEHOVAH or the Self Existent One your Triune God**. Though JEHOVAH is the mighty name of our Self Existent God, ELOHIYM is the *first name of God* used in Scripture. In **Genesis 1:1** we see ELOHIYM creating Heaven and the earth. In

**(Genesis 1:26-27 KJV) And God {ELOHIYM} said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth. {27} So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.**

It is ELOHIYM Who creates man - now notice this - **in our image, after our likeness**. Note that it is ELOHIYM, the One Self Existent God, who used plural pronouns like *us* and *our* in Genesis 1:26, but then uses singular pronouns like *his* and *him* in Genesis 1:27. JEHOVAH emphasizes the eternity of God, but

ELOHIYM emphasizes the unique TRINITY of God.

Listen now, let's bring this all together. The One Who addressed Israel through Moses was none other than JEHOVAH ELOHIYM, the Self Existent and Eternal Triune God. Again we read:

 focal verse **(Deuteronomy 1:29-30 KJV) Then I said unto you, Dread not, neither be afraid of them. {30} The LORD<sup>3</sup> your God<sup>4</sup> which goeth before you, he shall fight for you ...**

Who was going to fight for Israel? JEHOVAH ELOHIYM was going to fight for Israel! Israel was inadequate to fight the children of Anak, but when they

8. Who was going to fight for Israel? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ was going to fight for Israel!

were told to cross the Jordan and enter the Promised Land, they did not have to fight this race of giants. God Who is Eternal was going to fight this battle. Israel *forgot Who gave them the vision*, and because they forgot the first generation was cursed to wander in the wilderness.

### **1.5c Israel Forgot The Past Blessings From God:**

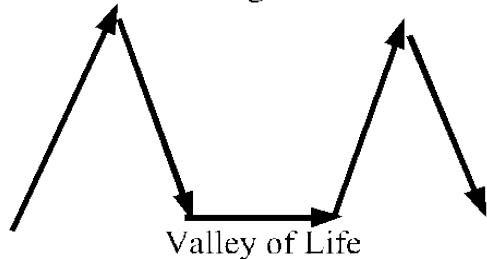
**(Deuteronomy 1:30-33 KJV) The LORD<sup>3</sup> your God<sup>4</sup> which goeth before you, he shall fight for you, according to all that he did for you in Egypt before your eyes; {31} And in the wilderness, where thou**



Have you ever seen how that the LORD thy God bare thee, as a man doth bear his son, in all the way that ye went, until ye came into this place. {32} Yet in this thing ye did not believe the LORD your God, {33} Who went in the way before you, to search you out a place to pitch your tents in, in fire by night, to show you by what way ye should go, and in a cloud by day.

Moses reminds Israel that the LORD (remember, all capital letters - this is the Eternal name of God JEHOVAH) showed Himself to them **before your eyes**. God didn't *sneak around* and save Israel - He saved her out of Egypt with a *mighty hand*. God didn't just lead Israel out of Egypt, He "**Who went in the way before you, to search you out a place to pitch your tents in**". God acted as *point Man*, He took the lead, He walked in front and showed Israel where to go and what to do. Israel should have *remembered* the blessings that God brought to them in the past, and should have *moved forward in faith*.

Mountain of Blessing



JEHOVAH ELOHIYM had blessed them in the past. Wouldn't He bless them now?

This is a Biblical

truth that you need to heed: a person is either *victorious* or *defeated* first of all *in their mind* before the defeat becomes a *physical reality*. The Christian way of life is full of peaks or mountain top experiences, and it is full

of valleys. We all love the mountain top experiences. These are the times when we just know that God has blessed us. We are happy because our bellies are full, our nights rested, our days enjoyable. The mountain top experiences are wonderful, but we need to remember that *life is lived in the valley*. It may be wonderful up on the mountain top, and you may be able to see many things from the mountain top - but remember that *few things grow on the mountain top*. On

9. God acted as *point Man*, He took the lead, He walked in front and showed Israel where to go and what to do. Israel should have \_\_\_\_\_ the blessings that God brought to them in the past, and should have \_\_\_\_\_.

10. Snow stays on the mountain top most of the time. The air is thinner up there. If you want to live, you need to \_\_\_\_\_!

the highest mountains there are a few trees, a little grass, and a whole lot of rock. Snow stays on the mountain top most of the time. The air is thinner up there. If you want to live, you need to get down in the valley!

The God Who blessed you on the mountain top is the same God Who walks with you in the valleys of life. The LORD wants His believers to *remember* and *focus on* the ways that He has blessed us while we were on the mountain top, so when we go into the valleys of life we will still trust His faithfulness. JEHOVAH ELOHIYM is faithful! Last Sunday night we studied the Greek word *katanoeo*, translated "**consider**" in Hebrews 3:1:

**(Hebrews 3:1 KJV) Wherefore, holy brethren, partakers of the heavenly calling, consider {katanoeo} the Apostle and High Priest of our profession, Christ Jesus;**

When we come to the valleys of life, we get through the valleys by *focusing* on what God revealed to us on the mountain. We remember that great salvation we had in Christ Jesus. We remember how God saved us out of Egypt, and went ahead of us, preparing a place for our tents. We *remember* what God did for us beforehand:

**(Psalms 145:7-8 KJV) They shall abundantly utter the memory of thy great goodness, and shall sing of thy righteousness. {8} The LORD is gracious, and full of compassion; slow to anger, and of great mercy.**

We remember how good He was to save us with a mighty Hand. The reason we come together as a Church is so that we can *praise and worship God our Savior*, remembering what He did for us. We partake of the *Lord's Table* as a function of memory:

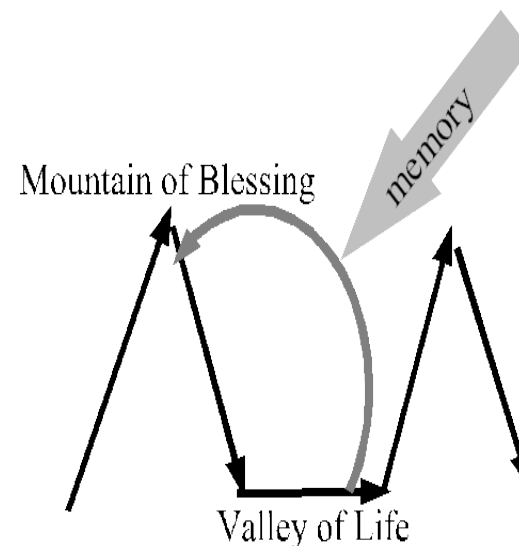
**(1 Corinthians 11:24-25 KJV) And when he had given thanks, he brake it, and said, Take, eat: this is my body, which is broken for you: this do in remembrance of me. {25} After the same manner also he took the cup, when he had supped, saying, This cup is the new testament in my blood: this do ye, as oft as ye drink it, in remembrance of me.**

We do this **in remembrance of Him** who died for us, so we would never have to die. The function of God's

Preacher is to *remind the flock* of what God has done for them on the Cross of Calvary. The reason so many of our current Church Age believers are *weak and unable to enter* God's promises of blessing in this life is because they refuse to *remember what the Lord has already done for them.*

**(2 Peter 1:12-16 KJV) Wherefore I will not be negligent to put you always in remembrance of these things, though ye know them, and be established in the present truth. {13} Yea, I think it meet, as long as I am in this tabernacle, to stir you up by putting you in remembrance; {14} Knowing that shortly I must put off this my tabernacle, even as our Lord Jesus Christ hath showed me. {15} Moreover I will endeavor that ye may be able after my decease to have these things always in remembrance. {16} For we have not followed cunningly devised fables, when we made known unto you the power and coming of**

**our Lord Jesus Christ, but were eyewitnesses of his majesty.**



A professing Christian who will not remember God's blessings - blessings that he received while on God's mountain top - will never be able to go through the

valleys of life. The battle, My Beloved, is fought in the mind before it is fought on the battlefield. If you forget the lessons that God has taught, and wander from the path He directs you to follow, you will never receive the blessings He has reserved for you in this life. We come together as His people to:

**(Psalms 103:2 KJV) Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits:**

The nation or the person who forgets God's bounty and blessing may find themselves *cut off from His blessings*. Israel had her eyes on one another and not on Jesus, and



**thither: encourage him: for he shall cause Israel to inherit it. {39} Moreover your little ones, which ye said should be a prey, and your children, which in that day had no knowledge between good and evil, they shall go in thither, and unto them will I give it, and they shall possess it. {40} But as for you, turn you, and take your journey into the wilderness by the way of the Red sea.**

Though the first generation of Israel disobeyed God, and though God's anger came on those people, those who remained true to God were *preserved* in spite of the other's failure. The goodness and mercy of God did not allow Caleb or Joshua - nor **the little ones which ye said should be a prey** - that is, the children who were innocent of this crime against God - these would not suffer the loss of the Promised Land. Chapter One ends with tears as well as blessing. We read:

11. A professing Christian who will not \_\_\_\_\_  
God's blessings - blessings that he received while on  
God's mountain top - will never be able to go through  
\_\_\_\_\_.

because of this the first generation died outside the promise. But there is hope for us all, even in this terrible passage:

**(Deuteronomy 1:34-40 KJV) And the LORD heard the voice of your words, and was wroth, and sware, saying, {35} Surely there shall not one of these men of this evil generation see that good land, which I sware to give unto your fathers, {36} Save Caleb the son of Jephunneh; he shall see it, and to him will I give the land that he hath trodden upon, and to his children, because he hath wholly followed the LORD. {37} Also the LORD was angry with me for your sakes, saying, Thou also shalt not go in thither. {38} But Joshua the son of Nun, which standeth before thee, he shall go in**



**(Deuteronomy 1:41-46 KJV) Then ye answered and said unto me, We have sinned against the LORD, we will go up and fight, according to all that the LORD our God commanded us. And when ye had girded on every man his weapons of war, ye were ready to go up into the hill. {42} And the LORD said unto me, Say unto them, Go not up, neither fight; for I am not among you; lest ye be smitten before your enemies. {43} So I spake unto you;**

**and ye would not hear, but rebelled against the commandment of the LORD, and went**

presumptuously up into the hill. {44} And the Amorites, which dwelt in that mountain, came out against you, and chased you, as bees do, and destroyed you in Seir, even unto Hormah. {45} And ye returned and wept before the LORD; but the LORD would not hearken to your voice, nor give ear unto you. {46} So ye abode in Kadesh many days, according unto the days that ye abode there.

Here is two final points we need to make.

### 1.6a Repentance Is More Than Words



(Deuteronomy 1:41-42 KJV) Then ye answered and said unto me, We have sinned against the LORD, we will go up and fight, according to all that the LORD our God commanded us. And when ye had girded on every man his weapons of war, ye were ready to go up into the hill. {42} And the LORD said unto me, Say unto them, Go not up, neither fight; for I am not among you;

lest ye be smitten before your enemies.

It takes more than words to *repent* of sin before God. Though Israel spoke all the right words, God looks at the heart. When the Prophet Samuel was looking for the next king of Israel, he looked at all the *great big, fine and beautiful* children of Jesse. One by one God rejected these men. Samuel was surprised when God chose, instead of these big strapping men, a little shepherd boy named David. God told Samuel:

(1 Samuel 16:7 KJV) ... Look not on his countenance, or on the height of his stature; because I have refused him: for the LORD seeth not as man seeth; for man looketh on the outward appearance, but the LORD looketh on the heart.

You may be able to fool me, but JEHOVAH ELOHIYM knows your hearts! Israel made all the right noises with their mouths, but it is the heart that matters with God.

(Romans 10:10 KJV) For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

Confession of the mouth is very necessary, but if the heart doesn't believe, God doesn't believe! You can apologize all you want, but God Who sees the heart knows the truth. I want you to notice that, though God told Israel "**Go not up, neither fight; for I am not among you**", He wanted His people to repent *for real*. His great love did not want His people to be beaten by

12. Though the first generation of Israel disobeyed God, and though God's anger came on those people, those who remained true to God were \_\_\_\_\_ in spite of the other's failure.

13. Though Israel spoke all the right words, God looks at the \_\_\_\_\_.

their enemies, but God's great justice would not allow a unrepentant people to enter into His Promised Land.

## 1.6b Delayed Obedience Is Disobedience

God's people must understand that they are called to obey God *when He orders*. The Bible says in **Deuteronomy 1:41**:



**we will go up and fight, according to all that the LORD our God commanded us. And when ye had girded on every man his weapons of war, ye were ready to go up into the hill.**

These people just didn't get it! God wanted them to cross the Jordan *believing in Him*. God had said, back in **verse 30** that JEHOVAH Elohiym was going to fight for Israel. Israel showed that *they still didn't believe God* when they **girded on every man his weapons of war**. They were not ready to go up that hill into the Promised Land until they had their *own human resources at hand*. When Israel left Egypt and crossed the impassable Red Sea, Moses told them:

**(Exodus 14:14 KJV) The LORD shall fight for you, and ye shall hold your peace.**

What God showed Israel at the beginning, He reiterates throughout the Book of Deuteronomy. We see over and over again this same pattern:

**(Deuteronomy 1:30 KJV) The LORD your God which goeth before you, he shall fight for you, according to all that he did for you in Egypt before your eyes;**

**(Deuteronomy 3:22 KJV) Ye shall not fear them: for the LORD your God he shall fight for you.**

**(Deuteronomy 20:4 KJV) For the LORD your God is he that goeth with you, to fight for you against your enemies, to save you.**

Who is going to fight for Israel? JEHOVAH Elohiym, the Eternal Trinity of God! Would that that first generation had believed in the Everlasting and Eternal God, and moved when God said move.

Israel would confront huge gigantic men in the children of Anak, and because

**(Numbers 13:32-33 KJV) And they brought up an evil report of the land which they had searched unto the children of Israel, saying, The land, through which we have gone to search it, is a land that eateth up the inhabitants thereof; and all the people that we saw in it are men of a great stature. {33} And there we saw the giants, the sons of Anak, which come of the giants: and we were in our own sight as grasshoppers, and so we were in their sight.**

When Israel focused on the giants rather than on *our Giant God* they lost the Promised Land. Several years later an unlikely shepherd boy would stand before another giant named *Goliath*. This boy, so small that he couldn't wear Saul's armor without stumbling, would stand before Goliath *with the right mental attitude*.

**(1 Samuel 17:45-48 KJV) Then said David to the Philistine, Thou comest to me with a sword, and with a spear, and with a shield: but I come to thee in the name of the LORD of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, whom thou hast defied. {46} This day will the LORD deliver thee into mine hand; and I will smite thee, and take thine head from thee; and I will give the carcasses of the host of the Philistines this day unto the fowls of the air, and to the wild beasts of the earth; that all the earth may know that there is a God in Israel. {47} And all this assembly shall know that the LORD saveth not with sword and spear: for the battle is the Lord's, and he will give you into our hands. {48} And it came to pass, when the Philistine arose, and came and drew nigh to meet David, that David hasted, and ran toward the army to meet the Philistine.**

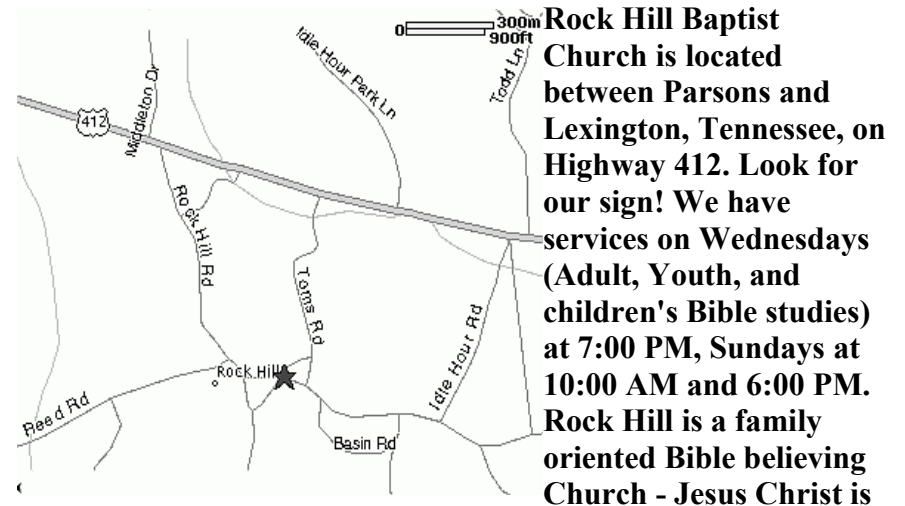
David called on the name of JEHOVAH Elohiym, and believed Him for the victory. Instead of running away from the battle, David ran *toward* the enemy, armed only with an ancient sling, and killed that giant with one stone.

When you lose your vision<sup>1</sup>, refusing to believe that God is able to bless you:

**(Ephesians 3:20-21 KJV) Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us, {21} Unto him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end. Amen.**

**Exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, then you lose out on His blessings.**

14. David called on the name of \_\_\_\_\_, and believed Him for the victory. Instead of running away from the battle, David ran *toward* the enemy, armed only with an ancient sling, and killed that giant with one stone.



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