

We the People

"³⁶But I tell you that on the Day of Judgment, men will give account for every careless word they speak. ³⁷For by your words you will be justified, and by your words you will be condemned." (Matthew 12:36-37).

My attitude is up to me and nothing or no one else. This is truth! Our attitude can have more influence than our past, our education, money, circumstances, appearance, skills, failures, successes, or how others treat us. In this time in history the borders of our comfort zones will be assaulted by the unexpected. Our hearts may be stripped and shaven by disappointment, failure, unmet expectations, illness, frustration, and broken relationships. We don't, however, have to allow any of these things to dictate our responses. *We the people* of *Adonai* pull a freight train of baggage cars that we have allowed to remain in our lives even when we have been given the opportunity to get rid of them altogether. We tend to want to assign responsibility for faults or wrongs to leaders and pass the buck so-to-speak when in reality this belongs to, *we the people*. Even in our congregation there is an inclination to blame others (especially leaders) when *things go wrong or seem to be bad* (♪ *Don't Let Me Be Misunderstood* ♪ written by Bennie Benjamin, Horace Ott, and Sol Marcus for Nina Simone, who recorded it in 1964). This phenomenon ultimately results in our engaging in murmuring and complaining with its associated consequences and curses.

The *Apostle Paul's* admonished the Philippians when they demonstrated a tendency toward disunity (*Phil. 1:27; 4:2-3*). Instead of fighting one another, Paul encouraged them to reflect an attitude rooted in their relationship with Messiah. *"¹If there be therefore any consolation in Messiah, if any comfort of love, if any fellowship of the Spirit, if any bowels and mercies, ²fulfill ye my joy, that ye be likeminded, having the same love, being of one accord, of one mind" (Phil. 2:1-2) {If . . . if . . . if . . . if}. "Since we have all these things," according to Paul, *we have what we need to exercise godly attitudes toward one another, toward ourselves and toward Adonai*. If our minds are guided by the Word of *Adonai*, we can respond to life with a godly attitude.*

In *Parashat Sh'lach* we see THE consequence to *we the people's* murmuring and complaining. Complaining opens the door to a root of bitterness. When our words curse vs. bless, they bring death not life. Negative expectations bind us, our spouses and children & *Adonai*. From Marilyn's message *Without Murmuring or Complaining* (21Jun08) and *Murmuring / Complaining or Victory / Reigning* (05Jun21):

1. Publicly I/we honor and respect our authorities (*spouse, boss, parents, congregational leaders, governmental leaders, any positional authorities, etc.*) but He (Lord) sees my heart when I complain and murmur about disappointments (*desires/cravings, expectations*) in secret.
2. Complaining opens the door to a root of bitterness. Then our words curse instead of blessing and bring death instead of life. Good expectations become negative, binding others (spouse etc.) and *Adonai*, when demanded in our timing. It fixes us in a *Rut – i.e., A Wilderness Journey*.
3. Complaining brings *Adonai's* judgment! He considers it **Evil, Sin, Wickedness and Rebellion**.
4. Israel could have had their desires in 11 days (*Deut. 1:2*); instead, they brought *Adonai's* judgment. Everything they wanted and needed (*provision, security for family etc.*) was in Canaan in great abundance. FEAR (who is the *Number 1 False Prophet*) stole their future! WHY? Because *Matt. 12:37*.

Let's review key verses from Numbers 14: In verse 2 ALL Israel grumbled and deplored their *situation, accusing Moses and Aaron*: *"²All Bnei-Yisrael grumbled against Moses and Aaron and the whole community said, "If only we had died in Egypt! If only we had died in this wilderness!"* In verse 3-4 Israel *accuses the Lord* of bringing them to the wilderness to die. They wanted to take matters into their own hands and go back to Egypt: *"³Why is Adonai bringing us to this land to fall by the sword? Our wives and children will be like plunder! Wouldn't it be better for us to return to Egypt?" ⁴They said to each other, "Let's choose a leader and let's go back to Egypt!"* In verse 9 complaining leads to rebellion (which is as the sin of witchcraft)! (*Deut. 9:23*). In verse 11 *"¹¹Adonai said to Moses, "How long will these people treat Me contemptibly? How long will they neglect to trust in Me—in spite of all the miraculous signs I have performed among them?"* In other words, *Why do they provoke and despise Me? How long will it be before they believe, trust in, rely on, and cling to Me*

even after all the miracles I have done for them? In verse 27 we read: *"²⁷How long will this wicked community be grumbling (murmur) against Me? I have heard the complaints of Bnei-Yisrael grumbling (murmuring) against Me"* They were *afraid, discouraged, and discontented* with their situation. At times, we get depressed, angry, and bitter...take it out on others...when our anger is really at *Adonai* ... could we adults be having a **SPIRITUAL TEMPER TANTRUM**???? In verses 28-29 The Lord said: *"What you have said in my hearing I will do to you: your dead bodies shall fall in the wilderness" (See Vs 2), (Prv 18:20,21)*. What we say determines the course of our lives and our children's (See *Vv. 31, 33*). Something to think about: I wonder how many of OUR circumstances have WE SPOKEN into existence? In verse 31: *"...the land that you have despised and rejected..."* Since that *land* equals God's *promises, murmuring and complaining* is equated to *despising and rejecting Adonai's* promises. Further in verse 32 OUR complaining causes OTHERS to complain. The men who returned *caused ALL the congregation (AN ENTIRE NATION)* to grumble and complain against Moses. Those 10 men who brought an evil report of the LAND died by a plague *before Adonai*. Though Joshua and Caleb believed *Adonai*, they also endured the 40-year consequence along with everyone else before receiving their inheritance(ouch!!!!) So, not only does our complaining harm ourselves but our families, congregation and beyond.

On 13Jun15, my son, Elder Ian Arroyo, preached a message entitled *Reboot Version 10.0*, a powerful message on today's *Parasha*. He shared that there were 10 displays of *Adonai's* power resulting in the deliverance of the Children of Israel (10 plagues), 10 Words of Love to His *segulah* bride (10 words), 10 rebellious leaders who stirred up the people (the men who gave a bad report and stirred up dissension and died in the presence of *Adonai*) and *we the people* tested *Adonai* 10 times according to *Numbers 14:22b (Ex. 14 at the Red Sea, Ex. 15 at the Waters of Meribah, Ex. 16 (three) Manna, Meat and Violation of Shabbat, Ex. 17 at the Water of Rephidim, Ex. 32 the Golden Calf, Lev. 10 Strange Fire, Numbers 11 Meat and in Nu. 13 the 10 spies)*. He added: *The children will suffer for 40 years, one year for every day of spying, but in the end the children will possess all their parents could have had. In fact, God says they will suffer because of their unfaithfulness. The parents are going to die off in misery because they weren't willing to trust what God said, that He would do. Then the 10 men who gave the bad report and stirred up the dissension died in the presence of the Lord. We all need a reboot before we get to the tests of God. He is faithful, able, strong, He is Mighty, He is interested, He is excited about you, He wants you to go into the Promised Land!*

The bottom line is: Do we really believe *Adonai* (trust in, rely on, cling to Him)? The living Word governs the affairs of Satan; it is and will be his destruction! His Word *always* prevails over His enemies! We must **BELIEVE, TRUST, and DECLARE** the Word rendering the Fullness of its Power for ourselves, spouses, our children, and any other situation we will ever face. The written Word of God is our: **Mentor, Counselor, Spokesman, Solid foundation, strong tower, hammer for dislodging evil root structures, dispatches angels, our GPS (God's Positioning System) for the Way, Truth and Life, Oil for light and gladness, the engineer's blueprint, the Dr.'s medicine, the Judge's rulebook, the Attorney's wisdom, the builder's plumb line, the Musician's notes, the Singer's lyrics, the King's honor, a Nation's constitution, our priestly clothing for beauty and splendor.**

Focus **only** on the PROMISE, which is seeing from God's perspective. Joshua and Caleb RECEIVED because they BELIEVED the promises God had made. Here are our action steps:

1. Determine to Reject and refuse complaining. **We DON'T have "Peace Talks" with the enemy!!!**
2. Turn Fears into Godly Desires by *"Calling those things which be not as though they were!" (Ro. 4:17-21)* Yes, Believing IS Seeing! **VICTORY is in YOUR MOUTH!**
3. Use the Appeal process to share your concerns with others.
4. Bless (yourself and others) instead of frustration/complaining/cursing. A blessing is much more powerful than a prayer of petition. A blessing is a **PROPHETIC DECLARATION** that will bring **RESULTS** quicker than anything else! (*Matt. 5:44-48; Ro: 12:10, 14,17,19-21*)

Epilogue: So then, we have 2 choices: **POSSESS the Land** or **DIE in the Wilderness?** (*Mark 11:23,24*). We need to repent if we have been murmuring and complaining, or moping and crying, or grumbling, mumbling, and whining or muttering about how things are not what they should be. This is just another *Bologna Sandwich* that we do not need.