Caleb: Lessons From A Dog's Life
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Proclamation: Psalm 92:12–15

I. The Early And Latter Rain—Hos. 6:1–3 (1 Cor. 15:4)
   A. Three facts of Scripture with reference to Jesus:
      1. Jesus died
      2. Was buried
      3. Rose again
      And us:
         1. He made us alive
         2. Resurrected us
         3. Enthroned us (Eph. 2:4)
   B. He will come to us like the morning (resurrection)
   C. He will come to us like the rain (a picture of Pentecost)

II. Caleb’s Life Experience
   A. Son of Jephunneh
   B. Definition: “Dog” (Num. 13:6)
   C. One of the twelve spies (Num. 13:6ff)
   D. Spies report back (Num. 13:27–33)
      1. Two different responses (Num. 14:1–10)
         a. We are well able
         b. We are not able
      2. The Lord’s response (Num. 14:26–38)
         a. “Just as you have spoken in My ears, so I will do to you”
         b. Death or life are in the power of the tongue (Prov. 18:21)
         c. “By your words you will be justified” and “every idle word shall be judged” – Jesus (Matt. 12:36–37)
         d. This severe punishment did not come as a result of worshiping the golden calf, but through despising God’s grace (to enter the land)

III. The Essence Of Caleb—A Different Spirit
   A. Five times: “He wholly (fully) followed the Lord”
      1. A different spirit (Num. 14:24)
      2. Num. 32:11–12
      3. Deut. 1:36
      4. Josh. 14:8–9
      5. Josh. 14:14
   B. Essence of Christianity: Following Jesus
      1. Relationship primary; doctrine secondary
      2. I know whom I have believed – Paul
      3. Primarily, faith is loyalty
   C. New Testament examples:
      1. Matt. 9:9—“follow Me”
      2. John 21:19, 22—twice “follow Me”
   D. The dog: a pattern for us:
1. To be near
2. Willing to go wherever you go
3. Walk by “scent” (faith) rather than sight (2 Cor. 5:7)
E. “Dogged”: Definition:
   1. Collins: Obstinate, willful, or tenacious
   2. Webster: marked by stubborn determination
   3. Courage, faith, hangs on
F. Faith and patience (Heb. 6:12)
   1. It takes time to develop character
   2. Harder to train a dog to wait than to follow
   3. A lost dog will search for its master

IV. Caleb’s Reward (Josh. 14:6–13)
   A. The land his inheritance
   B. Kept alive 45 years—to age 85
   C. Still has the same strength
      1. For peace and for war
      2. For going out and for coming in
   D. “Give me this mountain”
      1. Not presumptuous or arrogant
      2. Ambition: to know the Lord (Hos. 6:3)

V. Application: Goals of a Christian
   A. Christ in you (Col. 1:25–27)
   B. Christ is all (Col. 3:11)

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