The Grasshopper Complex

Ken Chapman · Numbers 13:27–33

INTRODUCTION

- Number one is our God is so powerful. There is nothing out of his reach, ability, or power.
- We saw the giants. The descendants of Anak came from the giants. And we were like grasshoppers in our own sight. And so we were in their sight.
- And the more they talked, the more they psyched themselves out. Someone has termed this the grasshopper complex.

1 It Focuses on the Negative

1 John 4:4; 1 John 5:3

- One thing that it does is it focuses on the negative.
- This idea of the grasshopper complex causes us to focus only on the negative, and it brushes away and minimizes the positive.
- You are of God, little children, and have overcome them. Because he who is in you is greater than he who is in the world.
- For this is the love of God that we keep his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome.
- I want to challenge us to not be grasshoppers in our own sight, but to focus upon the good, to focus upon the positives in being a child of God.

2 It Can Make Us Feel Inadequate

Romans 12:3; Romans 5:6–11

- It can make us feel inadequate. That's the whole basis of the grasshopper complex. We can't do it.
- But it's also true that you're special. Because God doesn't make any junk.
- But God demonstrates his own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.
- The question is not whether or not I am able to do the things that God has challenged me to do and put before me. The question is only, am I willing to accept the challenge?
- Jesus' twelve apostles forever stand as an illustration of this principle.

3 It Forgets the Factor in God

Romans 8:31

- Here's the danger, the greatest danger in this grasshopper complex is that it forgets the factor in God.
- Yes, these are big people, but they're not bigger than our God.
- It's not that David thought he could defeat a giant, it's that David knew that his God was bigger than any giant.
- Don't ever forget that all that we do is possible in and through God.

- What shall we say then to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?
- Don't just look at what you're facing in comparison to yourself. See God as being on your side.

4 It Creates Spiritual Cowards

- There's probably no insult, no name that you could be called that really in the heart of hearts is worse than this one. Coward.
- But he started that list with the cowardly.
- The coward will have their part in the lake which burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death.
- The challenge is thrown before us to no longer be spiritual cowards. To stand up and to be counted on the sight of God.

> THE CHALLENGE
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> **Would you come to Him and defeat whatever giants might be in your life today? Because if God is for you, who can be against you?**

MY NOTES