

Why Seasoned Saints Shrink

(Numbers 20:1-13)

Introduction

A) Another year has come and gone. For some, 2013 has been a good year, for others a mediocre year, and still others would consider it a flop.

B) Think back to the beginning of 2013. What were your expectations? What was your hope for the prospective year? What changes were you planning to make?

How did you fair? Did you step up to responsibility? Did you shrink in face of the challenges?

C) As Christians, we like the prospect of starting over. There is something intriguing about starting over!

D) So why do we fail too often in our walk? Why do we shrink from success?

Contextualize Numbers 20.

(The setting could have been Moses and Aaron talking at the close of another day about the heat, snakes, sandals, etc. When they hear the stir of footsteps. The saints had become fed-up and were taking their case to Moses.)

I. The Reasons For Their Shrinking (v. 1-5)

A) Tired From Their Travels (verse 1)

B) Crowded By Their Circumstances (verse 2)

C) Battered by Their Burdens (verse 3)

D) Wearied by Their Worry (verse 4)

E) Discouraged by Their Disappointments (verse 5)

II. The Remedy For Shrinking

A) A Fresh Touch (verse 6a)

B) Intercession (verse 6b)

C) Passionate Living (verse 7-8)

III. Reducing The Potential For Shrinking

A) Obey Whether You Feel Like It or Not (verse 9-10)

B) Keep Your Focus (verse 10-11)

C) Never Forget That God is Faithful (verse 12-13)

Conclusion