

Trusting a Faithful But Unpredictable God

Numbers 20:1-13

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We live in a very results oriented culture.

Newtonian View of the world:

- Lawlike
- Inputs determine & guarantee outputs
- Mechanistic
- Predictable

Biblical View of the World (Numbers 20:1-13)

When we get scared or angry, we tend to fall back to our own resources, to what has worked before, rather than obey God and trust him with outcomes.

John 3:8

What does this tell us?

- **Formulas don't work**
- **Our inputs do not ultimately determine the outcomes.**
- **The world is more like a garden than a machine**
- **God is faithful but He is not predictable.**

By our standards, Moses was a success.
By God's standards, Moses failed.

What difference should this make?

1. We mustn't judge ourselves by the outcomes.

1 Corinthians 3:6-8

Mark 4:26-27

2. God will hold you accountable for what he has called you to do, not the outcomes.

3. Our importance, identity, and significance are rooted in our relationship with God not our impact (the results).

Luke 10:20

4. God's way is to work with small things to show His power.

2 Corinthians 4:7, 1 Corinthians 1:26-29