

Bethany Bible Study & Discussion



Deuteronomy Part 2 (chapter 1-3)

12.07.2022

Chapters 1-3 (Continued)

Review of Israel's failed Journey to Promised Land

Introduction to Deuteronomy

First generation denied entry to promised Land

Encounter with Edomites, Moabites, and Ammonites

Two battles & Two victories before crossing river Jordan

Moses denied entry to Promised land

Joshua emerges as the new leader of Israel

Background

Book of Deuteronomy opens with the children of Israel camped on the plains of Moab (1:1)

1:6 to 3:28 reviews the period from Mt. Sinai to the plains of Moab.

(review Numbers for greater details)

**How did God respond
to their unbelief?**

Final Verdict:

**U-Turn, after
two years**

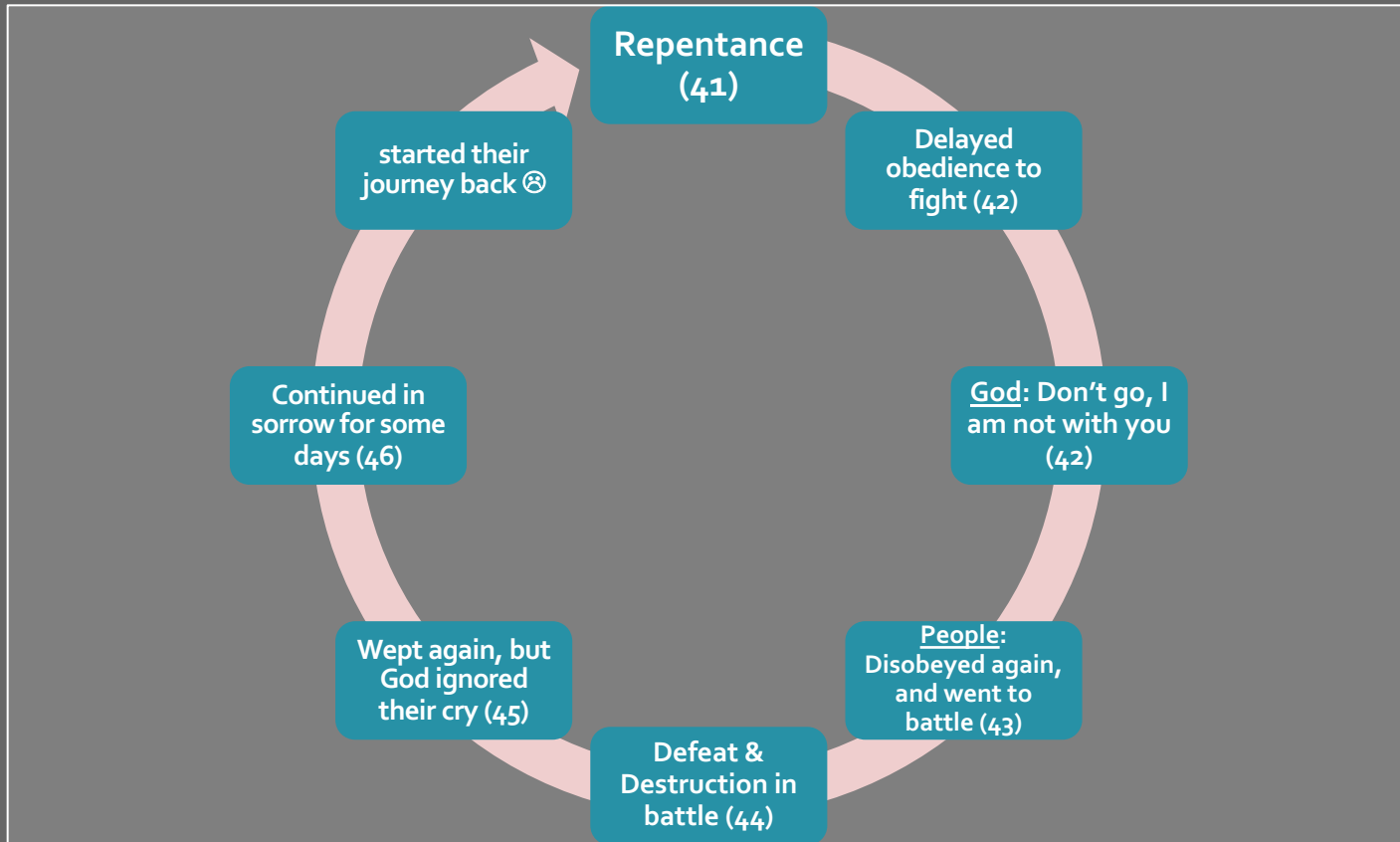
4^o But as for you, **turn** you, and take your journey into the wilderness by the way of the Red sea.

How did people respond to this final verdict from God?

Did God change his mind? Why or why not?

People reaction & God's reaction (41-46)

⁴¹ Then ye answered and said unto me, We have sinned against the Lord, we will go up and fight, according to all that the Lord our God commanded us. And when ye had girded on every man his weapons of war, ye were ready to go up into the hill. ⁴² And the Lord said unto me, Say unto them. Go not up, neither fight; for I am not among you; lest ye be smitten before your enemies. ⁴³ So I spake unto you; and ye would not hear, but rebelled against the commandment of the Lord, and went presumptuously up into the hill. ⁴⁴ And the Amorites, which dwelt in that mountain, came out against you, and chased you, as bees do, and destroyed you in Seir, even unto Hormah. ⁴⁵ And ye returned and wept before the Lord; but the Lord would not hearken to your voice, nor give ear unto you. ⁴⁶ So ye abode in Kadesh many days, according unto the days that ye abode there.



People reaction & God's reaction (41-46)

God responds only to "true repentance" ...
God looks at our heart.

High Cost of Disobedience (42-45)

Disobedience
(43)

Destruction
(44)

Unanswered
prayers (45)

Promised
Land denied

Chapter 2 ... 38 years of wandering in the wilderness

From Kadesh Barnea to the border of Promised Land:

So close and yet so far!!

Time to Proceed

(1-3)

¹ Then we turned, and took our journey into the wilderness by the way of the Red sea, as the Lord spake unto me: and we compassed mount Seir many days. ² And the Lord spake unto me, saying,

³ **Ye have compassed this mountain long enough: turn you northward.**

* Similar instructions were given in 1:6 at Horeb

Encounter with Edomites, Moabites and Ammonites follows ...

Land of Edomites in Seir

(4-8)

⁴ And command thou the people, saying, Ye are to pass through the coast of **your brethren the children of Esau**, which dwell in Seir; and they shall be afraid of you: take ye good heed unto yourselves therefore: ⁵ Meddle not with them; for I will not give you of their land, no, not so much as a foot breadth; because I have given mount Seir unto Esau for a possession. ⁶ Ye shall buy meat of them for money, that ye may eat; and ye shall also buy water of them for money, that ye may drink. ⁷ For the Lord thy God hath blessed thee in all the works of thy hand: he knoweth thy walking through this great wilderness: these forty years the Lord thy God hath been with thee; thou hast lacked nothing. ⁸ And when we passed by from our brethren the children of Esau, which dwelt in Seir, through the way of the plain from Elath, and from Eziongaber, we turned and passed by the way of the wilderness of Moab.

Land of Edomites in Seir

(4-8)

Edomites, Descendants of Esau (brother of Jacob)

Instructions

Do not provoke conflict

The land belongs to them, given by God

Pay for food and water

March on

Reminders for Israelites:

God's provision for the last 40 years

Not to exploit the weak

Not to covet

Numbers 21:4-9

⁴ Then they journeyed from Mount Hor by the Way of the Red Sea, to go around the **land of Edom**; and the **soul of the people became very discouraged** on the way. ⁵ And the people spoke against God and against Moses: "Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For *there is* no food and no water, and our soul **loathes** this worthless bread." ⁶ So the Lord sent fiery serpents among the people, and they bit the people; and many of the people of Israel died. ⁷ Therefore the people came to Moses, and said, "**We have sinned**, for we have spoken against the Lord and against you; pray to the Lord that He take away the serpents from us." So Moses prayed for the people. ⁸ Then the Lord said to Moses, "Make a fiery *serpent*, and set it on a pole; and it shall be that everyone who is bitten, when he looks at it, **shall live**." ⁹ So Moses made a bronze serpent, and put it on a pole; and so it was, if a serpent had bitten anyone, when he looked at the bronze serpent, he lived.

Discouragement ==> Complaints ==> Sin (*how about us?*)

But God is merciful and opens the door of forgiveness

Moabites

⁹ And the Lord said unto me, Distress not the Moabites, neither contend with them in battle: for I will not give thee of their land for a possession; because I have given Ar unto the children of Lot for a possession.

Moabites

- Moabites history traced to incest (Lot & his 2 daughters)
- Ruth ... was also a Moabite woman (picture of God's grace)

Similar instructions

Do not harass or provoke to battle

The land of Ar belongs to them, given by God

10-12, Giants

given in () in
some Bible
translations

¹⁰ The Emims dwelt therein in times past, a people great, and many, and tall, as the Anakims; ¹¹ Which also were accounted giants, as the Anakims; but the Moabites called them Emims. ¹² The Horims also dwelt in Seir beforetime; but the children of Esau succeeded them, when they had destroyed them from before them, and dwelt in their stead; as Israel did unto the land of his possession, which the Lord gave unto them.

Giants wiped out by Edomites and by God

Thus fear of Giants (by 10 spies) was not valid

God is greater than the giants in our life

Giants cannot diminish God's promises

Great Tragedy: End of a generation after 38 years

(13-16)

¹³ Now rise up, said I, and get you over the brook Zered. And we went over the brook Zered. ¹⁴ And the space in which we came from Kadeshbarnea, until we were come over the brook Zered, **was thirty and eight years**; until all the generation of the men of war were wasted out from among the host, as the Lord sware unto them. ¹⁵ For indeed the hand of the Lord was against them, to destroy them from among the host, until they were consumed. ¹⁶ So it came to pass, when **all the men of war were consumed and dead** from among the people,

Our unbelief has consequences!

Joshua & Caleb also wandered for 38-years
despite being not guilty of unbelief

Ammonites

¹⁷ that the Lord spoke to me, saying: ¹⁸ **This day** you are to cross over at Ar, the boundary of Moab. ¹⁹ And when thou comest nigh over against the children of Ammon, distress them not, nor meddle with them: for I will not give thee of the land of the children of Ammon any possession; because I have given it unto the children of Lot for a possession.

Ammonites

Ammonites (descendants of incest – Lot & second daughter)

Similar instructions

Do not harass or provoke to battle

The land of Ar belongs to them, given by God

20-23, Giants

given in ()
in some Bible
translations

²⁰ (That also was accounted a land of giants: giants dwelt therein in old time; and the Ammonites call them Zamzummims; ²¹ A people great, and many, and tall, as the Anakims; but the Lord destroyed them before them; and they succeeded them, and dwelt in their stead: ²² As he did to the children of Esau, which dwelt in Seir, when he destroyed the Horims from before them; and they succeeded them, and dwelt in their stead even unto this day: ²³ And the Avims which dwelt in Hazerim, even unto Azzah, the Caphtorims, which came forth out of Caphtor, destroyed them, and dwelt in their stead.)

God destroyed Giants for Ammonites, like he did for Edomites

Giants are not a threat to God

We can defeat Giants when we go in the power of God & His promises

Two Battles Before Crossing Jordan

2:24-37 (Battle #1)

3:1-11 (Battle #2)

Battle #1

2:23-37

King of Heshbon, Sihon the Amorite

(2:24-37)

²⁴ **Rise ye up, take your journey**, and pass over the river Arnon: behold, I have given into thine hand Sihon the Amorite, king of Heshbon, and his land: **begin to possess it**, and contend with him in battle.

²⁵ **This day will I begin to put the dread of thee and the fear of thee upon the nations (see Joshua 2:8-9)** that are under the whole heaven, who shall hear report of thee, and shall tremble, and be in anguish because of thee. ²⁶ And I sent messengers out of the wilderness of Kedemoth unto Sihon king of Heshbon with words of peace, saying,

²⁷ Let me pass through thy land: I will go along by the high way, I will neither turn unto the right hand nor to the left. ²⁸ Thou shalt sell me meat for money, that I may eat; and give me water for money, that I may drink: only I will pass through on my feet;

²⁹ (As the children of Esau which dwell in Seir, and the Moabites which dwell in Ar, did unto me;) until I shall pass over Jordan into the land which the Lord our God giveth us.

³⁰ But Sihon king of Heshbon would not let us pass by him: for the Lord thy God hardened his spirit, and made his heart obstinate, that he might deliver him into thy hand, as appeareth this day.

King of Heshbon, Sihon the Amorite

(2:24-37)

³¹ And the Lord said unto me, Behold, I have begun to give Sihon and his land before thee: begin to possess, that thou mayest inherit his land.

³² Then Sihon came out against us, he and all his people, to fight at Jahaz.

³³ And the Lord our God delivered him before us; and we smote him, and his sons, and all his people.

³⁴ And we took all his cities at that time, and utterly destroyed the men, and the women, and the little ones, of every city, we left none to remain:

³⁵ Only the cattle we took for a prey unto ourselves, and the spoil of the cities which we took.

³⁶ From Aroer, which is by the brink of the river of Arnon, and from the city that is by the river, even unto Gilead, there was not one city too strong for us: the Lord our God delivered all unto us:

³⁷ Only unto the land of the children of Ammon thou camest not, nor unto any place of the river Jabbok, nor unto the cities in the mountains, nor unto whatsoever the Lord our God forbad us.

First Victory: Israelites and King of Heshbon summary (2:24-37)

Option of peace given to the king (to allow Israelites to pass through in exchange of food and water like before)

King refused

Battle takes place, and God gives Israelites victory

Lord gave complete victory (verse 34 ... took all cities)

Let us trust in God to get complete and final victory

O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory (1 Corinthians 15:55)

Chapter 3 begins

Battle #2, Distribution of land

Moses request denied

Joshua emerges as next leader

Battle #2

3:1-11

King of Bashan, Og

Then we turned, and went up the way to Bashan: and Og the king of Bashan came out against us, he and all his people, to battle at Edrei.

² And the Lord said unto me, Fear him not: for I will deliver him, and all his people, and his land, into thy hand; and thou shalt do unto him as thou didst unto Sihon king of the Amorites, which dwelt at Heshbon.

³ So the Lord our God delivered into our hands Og also, the king of Bashan, and all his people: and we smote him until none was left to him remaining.

⁴ And we took all his cities at that time, **there was not a city which we took not from them**, threescore cities, all the region of Argob, the kingdom of Og in Bashan.

⁵ All these cities were fenced with high walls, gates, and bars; beside unwalled towns a great many.

⁶ And we utterly destroyed them, as we did unto Sihon king of Heshbon, utterly destroying the men, women, and children, of every city.

King of Bashan, Og

⁷ But all the cattle, and the spoil of the cities, we took for a prey to ourselves.

⁸ And we took at that time out of the hand of the two kings of the Amorites the land that was on this side Jordan, from the river of Arnon unto mount Hermon;

⁹ (Which Hermon the Sidonians call Sirion; and the Amorites call it Shenir;)

¹⁰ All the cities of the plain, and all Gilead, and all Bashan, unto Salchah and Edrei, cities of the kingdom of Og in Bashan.

¹¹ For only Og king of Bashan remained of the **remnant of giants**; behold his bedstead was a bedstead of iron; is it not in Rabbath of the children of Ammon? nine cubits was the length thereof, and four cubits the breadth of it, after the cubit of a man. (13.5feet x 6 feet) (1 cubit = 18 inches)

Second Victory: Israelites and King of Bashan summary (3:1-11)

- King challenges Israelites
 - God promises Victory
 - Battle fought and won
 - Complete victory (60 cities on the East of River Jordan)
 - Og, last of the remnant of giants ... now defeated!
-
- Israelites should have trusted in God's promises that God will defeat the giants first time around
-
- Our delays in exercising faith in God's promises can cause us much losses in our life

Post-victory

- What happened to all the land that was conquered in 2 battles?
- Was this land part of God's original plan for promised land?

Distribution of Land

(12-17)

¹² And this land, which we possessed at that time, from Aroer, which is by the river Arnon, and half mount Gilead, and the cities thereof, gave I unto the **Reubenites** and to the **Gadites**. ¹³ And the rest of Gilead, and all Bashan, being the kingdom of Og, gave I unto the **half tribe of Manasseh**; all the region of Argob, with all Bashan, which was called the land of giants. ¹⁴ Jair the son of Manasseh took all the country of Argob unto the coasts of Geshuri and Maachathi; and called them after his own name, Bashanhavothjair, unto this day. ¹⁵ And I gave Gilead unto Machir. ¹⁶ And unto the Reubenites and unto the Gadites I gave from Gilead even unto the river Arnon half the valley, and the border even unto the river Jabbok, which is the border of the children of Ammon; ¹⁷ The plain also, and Jordan, and the coast thereof, from Chinnereth even unto the sea of the plain, even the salt sea (**dead sea**), under Ashdothpisgah eastward.

Distribution of Land to 2.5 tribes

(12-17)

Captured land east of Jordan, distributed to the Reubenites, Gadites and half the tribe of Mannaseh.

These 2.5 tribes decided not to go to promised Land and settled on this side of promised Land.

This land was not part of the original promised land.

Maybe 2.5 tribes should not have settled here away from other tribes and the promised land.

Journey continues through Jordan for more battles (18-20)

¹⁸ And I commanded you at that time, saying, The Lord your God hath given you this land to possess it: ye shall pass over armed before your brethren the children of Israel, all that are meet for the war. ¹⁹ But your wives, and your little ones, and your cattle, (for I know that ye have much cattle,) shall abide in your cities which I have given you; ²⁰ Until the Lord have given rest unto your brethren, as well as unto you, and until they also possess the land which the Lord your God hath given them beyond Jordan: and then shall ye return every man unto his possession, which I have given you.

Men of 2.5 tribes must participate in war, but can return

Joshua emerges as the new Leader

Why did God pick Joshua?

Moses counsels Joshua

²¹ And I commanded Joshua at that time, saying, **Thine eyes have seen all that the Lord your God hath done** unto these two kings: so shall the Lord do unto all the kingdoms whither thou passest. ²² Ye shall not fear them: **for the Lord your God he shall fight for you.**

When in battleground,

Past + Future = Present Peace

- Remember the **past** victories ... eyes have seen (21)
- Trust God's promise for **future** victories ...he shall fight (22) (Joshua 11:12, 23)

LORD SHALL FIGHT OUR BATTLES

Sad incident in the life of Moses

Moses Plea

(23-25)

²³ And I besought the Lord at that time, saying, ²⁴ O Lord God, thou hast begun to shew thy servant thy greatness, and thy mighty hand: for what God is there in heaven or in earth, that can do according to thy works, and according to thy might? ²⁵ I pray thee, let me go over, and see the good land that is beyond Jordan, that goodly mountain, and Lebanon.

Moses – Lord, Let me see the good land

Does this seem like a reasonable prayer request?

God's response to Moses Plea

²⁶ But the Lord was wroth with me for your sakes, and would not hear me: and the Lord said unto me, Let it suffice thee; speak no more unto me of this matter. ²⁷ Get thee up into the top of Pisgah, and lift up thine eyes westward, and northward, and southward, and eastward, and behold it with thine eyes: for thou shalt not go over this Jordan.

God's response to Moses (details: Numbers 20: 1-13)

You cannot cross Jordan

You cannot enter the land, You can only see with your eyes

Does God's response seem reasonable?

Rejected Moses asked to pass the baton and encourage Joshua

- Can a discouraged leader encourage others?
- Did Moses joyfully accept God's decision?

God's Charge to Joshua from Moses (28-29)

²⁸ But charge Joshua, and encourage him, and strengthen him: for he shall go over before this people, **and he shall cause them to inherit the land** which thou shalt see. ²⁹ So we abode in the valley over against Bethpeor.

Encourage Joshua

Strengthen Joshua

God's will: Joshua will lead the nation into the promised land

Spiritual Symbolism

Moses
~ Law

Reveals sin

Cannot take us to
Promised Land

Joshua
~ Christ

Cross cleanses sin

Makes us overcomers

Bethany Bible Study & Discussion



Deuteronomy Part 2 (chapter 1-3)

12.07.2022

Chapters 1-3 (Continued)

Review of Israel's failed Journey to Promised Land

Introduction to Deuteronomy

First generation denied entry to promised Land

Encounter with Edomites, Moabites, and Ammonites

Two battles & Two victories before crossing river Jordan

Moses denied entry to Promised land

Joshua emerges as the new leader of Israel