

Bethany Bible Study & Discussion



Deuteronomy Part-36 (chapter 34) KJV

9.04.2023

Chapter 34

Death of Moses | Start of Joshua

Death of Moses: Where did Moses die? Why was he denied entry to promised land? How was he buried? What is the title given to Moses? How old was Moses when he died? What lead to his death? Was the promise of promised land 'for ever' or for a 'limited time ?' (32:48-52, 34:1-8)

The Next Leader: Why was Joshua the right choice after Moses? Should Israelites be worried that Moses will not be leading them? (9)

Legacy of Moses: What made Moses a great leader? (10-12)

Death of Moses

32:48-52,
34:1-8

Last days of Moses

Book of Law

- written by Moses (31:9)
- placed by the ark of the covenant (31:26)
- to be read at the end of every 7 years (31:9)

Song of Moses (32)

- Reminder of consequences of disobeying the law

Blessing of Tribes (33)

What will we be occupied with during our last days ?

Occupy till I come, Luke 19:13

32:48-52

⁴⁸ And the Lord spake unto Moses that selfsame day, saying,

⁴⁹ Get thee up into this mountain Abarim, unto mount Nebo, which is in the land of Moab, that is over against Jericho; and behold the land of Canaan, which I give unto the children of Israel for a possession:

⁵⁰ And die in the mount whither thou goest up, and be gathered unto thy people; as Aaron thy brother died in mount Hor, and was gathered unto his people: ⁵¹ Because ye trespassed against me among the children of Israel at the waters of Meribah Kadesh, in the wilderness of Zin; because ye sanctified me not in the midst of the children of Israel.

⁵² Yet thou shalt see the land before thee; but thou shalt not go thither unto the land which I give the children of Israel.

34:1-8

34 And Moses went up from the plains of Moab unto the mountain of Nebo, to the top of Pisgah, that is over against Jericho. And the Lord shewed him all the land of Gilead, unto Dan, ² And all Naphtali, and the land of Ephraim, and Manasseh, and all the land of Judah, unto the utmost sea, ³ And the south, and the plain of the valley of Jericho, the city of palm trees, unto Zoar.

⁴ And the Lord said unto him, This is the land which I sware unto Abraham, unto Isaac, and unto Jacob, saying, I will give it unto thy seed: I have caused thee to see it with thine eyes, but thou shalt not go over thither.

⁵ So **Moses the servant of the Lord died** there in the land of Moab, according to the word of the Lord.

⁶ And **he buried him** in a valley in the land of Moab, over against Bethpeor: but no man knoweth of his sepulchre unto this day.

⁷ And Moses was an hundred and twenty years old when he died: his eye was not dim, nor his natural force abated.

⁸ And the children of Israel wept for Moses in the plains of Moab thirty days: so the days of weeping and mourning for Moses were ended.

Journey to death

And Moses went up from the plains of Moab unto the mountain of Nebo, to the top of Pisgah, that is over against Jericho (1) 32: ⁵⁰ And die in the mount whither thou goest up, and be gathered unto thy people;

- God gives him instructions, and Moses obeys without questioning
- Location: Mt. Nebo (in Pisgah mountains in land of Moab, overlooking the promised land) (Today: Jordan)
- Moses began alone at the bush | Moses travels alone to die
- Titles for Moses: man of God (ch.33:1) servant of the Lord (ch.34:5)

Death of Moses

⁶ And he buried him in a valley in the land of Moab, over against Bethpeor: but no man knoweth of his sepulchre unto this day.

- Died according to the Word of the Lord (5)
- God buried Moses ... exact location not known (6)
- Moses was 120-years old and in good health (7) (but his mission had ended)
 - Genesis 5:24 And Enoch walked with God: and he was not; for God took him.
 - II Kings 2:11 And it came to pass, as they still went on, and talked, that, behold, there appeared a chariot of fire, and horses of fire, and parted them both asunder; and Elijah went up by a whirlwind into heaven.
- Moses died alone
- Israelites mourned for 30-days (8)

Jude ⁹ Yet Michael the archangel, when contending with the devil he disputed about the body of Moses, durst not bring against him a railing accusation, but said, The Lord rebuke thee.

Moses will see but not enter

And the Lord said unto him, This is the land which I sware unto Abraham, unto Isaac, and unto Jacob, saying, I will give it unto thy seed: I have caused thee to see it with thine eyes, but thou shalt not go over thither (4)

Moses failed to enter because of corporate and personal sins

Corporate Sin

1:37 Also the Lord was angry with me for your sakes, saying, Thou also shalt not go in thither.

Personal Sin

Numbers 20: 11 And Moses lifted up his hand, and with his rod he smote the rock twice: and the water came out abundantly, and the congregation drank, and their beasts also. ¹² And the Lord spake unto Moses and Aaron, Because ye believed me not, to sanctify me in the eyes of the children of Israel. therefore ye shall not bring this congregation into the land which I have given them.

Moses saw the land later during transfiguration (Mathew 17:1-3, along with Elijah)

Two witnesses in Revelation 11:3 (maybe Moses and Elijah)

**What happens to body
after death?**

What happens to body of believers after death?

Body goes to ground, Soul to the Lord (immediately)

- **Ecclesiastes 12:7** Then shall the dust return to the earth as it was: and the spirit shall return unto God who gave it.
- **II Corinthians 5:8** We are confident, I say, and willing rather to be absent from the body, and to be present with the Lord.
- **Luke 23:43** Today shalt thou be with me in paradise

Body reunited with the soul, glorified, judged at resurrection, in presence of God for ever

- **I Thessalonians 4:16** Dead in Christ shall rise first
- **I Corinthians 15:52** we shall be changed
- **II Corinthians 5:10** For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad.
- **Revelation 21:1** part of new heaven and new earth for eternity

What happens to body of unbelievers?

Unbelievers also resurrected,

Judged at great white throne,

and sent to eternal death in lake
of fire (Revelation 20:15)

The Choice

Believers have a better future!

John 3:16 Believe for everlasting life

John 3:36 Unbelievers shall not see life

Death of Moses ...
not the end ...
but a new beginning

The next Leader in Promised Land (9)

Promise of God (of seed and land)

God is a promise
giving and
promise
keeping God

Abraham, [Genesis 12:3,7](#) “I will make thee a great nation” “unto thy seed will I give this land”

Isaac, [Genesis 26:3-4](#)³ Sojourn in this land, and I will be with thee, and will bless thee; for unto thee, and unto thy seed, I will give all these countries, and I will perform the oath which I sware unto Abraham thy father; ⁴ And I will make thy seed to multiply as the stars of heaven, and will give unto thy seed all these countries; and in thy seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed; (Genesis 26:3-4)

Jacob, [Genesis 28:14-15](#) And thy seed shall be as the dust of the earth, and thou shalt spread abroad to the west, and to the east, and to the north, and to the south: and in thee and in thy seed shall all the families of the earth be blessed. ¹⁵ And, behold, I am with thee, and will keep thee in all places whither thou goest, and will bring thee again into this land; for I will not leave thee, until I have done that which I have spoken to thee of.

Joseph [Genesis 50:24](#) And Joseph said unto his brethren, I die: and God will surely visit you, and bring you out of this land unto the land which he sware to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob.

Promise of God (of seed and land)

God is a promise
giving and
promise
keeping God

Abraham | Isaac | Jacob | Joseph | Moses (Hebrews 11)

Are you waiting for the fulfillment of any promise?

Wait in faith

Hebrews 6:12 that ye be not slothful, but followers of them who through faith and patience inherit the promises.

II Peter 3:9 The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness;

Promise Land ... given for ever ?

Given for Possession (no time limit) 32:49 Get thee up into this mountain Abarim, unto mount Nebo, which is in the land of Moab, that is over against Jericho; and behold the land of Canaan, which I give unto the children of Israel for a possession:

Disobedience lead to loss of land 29:26-28 ²⁶ For they went and served other gods, and worshipped them, gods whom they knew not, and whom he had not given unto them: ²⁷ And the anger of the Lord was kindled against this land, to bring upon it all the curses that are written in this book: ²⁸ And the Lord rooted them out of their land in anger, and in wrath, and in great indignation, and cast them into another land, as it is this day.

Restored if you return 30:1-5 ² And shalt return unto the Lord thy God, and shalt obey his voice according to all that I command thee this day, thou and thy children, with all thine heart, and with all thy soul; ³ That then the Lord thy God will turn thy captivity, and have compassion upon thee, and will return and gather thee from all the nations, whither the Lord thy God hath scattered thee.

JOSHUA

And Joshua the son of Nun was full of the spirit of wisdom; for Moses had laid his hands upon him: and the children of Israel hearkened unto him, and did as the Lord commanded Moses (9)

Peaceful Transition of Power from Moses to Joshua

Numbers 27:18-23

And the Lord said unto Moses, Take thee Joshua the son of Nun, a man in whom is the spirit, and lay thine hand upon him; ¹⁹ And set him before Eleazar the priest, and before all the congregation; and give him a charge in their sight.

²⁰ And thou shalt put some of thine honour upon him, that all the congregation of the children of Israel may be obedient. ²¹ And he shall stand before Eleazar the priest, who shall ask counsel for him after the judgment of Urim before the Lord: at his word shall they go out, and at his word they shall come in, both he, and all the children of Israel with him, even all the congregation.

²² And Moses did as the Lord commanded him: and he took Joshua, and set him before Eleazar the priest, and before all the congregation: ²³ And he laid his hands upon him, and gave him a charge, as the Lord commanded by the hand of Moses.

Joshua

... next leader

Peaceful transition

- Joshua publicly recognized as a leader (Numbers 27:19)
- Joshua had the spirit of wisdom (9)
- Blessed by Moses by laying on of hands (9)
- Joshua given charge by Moses as told by God (Numbers 27: 19,23)
- Israelites listened to him (9)
- Joshua died at the age of 110 (Judges 2:9)

Joshua mentored by Moses; a close companion of Moses

Exodus 33:11 And the Lord spake unto Moses face to face, as a man speaketh unto his friend. And he turned again into the camp: but his servant Joshua, the son of Nun, a young man, departed not out of the tabernacle.

Greatness and legacy of Moses (10-12)



¹⁰ And there arose **not a prophet since in Israel like unto Moses,** whom the Lord knew face to face,
¹¹ In all the signs and the wonders, which the Lord sent him to do in the land of Egypt to Pharaoh, and to all his servants, and to all his land,
¹² And in all that mighty hand, and in all the great terror which Moses shewed in the sight of all Israel

Extraordinary prophet
also a priest, judge, ruler

Knew the Lord face to face (intimate relationship)

Witnessed miracles and performed miracles

Why was Moses successful?

Called and anointed by God (Exodus 3)

Depended upon God (Exodus 33:15)

Heard from God (Exodus 33:11)

Shepard's heart/Intercessor (Exodus 32:11-14)

Obedient (with few exceptions)

Not covetous (Deuteronomy 9:14, refused great offer)

Patient

Open to counsel (Exodus 18:24, father-in-law)

Faithful (Exodus 12:7)

Humble (Numbers 12:3)

And more!

God's work continues

Moses was great but no one is irreplaceable

God's work is not interrupted by the temporary life of humans.

God begins and ends the work, and uses us as His vessels for His glory

We should not elevate people and treat them like Gods

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Next book, God willing

MALACHI