

The Last Words of Moses by Mark Scull

Study One

We find Moses with the children of Israel camped on the Plains of Moab after 40 years of wanderings in the wilderness. (Slides 1-2)

Duet 32:44-45 Moses made an end of speaking all these words..

V 49- 51 The summary of his death

Deut. Ch 33 We have a glorious record of the prophetic blessings Moses pronounced about Israel before his death.

“The Visions of Israel by Moses of Israel in the future” to consider in study 2

Let us go back 2 years before these last words so we may capture the context and feeling of this moment in time:

Num 20:1 And the children of Israel, even the whole congregation, came into the wilderness of Zin in the first month: and the people abode in Kadesh; and Miriam died there, and was buried there.

Now we come to this place where there **is no water, the people come and complain to Moses**, “would to God we had died in the wilderness”

The people have frustrated Moses and he makes a mistake in striking the rock in anger twice , the consequences of this mistake would go with Moses to the day of his death.

God had instructed Moses to speak to the rock? Read Number 20:v5-8

Now he loses his temper and as a result cannot enter the land!

After leaving Kadesh Barnea and travelling to Mt Hor near Edom, Moses life-long companion Aaron dies. .

Can we understand the frustration of Moses after 38 years of listening to the wailing of people who had first hand seen the miracles of their deliverance from Egypt,

(Please Read) Psalm 106:10 – 23 gives us a brief and precise summary of this generation and the key events of the exodus.

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The pillar of fire, of cloud and the dividing of the ocean, events that have been memorialized in the Psalms forever as great events performed by Yahweh.

- Travelling to the land around Edom, a bitter disappointment and trial
- The brook Zared (the last of the generation die) 38 years.

The Man Moses: A great prophet and one who had a close relationship with Yahweh the God of Israel.

“And the LORD spoke unto Moses, saying”

This phrase is used 72 times in our Bibles, a remarkable testimony to the relationship God had with this great Prophet.

His name is used some 785 times in the testaments.

In Psalm 90 we have a beautiful insight into the mind of the man and the depth of his understanding of the eternity and greatness of God, and his intention and desire to his people.

Psa 103:7 He made known **his ways** unto Moses, **his doings** unto the children of Israel

Psa 105:26 He sent Moses his servant, *and* Aaron whom he had chosen.

Following the arduous journey around Edom and Moab, the people are camped on the plains of Moab;

Deu 5:1 And Moses called unto all Israel, and said unto them, Hear, O Israel, the statutes and the judgments which I speak in your ears this day, that ye may learn them, and observe to do them.

Psalm 78 records the tragedy of Israel’s history

Consider the failures and lack of faith of Israel in the wilderness:

- Exod 14:11-12 “let us alone that we may serve the Egyptians”
- Num 21:5 they lusted for meat and complained Psa78:18
- Only this manner to eat Num 21:5 “our soul loatheth this bread” (angels food as the Psalms describe it.)
- Has God only spoken by Moses

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- They worshiped a calf
- They offered strange incense
- Ex 20:9 Let not God speak to us lest we die
- Would not go in to the land in faith and possess it!
- Deut 1:27 murmured in their tents
- Num 16 separated with Korah Dathan and Abiram 15,000 died
- Joined with the priestesses of Moab in fornication on the plains of Moab and 24,000 died (saved by Phineus)
- Complained in the wilderness and God sent fiery serpents

Yet with all this history of failure the Psalms records this journey with such beauty and destiny that we are drawn to see more significance in the wilderness deliverance than just this generation.

Paul tells us in I Corinthians Ch10 :11 “ Now all these things happened to them as examples, and they were written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the ages have come”

(see also I Cor 10 v 1-10) for reference

In the Book of Deuteronomy Ch 1 v 1 we read these be the words which Moses spoke,

“the Last words” after his 40 years wanderings with the children of Israel.

Reference :(YLT) These *are* the words which Moses hath spoken unto all Israel, beyond the Jordan, in the wilderness, in the plain over-against Suph, between Paran and Tophel, and Laban, and Hazereth, and Di-Zahab;

Set against the mountains surrounded by deserts and wilderness and the Promised Land across the Jordan river.

- **Moses here recounts the Journey that began in Egypt. SLIDES**
- **The plains of Moab and the giving of the covenant to the new generation**

The Exodus is mentioned in many of the Psalms:

Psa 136:10 To him that smote Egypt in their firstborn: for his mercy *endureth* for ever:

Psa 136:11 And brought out Israel from among them: for his mercy *endureth* for ever:

Psa 136:12 **With a strong hand, and with a stretched out arm: for his mercy *endureth* for ever.**

Psa 136:13 **To him which divided the Red Sea in sunder:** for his mercy *endureth* for ever:

Psa 136:14 And made Israel to pass through the midst of it: for his mercy *endureth* for ever:

Psa 136:15 **But overthrew Pharaoh and his host in the Red Sea:** for his mercy *endureth* for ever.

Psa 105:38 Egypt was glad when they departed; for the fear of them had fallen upon them.

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Psa 105:43 And he brought forth his people with joy, *and* his chosen with singing.

The covenant of Yahweh's law delivered at Sinai and also the covenant made with the fathers the covenants of promise. Reference (Deut 29:12-13,)

The words in Deuteronomy a prophecy for the future of the children of Israel.

(the words of all the prophets relate back to this book as it is the ground rules for Gods dealings with Israel in the Land of promise)

We see a summary of these prophesies in the names of the tribes at Ebal and Gerazim.

Deu 27:12 These shall stand upon mount Gerizim to bless the people, when ye are passed over Jordan; Simeon, and Levi, and Judah, and Issachar, and Joseph, and Benjamin:

Deu 27:13 and these shall stand upon mount **Ebal** for the curse; Reuben, Gad, and Asher, and Zebulun, Dan, and Naphtali.

Deu 27:14 And the Levites shall answer, and say unto all the men of Israel with a loud voice,

- **The Blessing and cursing of Gerizim and Ebal** (The Significance of the alignment of the tribes at Ebal and Gerizim and their prophetic meaning)

Slide

Mt Gerazim Blessings

Those who hear (**Simeon**) and Unite (**Levi**) in praise (**Judah**) will be rewarded (**Issachar**) with a double blessing (**Joseph**) and be the son of the right hand. (**Benjamin**)

Mt Ebal the curse

Affliction (**Rueben**) and Invasion (**Gad**) Led into captivity (**Asher**) to dwell (**Zebulun**) for Judgement (**Dan**) With great wrestlings (**Naphtali**)

Israel's fortunes were governed by their loyalty to their God, as the history of Israel shows.

- **The plains of Moab, The pleadings of Moses**

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Moses desire to enter the land: (Last two slides)

Deu 3:21 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 goest over.

Deu 3:22 Ye shall not fear them: for the LORD your God, he it is that fighteth for you.

Deu 3:23 **And I besought the LORD at that time, saying,**

Deu 3:24 O Lord GOD, **thou hast begun to shew thy servant thy greatness**, and thy strong hand: for what god is there in heaven or in earth, that can do according to thy works, and according to thy mighty acts?

Moses the man of God who has a 40 year relationship working closely with him, recounts the great works he has done,.....

Deu 3:25 **Let me go over, I pray thee, and see the good land** that is beyond Jordan, **that goodly mountain, and Lebanon.**

Deu 3:26 But the LORD was wroth with me for your sakes, and hearkened not unto me: and the LORD said unto me, Let it suffice thee; **speak no more unto me of this matter.**

We can imagine a loving God himself saddened by the request of Moses to enter the land, but in his eternal purpose does not wish it to be so, even though Moses was still in good health and strong.

Conclusion:

This was the answer to the Prayer of Moses in his pleadings for his people, Yahweh with the angel of his presence brought them to the promised land and they did inherit it!

We shall see how the inheritance received and the Joy is a cameo of our Messiah The Lord Jesus Christ (Yahweh's Salvation) the greater than Moses and his coming to the land in a not too distant time with his redeemed from all ages.

This we will consider in our second study END.

Psa 105:44 And he gave them the lands of the nations; and they took the labour of the peoples in possession:
Psa 105:45 That they might keep his statutes, and observe his laws. Praise ye the LORD.

Reference notes: Teman Habukuk 3

Originally, the name of a tribe and then of a district of the Edomites. In Biblical genealogy it is the name of the eldest son of Eliphaz, the first-born of Esau, and one of the "dukes" of Edom (Gen. xxxvi. 11, 15, 42; I

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Chron. i. 36, 53). The genealogy here noted proves that Teman was one of the most important of the Edomite tribes, and this is confirmed by the fact that "Teman" is used as a synonym for Edom itself (Amos i. 12; Obad. 9; comp. Jer. xlix. 20, 22; Hab. iii. 3). The Temanites were famed for their wisdom (Jer. xlix. 7; Baruch iii. 22); Eliphaz, the oldest and wisest of the friends of Job, is described as a member of this tribe (Job ii. 11 *et passim*).

Teman is referred to in Obad. 9 as a part of the mount of Esau, while Amos i. 12 mentions it in connection with the Edomitic "palaces of Bozrah"; Ezek. xxv. 13 speaks of it in contrast to the southern boundary Dedan. The "Onomasticon" of Eusebius (260, 155) mentions a region called Thaiman, in Gebalene (the [Gebal](#) of Ps. lxxxiii. 8 [A. V. 7]), and thus in the district of Petra, noting also an East Teman, a town with a Roman garrison fifteen (according to Jerome, five) miles from Petra.^{.E. C. I.}