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## Life-shaping significance...

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1. God judges disobedience to His word. Due to their disobedience, an entire generation was excluded from entering the Promised Land. What shows that you have learnt from the painful experiences of others?
2. Moses' exclusion from entering the land is a sombre reminder that even leaders are prone to fail. What can you do to support your leader/s?
3. God's refusal to allow Moses to enter the Promised Land, despite his impassioned appeal for a reprieve, highlights the seriousness of sin.
  - a. How acutely are you aware of your sin? ...and its consequences?
  - b. How has your sin been dealt with?
4. God promises to fight against all your enemies, despite their rather intimidating presence. How has He conquered your enemies?
5. When you reflect back on the past and see that God has kept His word, how does it motivate you for the future?

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## Prayer points...

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Studies in Deuteronomy 1-11

*Live life like this!*



## A history lesson

Deuteronomy 2:2 - 3:29

### The story so far...

After forty long years of wilderness wanderings, Moses speaks God's word again to the next generation who God redeemed for Himself out of slavery in Egypt. God's desire is still to give them the land He promised. However, the previous generation were apprehensive about the inhabitants occupying the land so they sent spies on an exploration mission to bring back a report. The land was indeed a good land. God also promised He would fight against these enemies who were occupying the land He promised to them. But despite this reassurance, they rebelled against God's command, not trusting Him. So that whole generation was excluded from entering the land; they would all die outside the land, even Moses. Yet God's promise to them of entering the land still stood for this next generation.

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### God spoke these words...

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**Moses traces the Israelites' journey that has brought them thus far. This review of their history is aimed to inspire this next generation to be ready to trust the LORD God for them to enter the land at last (2:2-12 & 16-23).**

1. Why is a safe passage past the Edomites (descendants of Esau) en route to the land assured (2:2-8)?
2. Why are the Moabites (descendants of Lot) and Ammonites also not to be engaged in war (2:9-13; 16-23)?

God had already allocated lands to these nations with family ties to the Israelites.

**The journey from their liberation from slavery in Egypt till this point has been a lengthy thirty-eight years (13-15 [1:2]).**

3. Why did an entire generation of the Israelites' fighting men perish (2:14-15)?

**While God instructed the Israelites not to make war against some specific nations because this land wasn't His gift to them, now as they cross the Arnon Gorge, a new dispensation comes into play (2:24-3:22).**

4. Why are they to engage in war with these Amorites (2:24)?

5. How will these words bring them such reassurance (2:25)?

6. Why did King Sihon of Heshbon refuse terms of peace (2:26-35)?

7. What secured victory in battle (2:36-37)?

8. Why were they victorious in battle against King Og of Bashan (3:1-11)? And why would this be such a morale booster?

9. What is the significance of Moses allocating this land to these tribes (3:12-18a)? Yet what condition are they obligated to fulfil (3:18b-20)? Why?

10. What outcome are these victories intended to accomplish (3:21-22 [1:20])?

**The LORD was angry with Moses because he didn't obey His word (see Numbers 20:2-13); and this then tragically resulted in him being excluded from entering the land of promise (3:23-29 [1:37]).**

11. What is the basis for Moses' last-ditch impassioned plea with the LORD to be granted permission to enter the Promised Land (3:23-25)?

12. What does the LORD's response to Moses' request reveal (3:26)?

13. What concession does the LORD give Moses (3:27)?

14. What role is Moses assigned now that he can't enter the land (3:28)?

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## **New Testament connections...**

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**Read 1 Corinthians 15:54-57 & Colossians 2:13-15**

1. How has victory over all our enemies been secured?

**Read 1 Peter 1:3-5**

2. What inheritance has been secured for everyone who is in Christ?

**Read Matthew 26:38-42**

3. Why were both Moses' and Jesus' requests declined for different reasons?