

## Finish Well! (*What happened to Moses?*)

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Purpose: to encourage God's people to follow Moses' example, knowing that God will use us to do great things and give us a great reward.

Is it worth it? When you find yourself going through struggles because of your faith in Christ, do you sometimes wonder if it is worth it? Well, here is a verse of great encouragement:

**Gal 6:9** - And let us not grow weary while doing good, for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart.

Moses is a great example of a man that finished well. Just before he died, he was given the opportunity to see the land that was promised to the children of Israel even though he was not able to cross over:

**Deu 34:1** - Then Moses went up from the plains of Moab to Mount Nebo, to the top of Pisgah, which is across from Jericho. And the LORD showed him all the land of Gilead as far as Dan,

**Deu 34:2** - all Naphtali and the land of Ephraim and Manasseh, all the land of Judah as far as the Western Sea,

**Deu 34:3** - the South, and the plain of the Valley of Jericho, the city of palm trees, as far as Zoar.

**Deu 34:4** - Then the LORD said to him, "This *is* the land of which I swore to give Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, saying, 'I will give it to your descendants.' I have caused you to see *it* with your eyes, but you shall not cross over there."

**Deu 34:5** - So Moses the servant of the LORD died there in the land of Moab, according to the word of the LORD.

**Deu 34:6** - And He buried him in a valley in the land of Moab, opposite Beth Peor; but no one knows his grave to this day.

Why was he not allowed to cross over? Because of his mistake at a place called Meribah:

**Deu 3:23** - "Then I pleaded with the LORD at that time, saying:

**Deu 3:24** - 'O Lord GOD, You have begun to show Your servant Your greatness and Your mighty hand, for what god *is there* in heaven or on earth who can do *anything* like Your works and Your mighty *deeds*?

**Deu 3:25** - I pray, let me cross over and see the good land beyond the Jordan, those pleasant mountains, and Lebanon.'

**Deu 3:26** - "But the LORD was angry with me on your account, and would not listen to me. So the LORD said to me: 'Enough of that! Speak no more to Me of this matter.

**Deu 3:27** - Go up to the top of Pisgah, and lift your eyes toward the west, the north, the south, and the east; behold *it* with your eyes, for you shall not cross over this Jordan.

**Deu 3:28** - But command 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 you will see.'

But at least God allowed him to see it! This is his legacy:

**Deu 34:7** - Moses *was* one hundred and twenty years old when he died. His eyes were not dim nor his natural vigor diminished.

**Deu 34:8** - And the children of Israel wept for Moses in the plains of Moab thirty days. So the days of weeping *and* mourning for Moses ended.

**Deu 34:9** - Now Joshua the son of Nun was full of the spirit of wisdom, for Moses had laid his hands on him; so the children of Israel heeded him, and did as the LORD had commanded Moses.

**Deu 34:10** - But since then there has not arisen in Israel a prophet like Moses, whom the LORD knew face to face,

**Deu 34:11** - in all the signs and wonders which the LORD sent him to do in the land of Egypt, before Pharaoh, before all his servants, and in all his land,

**Deu 34:12** - and by all that mighty power and all the great terror which Moses performed in the sight of all Israel.

- He had long life and was strong right until the end:
- He was loved by the people that he served:
- God gave him someone to take over once he was gone

He fulfilled his lifetime calling:

**Heb 11:24** - By faith Moses, when he became of age, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter,

**Heb 11:25** - choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God than to enjoy the passing pleasures of sin,

**Heb 11:26** - esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt; for he looked to the reward.

**Heb 11:27** - By faith he forsook Egypt, not fearing the wrath of the king; for he endured as seeing Him who is invisible.

**Heb 11:28** - By faith he kept the Passover and the sprinkling of blood, lest he who destroyed the firstborn should touch them.

**Heb 11:29** - By faith they passed through the Red Sea as by dry *land*, *whereas* the Egyptians, attempting *to do so*, were drowned.

- Moses forsook the prestige, wealth and power of the world
- He chose to suffer affliction with the people of God
- He knew that the reward of eternity was greater
- He looked for his reward from God
- Because of this he was not afraid of the powers of this world, because he saw the one who is invisible
- He was used to do great things

We have a great example to follow. If we act as Moses did:

- Forsake the temptations of this world
- Don't go after the temporary pleasures of sin
- Look for the reward from God, both in this life and in the life to come
- Focus on the one who is invisible,

Then God will use us to do great things!