

# Moses Died and We Learn

## Deuteronomy 32:48-52 & 34:1-5

- I. God Is Merciful.
  - A. God's love and grace permitted Moses to see the Promised Land (Deuteronomy 32:52).
  - B. The Lord showed Moses all the land (Deuteronomy 34:1).
    1. Moses had to be divinely aided to behold the Promised Land.
    2. The land from Gilead to Dan covered about 100 miles.
  - C. God is a Lord Who remembers and rewards the work of His faithful.
- II. A Good Leader Can Only Do So Much.
  - A. Moses was a superb leader.
    1. There is a leadership dearth in the church and in the home.
    2. The church and the home badly need more leaders like Moses.
  - B. Good leaders, however, cannot make people obey God.
    1. Moses acknowledges that his efforts curbed the nation's sinful tendencies (Deuteronomy 31:27).
    2. Moses also predicts that his leadership would be forgotten by Israel (Deuteronomy 31:27).
  - C. Good leaders today cannot *make* people do right.
    1. It's impossible to *make* someone a good Christian.
    2. Elders, preachers, parents, and/or loved ones can only lead individuals in the right direction.
- III. Time Does Not Equal Forgiveness.
  - A. Moses' sin is recorded in Numbers 20:11, 12.
  - B. The children of Israel were banished to 40 years of wilderness (Numbers 14:32-34).
    1. After all that time, the children of Israel are ready to enter the Promised Land.
    2. The passage of that time did not erase Moses' sin (Deuteronomy 32:51, 52; 34:4).
    3. The passage of time does not erase our sin.
      - a. Unrepented sins (committed in one's youth) are not erased with time.
      - b. Past sins should not be overlooked; they must be confessed.
- IV. Sin Has Consequences.
  - A. The wages of sin is death (Romans 6:23). Our sins separate us from God (Isaiah 59:1, 2).
  - B. Every sin has consequences.
    1. The consequences of some sins are more severe than others.
    2. The consequences of murder may be more harsh than isolated, un-Christian thoughts.

- C. There are even consequences to sins that have been forgiven.
    - 1. One who robs a bank may have to bear the consequences of repayment.
    - 2. One who commits the sin of murder may have to serve a prison sentence.
  - D. Consequences of sins may be felt by others.
    - 1. The sins of David and Bathshedba effected their child (2 Samuel 12:13, 14).
    - 2. Sins that individuals commit have spillover effects on...
      - a. the church (see Joshua 7:13 for the effects of sin in the camp)
      - b. the home (things reproduce after their “kind;” see also 1 Corinthians 5:7)
      - c. society (Romans 12:1, 2)
  - E. God does not weigh our goodness against our sins to see which way the scale tips. ONE sin has eternal consequences.
- V. Close Is Not Enough.
- A. Moses was close to the Promised Land.
    - 1. He could see it with his eyes.
    - 2. Moses did not enter the Promised Land.
  - B. Many are close to the Christian Way.
    - 1. Some are already moral and upright.
    - 2. Many read and believe parts of the Bible.
    - 3. Most want to be in the good favor of the Father.
    - 4. It is possible to be so close, but close is not enough.

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## Rules For Growing Christians

**Don't neglect your prayer time.** It is the breath of the soul (Luke 18:1).

**Don't neglect your Bible.** It is your sword for conquest, your hammer for construction, your guiding light for dreary days (Revelation 1:3).

**Don't neglect your body.** It is the capital on which you are to do business for the rest of your life (1 Corinthians 6:19, 20).

**Don't neglect your mind.** It is the channel for reaching up to the very thoughts of God (Philippians 4:8).

**Don't neglect your laugh.** The Bible teaches that “A merry heart doeth good like a medicine” (Proverbs 17:22).

**Don't neglect your reputation.** It is the gold with which you will meet the demands of a complex civilization (Matthew 5:14-16).

**Don't neglect your influence.** It will point other people to the living God Whom you serve (Proverbs 11:6).