

Deuteronomy 1:1-3:22

Devarim | דברים

“words”

Thirty-seven days before his death, Moses repeats the Torah to the children of Israel, going through the events, laws, failings, and iniquities, that occurred in the course of their forty-year journey from Egypt to Sinai to the Promised Land. He instructed them to keep the Torah and observe its commandments in the Land. He recalls the appointment of judges, the sending of the spies which led to the rejection of the Promised Land that sentenced an entire generation to die out in the desert including Moses. He also includes some more current events including the refusal of the nations of Moab and Ammon to allow the Israelites to pass through their countries, the wars against the Emorite kings Sichon and Og, and the settlement of their lands by the tribes of Reuben, Gad and Manasseh. Ending with Moses' message to Joshua who will take the people into the Land and lead them in battle.

Community Questions:

1. How many days before Moses' death did he start to review all that has happened to the children of Israel?
 2. What does Devarim mean in Hebrew?
 3. Devarim can possibly be read as devorim, meaning bees. Bees are a source of three senses. What are they?
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4. What is the Torah emphasizing by beginning the Book of Devarim with the words "these are"?
 5. Why did Moses refer to the current generation of Israelites as if they were the generation whose sin caused their wandering?
 6. Did Moses gently reproof Israel or strongly rebuke Israel in this portion?
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7. What spiritual connection, if any, do the Children of Israel have with Esau's descendants?
 8. Are there differences between fraternal hatred and hatred of one who is not related to you?
 9. Does something painful or something sweet teach a better lesson?
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10. In your life what hate can Yeshua transform into love?
 11. How can we be like the "men of understanding"?



Additional
Resources:

BT:
Devarim
2019

Rabbi
Jonathan
Sacks

Aleph-
Beta