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IX

LESSONS FROM THE PAGES OF DEUTERONOMY

“And He brought us out from there, that He might bring us in and give us the land that He swore to give to our fathers.”

- Deuteronomy 6:23 (ESV)

PART ONE: The Concluding Words of Moses

Read Deuteronomy 33:26-29.

V.26 Jeshurun is a term of affection or “pet name for Israel.” (Brueggemann, *Deuteronomy*, p.285) It is derived from the Hebrew verb “yashar,” meaning “be upright.” (The NET Bible First Edition Notes, 33:26) (“Righteous Israel”)

V.26 “who rides through the heavens to your help” Consider some of the ramifications of this specific word...

V.27 – “dwelling” – Hebrew “me’onah” – Compare Psalm 90:1-2.

Vv.26,29 Because there is no other god like our God,
there is no other people like His people.

PART TWO: The Concluding Words About Moses

Read Deuteronomy 34:1-4 then 5-12.

V.5a “So Moses the servant of the LORD...” According to Dr. J.H. Tigay,

“As a title, ‘eved YHVH means ‘the LORD’S minister’”

(*The JPS Torah Commentary*, p.337)

The Jewish Study Bible translation of Deuteronomy 34:5 “So Moses the servant of the LORD died there, in the land of Moab, at the command of the LORD.” (p.449)

Dr. J.H. Tigay writes, “‘He died at God’s command, not from old age or illness’ (see v. 7)...Since it means literally ‘He died at God’s mouth,’ it was interpreted midrashically to mean that Moses died at a kiss from God. Hence the Hebrew idiom *mitat neshikah*, ‘death by a kiss,’ meaning sudden, painless death in old age.”

(*The JPS Torah Commentary* p.338)

V.6 “but he buried him in the valley...but no one knows the place” Compare Jude 9.

Compare Verses 9 and 11. Successive leaders are often purposed by God to be very different people with very different strengths.

