

Deuteronomy 31:1-8 **Charge to Israel and to Joshua**

Moses' service ending

¹ Then Moses went and spoke these words to all Israel. ² And he said to them: "I am one hundred and twenty years old today. I can no longer go out and come in. Also the LORD has said to me, 'You shall not cross over this Jordan.'

Assurance of Divine help and enablement

³ "The LORD your God Himself crosses over before you; He will destroy these nations from before you, and you shall dispossess them. Joshua himself crosses over before you, just as the LORD has said. ⁴ And the LORD will do to them as He did to Sihon and Og, the kings of the Amorites and their land, when He destroyed them. ⁵ The LORD will give them over to you, that you may do to them according to every commandment which I have commanded you.

Be Strong and Very Courageous

⁶ Be strong and of good courage, do not fear nor be afraid of them; for the LORD your God, He is the One who goes with you. He will not leave you nor forsake you."

Commission of Joshua

⁷ Then Moses called Joshua and said to him in the sight of all Israel, "Be strong and of good courage, for you must go with this people to the land which the LORD has sworn to their fathers to give them, and you shall cause them to inherit it. ⁸ And the LORD, He is the one who goes before you. He will be with you, He will not leave you nor forsake you; do not fear nor be dismayed."
NKJV

Facts Revealed:

Moses' service ending [Deuteronomy 31:1-2]

- ✧ Moses is now 120 years old, and feeling that He is out of power to go out or come in.
 - ◇ Moses had spent his first 40 years as a Prince of Egypt. [Josephus Antiquities of the Jews chapters 9 and 10]
 - ◇ 40 years in Midian as a shepherd so he was 80 years old when God sent him to Pharaoh to bring the Children of Israel out of Egypt. [Exodus 7:7]
 - ◇ 40 years in the wilderness with the Children of Israel after God delivered them by the hand of Moses, from Egyptian bondage. [Numbers 32:13, Deuteronomy 8:2-4, 29:5-6]
- ✧ Also, God had forbidden Moses from crossing over the Jordan River into the land of Canaan, the Promised Land, because of his disobedience at Meribah in Kadesh. [Numbers 20:7-12, 27:12-14, Deuteronomy 4:21-22, 31:2, 32:48-52]

Assurance of Divine help and enabling [Deuteronomy 31:3-5]

- ✧ Yehowah Eloheyk (the LORD your God) Himself crosses over before you.
 - ◇ He will destroy these nations before you.
 - ◇ You will dispossess them.
 - ◇ Joshua crosses over before you, just as Yehowah has said.
- ✧ You can depend on Yehowah because He will do to these nations as He did to Sihon and Og.
- ✧ Yehowah will deliver them over to you that you may do as He commanded you. [Exodus 23:20-24, 31-33, 34:10-17, Leviticus 18:24-30, Numbers 33:50-56, Deuteronomy 7:1-5, 16, 20:16-18, 25:17-19, 31:5]

Encouragement to be Courageous while trusting God for success

- ✧ Be strong and of good courage, do not fear nor be afraid of them; for the LORD your God, He is the One who goes with you. He will not leave you nor forsake you. [Deuteronomy 31:6]

Commission of Joshua [Deuteronomy 31:7-8]

- ✧ Moses publicly instructed Joshua to lead the people of Israel into the Promised Land.
 - ✧ Be strong and of good courage.
 - ✧ You must go with this people to the Land Yehowah promised to give to their fathers.
 - ✧ You will cause them to inherit the land.
- ✧ Yehowah is the one who goes before you. He will be with you, He will not leave you nor forsake you.
- ✧ Do not fear nor be dismayed.

- ✧ When serving God at His call, we often need to be reminded that we are not alone in times of stress and discouragement. God says, “Be strong and of good courage.”
- ✧ Our strength is from the Lord, but we need to determine in our own minds that we will go wherever He bids us go, and since it is His will, He will certainly be with us to enable us to accomplish the task He has sent us to do.
- ✧ In His service, we find that perfect love casts out fear. [\[1 John 4:18\]](#)
- ✧ God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind. [\[2 Timothy 1:7\]](#)