

119

MINISTRIES

“The following is a direct script of a teaching that is intended to be presented via video, incorporating relevant text, slides, media, and graphics to assist in illustration, thus facilitating the presentation of the material. In some places, this may cause the written material to not flow or sound rather awkward in some places. In addition, there may be grammatical errors that are often not acceptable in literary work. We encourage the viewing of the video teachings to complement the written teaching you see below.”

Parashah Points: Va’etchanan - When God Says No

Welcome to another episode of Parashah Points—short thoughts from the weekly Torah Portion.

This week’s Parashah Point comes from Va’etchanan, which is Hebrew for “I pleaded,” and it goes from Deuteronomy 3:23 to Deuteronomy 7:11.

In this Torah portion, Moses tells how God prohibited him from entering the Promised Land. Then Moses exhorts Israel to obey God’s commandments and recounts the setting up of the Cities of Refuge. After that, Moses recites the Ten Commandments and the Shema, and then gives instructions regarding the conquest of the Land.

There’s a lot we can talk about in this Torah Portion. Today we’re going to talk about when God says no:

Deuteronomy 3:23-26

“And I pleaded with the Lord [YHWH] at that time, saying, ‘O Lord God [YHWH], you have only begun to show your servant your greatness and your mighty hand. For what god is there in heaven or on earth who can do such works and mighty acts as yours? Please let me go over and see the good land beyond the Jordan, that good hill country and Lebanon.’ But the Lord [YHWH] was angry with me because of you and would not listen to me. **And the Lord [YHWH] said to me, ‘Enough from you; do not speak to me of this matter again.’”**

Here we see Moses recounting his conversation with YHWH in which he *pleaded* to be allowed into the Promised Land. But YHWH’s answer was no. YHWH had determined that Joshua, not Moses, would be the one to lead Israel in taking possession of the land (Deuteronomy 3:28).

Moses must have been quite disappointed by this answer. Think about it. From the very beginning, Moses was *the guy*. His entire identity—his purpose—was centered on being the one God used to deliver his people out of Egypt and bring them to the Promised Land. But God declined Moses’ request to see this mission through to the end.

What can we learn from this passage?

Quite simply, sometimes God says no to the things we want—even things we think are good and related to his purposes. It might not make sense, but we have to be willing to accept no for an answer and trust that he knows what's best.

Beyond that, we must remain faithful to God and serve him in whatever capacity he allows us. Even though God said no to Moses' request, Moses remained faithful. Throughout the rest of Deuteronomy, Moses taught the Israelites God's commands and prepared them for the next phase of their journey—even though Moses himself wouldn't be part of that next phase.

We need to realize that this life is not about us. We may not understand or even agree with God's will sometimes, but as Yeshua prayed, "Not my will, but yours, be done" (Luke 22:42).

Will you remain faithful to God and serve him, even when he tells you no?

Thank you for joining us for another Parashah Point!

We pray you have been blessed by this teaching. Remember, continue to test everything. Shalom! For more on this and other teachings, please visit us at www.testeverything.net

Shalom, and may Yahweh bless you in walking in the whole Word of God.

EMAIL: Info@119ministries.com

FACEBOOK: www.facebook.com/119Ministries

WEBSITE: www.TestEverything.net & www.ExaminaloTodo.net

TWITTER: [www.twitter.com/119Ministries#](https://twitter.com/119Ministries#)