

THREATENED BY DISCOURAGEMENT

Deuteronomy 3:12-29 // October 10, 2021 PM

I. Israel's future rest is threatened by discouraging apathy (vv. 12-20).

II. Israel's future rest is threatened by discouraging anxiety (vv. 21-22).

III. Israel's future rest is threatened by discouraging agony (vv. 23-29).

QUESTIONS FOR FAMILY WORSHIP

1. What does it mean for God to be "the God of endurance and encouragement" (Rom. 15:5)? How does God use His word (Rom. 15:4) to encourage His people to endure?
2. How could the Israelites taking up residence in the land of Sihon and Og serve to either encourage or discourage Israel from conquering Canaan?
3. How does Israel's already, not-yet rest parallel the already, not-yet rest of believers today? In what sense do we have rest now, and in what sense are we still awaiting future rest? Why should the already of our salvation lead us to zeal, not laxity?
4. Why would Israel be afraid of going into the land? What is the reason given to Joshua why he shouldn't fear? What kinds of "giants" do Christians fear today as they journey toward the new earth?
5. Why might Moses' death and the mention of Beth-Peor be a discouragement to this second generation? To whom does Moses point them, and to whom does God point us today?

QUESTIONS FOR PRIVATE REFLECTION

1. Meditate on Romans 15:5. How has God used His word in the past to deliver me from discouragement in this earthly pilgrimage?
2. Out of the three discouragements undergirding Moses' preaching here, which am I most prone to? What does this passage and the rest of Scripture have to say about it?
3. How does the fact that God fights for me encourage me to actively fight sin and Satan instead of passively resign?