

# Deuteronomy 1:9

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And I spake unto you at that time, saying, I am not able to bear you myself alone:

## Analysis

---

Moses' acknowledgment of being unable to bear the burden alone demonstrates humble leadership and the principle of delegation. The Hebrew 'nasa' (bear/carry) suggests the weight of judicial and administrative responsibility exceeded one person's capacity. This recognition led to the establishment of a judicial system (Exodus 18), showing that God provides wisdom and structure for effective leadership through shared responsibility.

## Historical Context

---

This references Jethro's advice in Exodus 18:13-27, given early in the wilderness journey. Moses wisely implemented a multi-tiered judicial system with leaders over thousands, hundreds, fifties, and tens—a model of distributed authority that prevented burnout and ensured justice.

## Related Passages

---

**Romans 1:17** — The righteous shall live by faith

**James 2:17** — Faith and works

**Psalms 19:1** — Heavens declare God's glory

**Colossians 1:16** — All things created through Christ

## Study Questions

---

1. Where in your life do you need to acknowledge limitations and seek help?
2. How can you better share responsibility and develop other leaders?

## Interlinear Text

---

וְאֵלֹכִים	וְאֵלֹכִים	וְאֵלֹכִים	וְאֵלֹכִים	וְאֵלֹכִים	וְאֵלֹכִים
And I spake	H413	unto you at that time	H1931	And I spake	H3808
H559		H6256		H559	
אֲנִי	אֲנִי	אֲנִי	אֲנִי	אֲנִי	אֲנִי
I am not able	H3201	you myself alone	H905	to bear	H5375
				H853	

## Additional Cross-References

---

**Exodus 18:18** (Parallel theme): Thou wilt surely wear away, both thou, and this people that is with thee: for this thing is too heavy for thee; thou art not able to perform it thyself alone.

**Numbers 11:17** (Parallel theme): And I will come down and talk with thee there: and I will take of the spirit which is upon thee, and will put it upon them; and they shall bear the burden of the people with thee, that thou bear it not thyself alone.