

# Deuteronomy 2:27

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Let me pass through thy land: I will go along by the high way,  
I will neither turn unto the right hand nor to the left.

## Analysis

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The repeated appeal 'only I will pass through on foot' emphasizes humble, non-threatening passage. Referencing Edom and Moab's permission ('as the children of Esau... and the Moabites... did unto me') provides precedent—others allowed passage, why not Sihon? The ultimate goal 'until I shall pass over Jordan into the land which the LORD our God giveth us' grounds the request in God's promise. Transparent communication about intentions reflects integrity.

## Historical Context

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While Deuteronomy simplifies the narrative, Numbers 21:21-23 shows Sihon's hostile refusal and attack. Edom actually refused passage (Numbers 20:20-21), but Moab apparently allowed it. The appeal to precedent, even if partially inaccurate, shows Moses' attempt at persuasion before warfare. Sihon's refusal triggered God's judgment.

## Related Passages

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**1 John 4:8** — God is love

**John 15:13** — Greatest form of love

**Revelation 20:12** — Judgment according to deeds

**Romans 2:1** — Judging others

## Study Questions

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1. How transparent are you about your ultimate goals when seeking cooperation?
2. What precedents can you appeal to when seeking permission or blessing?

## Interlinear Text

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אֶל־הָנֶסֶת בְּדַבָּר אֲשֶׁר־בָּאָרֶץ בְּאֶרְצָת־יְהוָה

Let me pass through thy land along by the high way along by the high way

H1980

H5674

H776

H1870

H1870

וְשַׁמְאֹל: יְמִינֵךְ אֶסְרֶל אֶל־

H3808

I will neither turn unto the right hand nor to the left

H5493

H3225

H8040

## Additional Cross-References

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**Judges 11:19** (Parallel theme): And Israel sent messengers unto Sihon king of the Amorites, the king of Heshbon; and Israel said unto him, Let us pass, we pray thee, through thy land into my place.

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