

# Deuteronomy 2:9

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And the LORD said unto me, Distress not the Moabites, neither contend with them in battle: for I will not give thee of their land for a possession; because I have given Ar unto the children of Lot for a possession.

## Analysis

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God's command regarding Moab—'Distress not the Moabites, neither contend with them in battle'—extends the same respect given to Edom. Though Moab descended from Lot's incestuous relationship with his daughter (Genesis 19:37), God still recognized their territorial rights. The reason 'I have given Ar unto the children of Lot for a possession' shows God's grace extends beyond perfect origins. God's sovereignty and mercy transcend human failure.

## Historical Context

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Despite this protection, Moab would later oppose Israel (Numbers 22-25) and would come under prophetic judgment (Isaiah 15-16). Yet at this moment, God commanded restraint. This illustrates that God's immediate commands may differ from His ultimate judgments—timing matters in understanding God's ways.

## Related Passages

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**Romans 2:1** — Judging others

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

## Study Questions

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1. How does God's mercy to those with shameful origins encourage you about His grace?
2. When should you show restraint even toward those who may later oppose you?

## Interlinear Text

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וַיֹּאמֶר	יְהוָה	אֵלַי	אֵל	תָּצַר	אֶת	מוֹאָב
said	And the LORD	H413	H408	unto me Distress	H853	not the Moabites
H559	H3068			H6696		H4124
וְאֵל	תִּתְּנָה	בָּם	מִלְחָמָה	לֹא	כִּי	נָתַתִּי
H408	neither contend	H0	with them in battle	H3588	H3808	because I have given
	H1624		H4421			H5414
לָב	מֵאֲרָצוֹ	יְרֵשָׁה:	כִּי	לְבָנֵי	ל	וֹט
H0	thee of their land	for a possession	H3588	unto the children		of Lot
	H776	H3425		H1121		H3876
נָתַתִּי	אֶת	עַר	יְרֵשָׁה:			
because I have given	H853	Ar	for a possession			
H5414		H6144	H3425			

## Additional Cross-References

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**Numbers 21:15** (Parallel theme): And at the stream of the brooks that goeth down to the dwelling of Ar, and lieth upon the border of Moab.

**Numbers 21:28** (References Lord): For there is a fire gone out of Heshbon, a flame from the city of Sihon: it hath consumed Ar of Moab, and the lords of the high places of Arnon.