

# 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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מֹאֲבָבָה	בְּ	אַתָּה	מִן	אֶלְעָמָד	אֶל	לֹא	יְהִי	הַ	וְיִאָמֶר	יְהִי	וְיִאָמֶר
said	And the LORD	H413	H408	unto me	Distress	H853			not the Moabites		
H559	H3068				H6696				H4124		
לֹא	כִּי	מִלְכָמָה	הָ	בְּ	מִ	תִּתְחַבֵּר	רִ	וְ	נִתְתַּתְּ	תְּ	בְּ
H408	neither contend	H0			H3588			H3808	because I have given	H5414	
H1624				H4421							
לְבָנָי	לְבָנָי	לְ	וְ								
thee of their land	for a possession	H3588									
H0	H3425										
H776											
וְיִרְשָׁה:	עַד	אֶת	וְ	תְּ	נִתְתַּתְּ	תְּ					
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.