

# Deuteronomy 26:9

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And he hath brought us into this place, and hath given us this land, even a land that floweth with milk and honey.

## Analysis

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**He hath brought us into this place, and hath given us this land, even a land that floweth with milk and honey**—the liturgy concludes by connecting exodus deliverance to Canaan possession. The verb hevi'anu ("He brought us") attributes the conquest entirely to God's action, not Israel's military prowess. The perfect tense indicates completed action from Moses's perspective (anticipatory) but future reality for his audience—spoken as prophetic certainty.

The phrase **a land that floweth with milk and honey** (eretz zavat chalav u'devash) is Canaan's signature description, appearing over 20 times in the Pentateuch. "Milk" represents pastoral abundance (grazing livestock); "honey" represents agricultural fertility (date honey, not bee honey). Together they depict economic prosperity in both herding and farming—comprehensive blessing in an agrarian economy.

This description isn't hyperbole but theological affirmation: the land's fertility flows from covenant relationship, not intrinsic to the soil. Canaanites attributed agricultural blessing to Baal; Israel must recognize YHWH as the source. The same land becomes fruitful under obedience or barren under disobedience (Deuteronomy 28:23-24)—fertility depends on the covenant, not climate.

## Historical Context

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Canaan's 'milk and honey' description contrasts with Egypt's irrigation-dependent agriculture (Deuteronomy 11:10-12). While Egypt relied on the Nile's predictable flooding, Canaan depended on seasonal rains—requiring faith in God's provision. The land's actual productivity varied by region: the coastal plain and valleys were highly fertile; the Negev and Judean wilderness were marginal. But the liturgy emphasizes theological abundance, not mere geography. Israel's confession links present harvest to God's ancient promise to the patriarchs (Genesis 15:18-21).

## Related Passages

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

**Genesis 1:1** — Creation of heavens and earth

## Study Questions

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1. Do you attribute your material blessings to God's gracious provision or to your own effort and skill?
2. How does viewing prosperity as conditional on covenant faithfulness affect your priorities and values?

## Interlinear Text

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וְיִבְאָה	אֶל	בַּמִּקְדָּשׁ	וּמִ	הַיּוֹם	בְּיַמִּים	לְנִזְמָן	אֶת
<b>And he hath brought</b>	H413	<b>us into this place</b>	H4725		H2088	<b>and hath given</b>	H0
H935					H5414		H853
אֶתְכָּךְ	אֶתְכָּךְ	אֶתְכָּךְ	אֶתְכָּךְ	אֶתְכָּךְ	אֶתְכָּךְ	אֶתְכָּךְ	אֶתְכָּךְ
<b>even a land</b>	H2063	<b>even a land</b>	H776	<b>that floweth</b>	H2100	<b>with milk</b>	H1706
H776							
וְיִבְשֶׂה:	בְּלֹא	בְּלֹא	בְּלֹא	בְּלֹא	בְּלֹא	בְּלֹא	בְּלֹא

## Additional Cross-References

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**Exodus 3:8** (Parallel theme): And I am come down to deliver them out of the hand of the Egyptians, and to bring them up out of that land unto a good land and a large, unto a land flowing with milk and honey; unto the place of the Canaanites, and the Hittites, and the Amorites, and the Perizzites, and the Hivites, and the Jebusites.

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