

Deuteronomy 3:26

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

But the LORD was wroth with me for your sakes, and would not hear me: and the LORD said unto me, Let it suffice thee; speak no more unto me of this matter.

Analysis

God's response—"the LORD was wroth with me for your sakes"—reveals that Moses' consequences resulted from Israel's provocation. The command 'would not hear me' shows even persistent, passionate prayer doesn't guarantee the answer we desire. God's refusal 'speak no more unto me of this matter' establishes boundaries—some decisions are final. Submission to God's 'no' is as important as faith for His 'yes.'

Historical Context

Moses' sin at Meribah occurred because Israel's rebellion provoked him to angry disobedience (Psalm 106:32-33). Though Moses bore personal responsibility, the people's pattern of complaint contributed to his failure. This illustrates how sustained exposure to negativity can erode even strong leadership, requiring vigilant self-control.

Related Passages

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Study Questions

1. How do you respond when God says 'no' to passionate, persistent prayer?
2. What boundaries has God established that require your acceptance rather than argument?

Interlinear Text

וַיִּתְּעַב רַ	יְהוָה הַ	בִּי	לֹא עֲנֶנְךָ מַ	וְלֹא אֶ
was wroth	But the LORD	H0	H4616	H3808
H5674	H3068			
שָׁמַע עִ	וַיֹּאמֶר אֵלַי	יְהוָה הַ	אֵלַי	
with me for your	sakes and would not hear	H413	said	But the LORD
H8085		H559	H3068	H413
רַב	אֵל לֹךְ	וְעוֹסֶה	וְדַבֵּר	אֵלַי יְ
unto me Let it suffice	H0	H408	no more	thee speak
H7227		H3254	H1696	H413 H5750
בְּדָבָר רַ	הַזֶּה:			
unto me of this matter	H2088			
H1697				

Additional Cross-References

Deuteronomy 1:37 (References Lord): Also the LORD was angry with me for your sakes, saying, Thou also shalt not go in thither.

Deuteronomy 31:2 (References Lord): And he said unto them, I am an hundred and twenty years old this day; I can no more go out and come in: also the LORD hath said unto me, Thou shalt not go over this Jordan.

Matthew 26:39 (Parallel theme): And he went a little further, and fell on his face, and prayed, saying, O my Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me: nevertheless not as I will, but as thou wilt.

2 Corinthians 12:8 (References Lord): For this thing I besought the Lord thrice,
that it might depart from me.

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