

# Deuteronomy 31:22

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Moses therefore wrote this song the same day, and taught it the children of Israel.

## Analysis

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**Moses therefore wrote this song the same day, and taught it the children of Israel**—immediate obedience. Moses didn't delay implementing God's command but composed and began disseminating the song immediately. The phrase 'the same day' emphasizes urgency—Moses's remaining time was short, and the song's importance warranted immediate action. Vayilmedah (וַיִּלְמְדֵהוּ, 'and he taught it') indicates active instruction, not merely writing and distributing a text but ensuring people learned it.

The verse models prompt obedience and urgency in transmitting divine revelation. Moses, at 120 years old with death approaching, prioritized teaching this song over other possible final activities. His example challenges believers to steward remaining time well, investing in what eternally matters. The song's rapid dissemination also ensured maximum exposure—if Moses waited, fewer would learn it before his death. Procrastination in spiritual matters risks loss of opportunity, while immediate action maximizes kingdom impact.

## Historical Context

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Occurred circa 1406 BC in Moses's final month. Deuteronomy 32 records the song's content—a masterpiece of Hebrew poetry rehearsing creation, election, rebellion, judgment, and restoration. Moses taught this to the assembled nation, likely through repetition and responsive recitation until people internalized it. Ancient pedagogy emphasized memorization through oral repetition, especially for

poetry set to music. The song became part of Israel's liturgical and educational tradition, preserved through millennia because Moses acted immediately to teach it thoroughly.

## Related Passages

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**1 John 4:8** — God is love

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

## Study Questions

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1. What motivates immediate obedience versus procrastination in spiritual disciplines and ministry? How can we cultivate urgency?
2. How does Moses's age and impending death inform our stewardship of time and priorities?
3. What methods ensure Scripture and theology are truly learned (internalized) versus merely heard or read?

## Interlinear Text

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וַיִּכְתֹּב ב	מֹשֶׁה אֶת	הַשִּׁירָה	הַזֹּאת	בַּיּוֹם	הַהוּא
therefore wrote	Moses	this song		the same day	
H3789	H4872	H7892	H2063	H3117	H1931
וַיְלַמֶּד ה	אֶת	בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל:			
and taught		it the children	of Israel		
H3925	H853	H1121	H3478		

## Additional Cross-References

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**Deuteronomy 31:19** (References Israel): Now therefore write ye this song for you, and teach it the children of Israel: put it in their mouths, that this song may be a witness for me against the children of Israel.

