

# Deuteronomy 4:22

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

But I must die in this land, I must not go over Jordan: but ye shall go over, and possess that good land.

## Analysis

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**But I must die in this land, I must not go over Jordan: but ye shall go over, and possess that good land.**

The stark contrast between Moses' fate and Israel's future underscores a profound theological truth: God's purposes advance beyond any individual servant. The Hebrew construction emphasizes certainty—anoki met (אֲנֹכִי מֵת, 'I am dying') and eineni over (אֵינֶנִּי עֹבֵר, 'I am not crossing'). Moses states his death as present reality, already determined and accepted.

Yet the conjunction ve'atem (וְאַתֶּם, 'but you') pivots to hope: 'ye shall go over, and possess that good land.' Moses' exclusion does not diminish Israel's inheritance. The servant dies; the mission continues. This anticipates the greater truth that no human mediator is ultimately sufficient—Moses, like all Old Testament figures, pointed forward to Christ, the only Mediator who both dies and enters glory on our behalf (Hebrews 9:15).

Moses' willingness to speak of his own death while encouraging others reveals mature spiritual leadership. He does not sulk or diminish their inheritance because he cannot share it. Instead, he prepares them for success without him, modeling the selfless investment every generation must make in the next.

## Historical Context

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Moses reiterates his impending death on the eastern side of the Jordan, speaking from the plains of Moab around 1406 BC. Despite leading Israel for 40 years through wilderness wandering, Moses would only view Canaan from Mount Nebo (Deuteronomy 34:1-4) while the new generation would possess the land their parents forfeited through unbelief at Kadesh-Barnea.

## Related Passages

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**Ephesians 2:8** — Salvation by grace through faith

**Romans 10:9** — Confession and belief for salvation

**Hebrews 11:1** — Definition of faith

**Romans 1:17** — The righteous shall live by faith

## Study Questions

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1. How does Moses' example of preparing others for success he will not share challenge your approach to mentoring and discipleship?
2. In what ways does this passage point forward to Christ as the greater Mediator who both dies and enters the promised inheritance on our behalf?

## Interlinear Text

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כִּי	אֶנֶכִּי	מֵת	הָאָרֶץ	הִזְ אֶת	אֵינִי	עֹבֵר	יָם
H3588	H595	<b>But I must die</b>	<b>in this land</b>	H2063	H369	<b>I must not go over</b>	
		H4191	H776			H5674	
אֶת	הַיַּרְדֵּי	וְאֶת־	עֹבֵר	וְיִרְשָׁתָּהּ	אֶת	הָאָרֶץ	
H853	<b>Jordan</b>	H859	<b>I must not go over</b>	<b>and possess</b>	H853	<b>in this land</b>	
	H3383		H5674	H3423		H776	

הַטּוֹבָה הַזֹּאת:  
**that good** H2063  
H2896

## Additional Cross-References

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**Deuteronomy 3:25** (Good): I pray thee, let me go over, and see the good land that is beyond Jordan, that goodly mountain, and Lebanon.

**Deuteronomy 3:27** (Parallel theme): Get thee up into the top of Pisgah, and lift up thine eyes westward, and northward, and southward, and eastward, and behold it with thine eyes: for thou shalt not go over this Jordan.