

# Numbers 27:23

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And he laid his hands upon him, and gave him a charge, as the LORD commanded by the hand of Moses.

## Analysis

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The record 'Moses did as the LORD commanded him' demonstrates faithful obedience in transferring authority. Despite Moses' natural desire to enter Canaan (Deuteronomy 3:23-26), he faithfully commissioned his successor. The Hebrew *ka'asher* (as/according as) emphasizes exact compliance. Moses' submission models godly leadership—preparing successors without resentment, even when prevented from completing the mission personally. This foreshadows Christ who prepared His apostles to continue His work after His ascension (Acts 1:1-8), entrusting the gospel's advance to them.

## Historical Context

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Moses' exclusion from Canaan (Numbers 20:12) due to his sin at Meribah made this commissioning poignant. Despite disappointment, he faithfully ensured the next generation's success. His final act was blessing the tribes (Deuteronomy 33) and viewing the land before death (Deuteronomy 34:1-4). Moses' faithful ending despite personal loss demonstrates that God's purposes transcend individual servants.

## Related Passages

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

**1 John 4:8** — God is love

## Study Questions

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1. How do we faithfully prepare successors when we cannot complete the mission ourselves?
2. What does Moses' submission despite disappointment teach about prioritizing God's purposes over personal fulfillment?
3. How should we view our role as preparing the way for others' ministries?

## Interlinear Text

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וְיִשְׁמַּחַת	אֶת	בְּיַד	עַל	וְיִצְרָא	רְאֵשָׁת
And he laid	H853	by the hand	H5921	upon him and gave him a charge	H834
H5564		H3027		H6680	

  

רְאֵשָׁת	בְּיַד	מֹשֶׁה
commanded	as the LORD	by the hand
H1696	H3068	H3027

  

מֹשֶׁה	בְּיַד	רְאֵשָׁת
of Moses	by the hand	as the LORD
H4872		

## Additional Cross-References

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**Deuteronomy 3:28** (Parallel theme): But charge Joshua, and encourage him, and strengthen him: for he shall go over before this people, and he shall cause them to inherit the land which thou shalt see.

**Numbers 27:19** (Parallel theme): And set him before Eleazar the priest, and before all the congregation; and give him a charge in their sight.