

Deuteronomy 34:4-6

4 Then the LORD said to him, "This is the land I promised on oath to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob when I said, 'I will give it to your descendants.' I have let you see it with your eyes, but you will not cross over into it."

5 And Moses the servant of the LORD died there in Moab, as the LORD had said.

6 He buried him in Moab, in the valley opposite Beth Peor, but to this day no one knows where his grave is.

Meditation:

This passage seems to me in many ways to be a sister passage to Genesis 50:24-26. The conclusion of the Pentateuch the book of Moses with his own death! He had made the journey that Joseph had alluded to but this great leader fell just short of entering the Promised Land. Certainly it seems a cold stop to a long journey of faith. Could Moses have seen this coming as he wrote down the words of the book of Genesis?

One could ask, was Moses journey greater than that of Joseph? Was Moses a more faithful man than Joseph? Each man played a key role in God's plan for his people. Another way to view Moses departure is to acknowledge that he was blessed by being taken to a place that was infinitely better than the Promised Land. In fact he next appears in scripture to meet with Jesus and Elijah in Mathew 17!

Paraphrase of Text:

God showed Moses the land promised to his people and then buried him in that place. The grave was hidden from the people, Moses was not weak or sickly, and this was simply his time and place to leave.

Prayer:

Dear heavenly Father, sometimes I want for a specific bit of comfort or peace in this world, my own Promised Land here in this world. How much greater than being allowed to have all that I want in this place will it be to cross over to be with you in heaven! Please help me to be content with the work that you have for me to do here in this place, I look so forward to being with your Son when my work here is done. In Jesus name, Amen