

Not the Promised Land but Glory Land

Moses lived for 120 years. He lived 40 years in Egypt, 40 in years in the desert, and another 40 years leading the people of Israel to the Promised Land. Occasionally my mom would say to me, "Roy, you are as slow as Moses." It wasn't his fault it took 40 years to get from Egypt to the Promised Land. Moses was a great man, but there was only so much he could do in helping to lead the people of Israel to the Promised Land. If they were not going to cooperate, then that wasn't his fault.

I have pictured Moses as having been a fairly calm person with these complaining people, but not always. God gave Moses some precise instructions on how to calmly handle this situation when the Israelites were thirsty, but instead Moses blew his cool. And doing so, Moses blew his opportunity to enter the Promised Land. Moses and Aaron would not get to enter the Promised Land. Moses had been leading the nation of Israel in this direction for 40 years, and now in an instance the dream was taken away. Was this too severe of a punishment? It seems to be from our standpoint, but we evidently do not understand. But think about these things: Moses had a relationship with God like no other person, and when anyone has special privileges there also comes with it special responsibilities.

But here is the primary thing we want to remember. When Moses died, he may not have gotten to see the Promised Land that consisted of dirt, trees, grass, water, etc., but he did get to see "Glory Land" made up of streets of gold, etc. Which would you want more? Moses didn't get to fulfill all of his dreams. I remember talking with a good Christian lady before she died of cancer. She was talking about how she and her husband had plans to sell the house, buy a fifth wheel trailer and truck and then go to Alaska. They did sell the house, and bought the truck and trailer, but they didn't make it Alaska. Instead she made it to "Glory Land." Which is better?

I believe that we should make plans and look forward to a great life on earth, but let's live as though we will never be able to enjoy our plans. There are an exact number of days you and I have yet to live. How would you live if you knew the number? After tonight one more day will be gone.

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