

**ENTITLEMENT vs. MERCY**  
**Deuteronomy 9:1-29**

Moses prepares the Israelites as they are about to enter the promised land, warning them not to think their victory is because they deserve it but because God is merciful.

**Key Point** - Victories come as a result of God's power and not because of us (vs.1-3, 29)

"Be \_\_\_\_\_ today (vs .3)..."

Other verses about God's power for victory:

Deut. 20:1-4                      2 Chronicles 20:15  
2 Corinthians 2:14              Psalm 20:7-8  
1 Samuel 17:45-47

➤ Victories come as a result of God's power, not us

**Our Problem?**

Self Righteousness (vs. 4, 5, 6)

➤ "because ..., I \_\_\_\_\_..."

**God's Reasons**

1. The \_\_\_\_\_ of the nations (4-5)
2. To Fulfill His \_\_\_\_\_ (5)
3. A Gift of \_\_\_\_\_ (6)

***"How we live our lives is the evidence of the Good News"***  
*Dieter Zander*

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## ENTITLEMENT vs. MERCY Deuteronomy 9:1-29

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**Key Point** - Victories come as a result of God's power not ours (vs.1-3, 29)

“Be assured today (vs .3)

- The Lord God goes ahead of you like a devouring fire
- He will destroy the enemy, He will destroy, He will subdue them
- All we have left to do is chase them away, annihilate them...just as God has Promised  
"It's not about you and I, it is about God!"

Other verses about the need for God's power for victory:

**Deut. 20:1-4** - "When you go out to battle against your enemies and see horses and chariots and people more numerous than you, **do not be afraid of them; for the LORD your God, who brought you up from the land of Egypt, is with you. Mo Isr.**

**2 Chronicles 20:15** - "and he said, "Listen, all Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem and King Jehoshaphat: thus says the LORD to you, '**Do not fear or be dismayed because of this great multitude, for the battle is not yours but God's Jeho d. Moab, Amnom**

**2 Corinthians 2:14** - "But thanks be to God, who always leads us in triumph in Christ, and manifests through us the sweet aroma of the knowledge of Him in every place." Aroma to the unreached

**Psalm 20:7-8** - "Some boast in chariots and some in horses, But we will boast in the name of the LORD, our God. They have bowed down and fallen, But we have risen and stood upright."

**1 Samuel 17:45-47** - "Then David said to the Philistine, "You come to me with a sword, a spear, and a javelin, but I come to you in the name of the LORD of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have taunted. "This day the LORD will deliver you up into my hands, and I will strike you down"" D. vs. Goliath  
=> Victories only come as a result of God's power

But here in the passage today, Moses anticipates a problem...the human problem.

**"Self Righteousness" (vs. 4, 5, 6)**

- Here, vs.4 - “do not say to yourselves, “The Lord has brought me here to take possession of this land because of your righteousness...or integrity””
- Human tendency to exalt ourselves in victory and not God, to give us the credit and not Him
- “because ..., I deserve...”

Vacation, a break, raise, put garbage anywhere, promotion, to win, happiness, treated better, team...because I am...

**Quote:** "*The greatest enemy to human souls is the self righteous spirit which makes men/women look to themselves for salvation*" C.H. Spurgeon

Don't say, I deserve it!

**Reasons for the giving the promised land**

1. The Wickedness of the nations (4-5)

Canaanites had lived there for long time but were absolutely evil - they did not deserve to stay

2. To Fulfill His promise (5)

God had promised Israel and He keeps His promises

3. A Gift of His grace (6)

Even though they are a stubborn people, God is always there to restore them

They had rebelled over and over against God (He lists some of them)

1. rebelled in the desert (7)

2. corrupted at Horeb (8-12) giving of the commands

3. called stiff-necked, corrupt, sinners that needed Moses to intercede for them

4. Taberah – complained about hardships (Num 11:1-3)

5. Massah – complained about no water (Ex. 17:1-7)

6. Kibroth Hattaavah – complained about manna (Num 11:31-34)

7. Kadesh Barnea – rebelled vs. God and taking land (23) - 12 Spies, Caleb and Joshua only trusting ones

=> "Rebellious against the Lord ever since I have known you" (24)

What is true for them is true for us too!

**Illustration** - Barna study that asked people to use single words to describe Jesus. They responded,

***"wise, accepting, compassionate, gracious, humble."***

Then he asked them to use single words to describe Christians, they said, ***"critical, exclusive, self righteous, narrow and repressive."***

=> we don't deserve anything!

Forgiveness, mercy, salvation, heaven, God's child  
No room for entitlement! Self righteousness...

Yet out of His Love and grace to us, He is always there to restore us and bless us when we walk in His ways!

**Quote:** "Grace is unconditional acceptance given to an undeserving person by an unobligated giver"

Tullian Tchividjian

**Close**

God gave the Israelites the land flowing with milk and honey. How much more blessed are we?

**Remember,**

1. It is God's power that gives the victories in life

2. There is no room for self righteousness/entitlement - thinking we deserve anything.

It is through God's grace that He embraces us as His people. Vs.29 - "For they are the people of your very own, whom you delivered by your great power and your outstretched arm"