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Moshe Remembered the Journey from Kadesh-barnea to the Plains of Mo'av

2: 1-25



About 40 years after Isra'el's wilderness wanderings, ADONAI commanded Bnei-Yisrael to begin their journey back to the Promised Land. Therefore, **the Israelites** left the region surrounding **Kadesh-barnea** and to pass near the territory held by **the Edomites, Moabites, and Ammonites**. Although the following narrative (**2:1 to 3:11**) shares the basic details of the parallel account in **Numbers 20-24**, the present narrative shows a greater interest in theology than in the details of geography and chronology.

With regard to **the Edomites, Moabites, and Ammonites**, YHVH prohibited **Isra'el** from taking any land from **them (2:1-25)**. **Ha'Shem** is **the Owner** of the whole world. **He** allocates **His** properties as **He** pleases. **ADONAI** was orchestrating all these events for **the Israelites**. At this point in time in biblical history, the blood relationship of these three peoples with **Isra'el** protected them from the destruction **the LORD** promised to bring on **the Amorites, Bashanites, and Canaanites**. **The Amorites** had no such relationship with **God's people** and therefore faced a different fate.⁵⁸