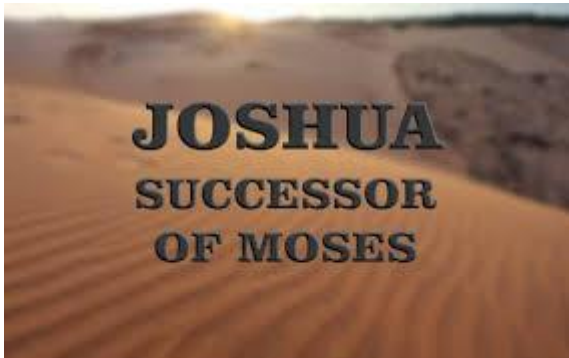


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The Continuity of the Covenant 31:1 to 34:12



Most believe that **the Israelites** were encamped on the edge of **the Promised Land** for about three months. It had probably been over seven months since they began their final approach to **the Land**. The events that occurred during that seven month time may have proceeded as follows: the peaceful passing through **Edom, Mo'ab, and Ammon**; the conquest of **Sihon and Og**; the beginning of settling into the inheritance by the tribes of **Reuben, Gad**, and half-tribe of **Manassah**, while the rest of the tribes set up camp across the Jordan River from Jericho; **Moses'** completion of the book of **Deuteronomy** and presentation of it to **the people**; the transfer of authority from **Moses** to **Joshua**; **Moshe's** death; the mourning of **God's people** for **him**; the preparation of **God's people** for entrance into **Canaan**.⁶⁵⁴

We now come to the closing statements of **Deuteronomy**. After all the miracles, prophecies, warnings, encouragements, and after forty long years, **the Israelites** were about to enter **the Promised Land**. Here **Moses**, still standing strong (**34:7**), gives us **his** last concluding remarks and advice, full of experience and wisdom.