

Moses' Final Words to God's People

Three key emphases from a great leader's final words:

I. Be Strong and Courageous.

A. The importance of courage in God's servants.

Deuteronomy 31:6 – *Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified because of them, for the LORD your God goes with you; He will never leave you nor forsake you.*

Deuteronomy 31:7-8 – *Then Moses summoned Joshua and said to him in the presence of all Israel, "Be strong and courageous, for you must go with this people into the land that the LORD swore to their forefathers to give them, and you must divide it among them as their inheritance. The LORD himself goes before you and will be with you; He will never leave you nor forsake you. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged."*

Deuteronomy 31:23 – *The LORD gave this command to Joshua son of Nun: "Be strong and courageous, for you will bring the Israelites into the land I promised them on oath, and I myself will be with you."*

Joshua 1:6 – *Be strong and courageous, because you will lead these people to inherit the land I swore to their forefathers to give them.*

Joshua 1:7 – *Be strong and very courageous. Be careful to obey all the law my servant Moses gave you; do not turn from it to the right or to the left, that you may be successful wherever you go.*

Joshua 1:9 – *Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be terrified; do not be discouraged, for the LORD your God will be with you wherever you go.*

B. Put off fear.

1. I might be rejected or ridiculed – My reputation won't be sufficient.

2. I might fail – My power won't be sufficient.

3. I might not know the answer – My knowledge won't be sufficient.

4. It might be too hard – My endurance won't be enough.

5. I might be criticized – My performance won't be sufficient.

2 Timothy 1:7 – *For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind.*

C. Reasons for strength and courage.

1. God's presence – verse 31:3 – *It is the Lord your God who will cross ahead of you.*
2. God's power – verse 31:5 – *the Lord will deliver them up for you.*
3. God's promises – verse 31:7 – *...the land which the Lord has sworn to their fathers to give them...*
4. God's provision – verse 31:8 – *He will not fail you or forsake you.*

Ephesians 1:18-20 – *I pray also that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which He has called you, the riches of His glorious inheritance in the saints, and His incomparably great power for us who believe. That power is like the working of His mighty strength, which he exerted in Christ when He raised him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly realms.*

II. Focus on the Greatness of Our God.

Deuteronomy 32:3 – *For I proclaim the name of the LORD: Ascribe greatness to our God.*

A. His unchanging character.

verse 4 – *The Rock!*

B. His righteous ways.

verse 4 – *His work is perfect.*

verse 4 – *all His ways are just.*

verse 4 – *A God of faithfulness and without injustice.*

verse 4 – *Righteous and upright is He.*

III. Adopt a Realistic View of the Future.