

19 And from Mattanah to Nahaliel: and from Nahaliel to Bamoth: 20 And from Bamoth in the valley, that is in the country of Moab, to the top of Pisgah, which looketh toward Jeshimon. 21 And Israel sent messengers unto Sihon king of the Amorites, saying, 22 Let me pass through thy land: we will not turn into the fields, or into the vineyards; we will not drink of the waters of the well: but we will go along by the king's high way, until we be past thy borders. 23 And Sihon would not suffer Israel to pass through his border: but Sihon gathered all his people together, and went out against Israel into the wilderness: and he came to Jahaz, and fought against Israel. 24 And Israel smote him with the edge of the sword, and possessed his land from Arnon unto Jabbok, even unto the children of Ammon: for the border of the children of Ammon was strong. 25 And Israel took all these cities: and Israel dwelt in all the cities of the Amorites, in Heshbon, and in all the villages thereof. 26 For Heshbon was the city of Sihon the king of the Amorites, who had fought against the former king of Moab, and taken all his land out of his hand, even unto Arnon. 27 Wherefore they that speak in proverbs say, Come into Heshbon, let the city of Sihon be built and prepared: 28 For there is a fire gone out of Heshbon, a flame from the city of Sihon: it hath consumed Ar of Moab, and the lords of the high places of Arnon. 29 Woe to thee, Moab! thou art undone, O people of Chemosh: he hath given his sons that escaped, and his daughters, into captivity unto Sihon king of the Amorites. 30 We have shot at them; Heshbon is perished even unto Dibon, and we have laid them waste even unto Nophah, which reacheth unto Medeba. 31 Thus Israel dwelt in the land of the Amorites. 32 And Moses sent to spy out Jaazer, and they took the villages thereof, and drove out the Amorites that were there. 33 And they turned and went up by the way of Bashan: and Og the king of Bashan went out against them, he, and all his people, to the battle at Edrei. 34 And the LORD said unto Moses, Fear him not: for I have delivered him into thy hand, and all his people, and his land; and thou shalt do to him as thou didst unto Sihon king of the Amorites, which dwelt at Heshbon. 35 So they smote him, and his sons, and all his people, until there was none left him alive: and they possessed his land.

Clarke Lee's Commentary: In reading Matthew Henry's commentary I ran upon this question: Why would God put this in the bible? As it seems to have no bearing on anything at the present. He pointed out some points that I wish to follow upon.

We see that Israel sent the same message of peace to Sihon as they did to Edom earlier. This time however, the message was not only rejected but it was used as an invitation to war, that God might bring about and fulfill his will and purpose as seen in: ***De 2:30 But Sihon king of Heshbon would not let us pass by him: for the LORD thy God hardened his spirit, and made his heart obstinate, that he might deliver him into thy hand, as appeareth this day. 31 And the LORD said unto me, Behold, I have begun to give Sihon and his land before thee: begin to possess, that thou mayest inherit his land.***

Also we find; the land of the Amorites was given by God, in covenant promise to Abraham's seed. ***Ge 15:13 And he said unto Abram, Know of a surety that thy seed shall be a stranger in a land that is not theirs, and shall serve them; and they shall afflict them four hundred years; 14 And also that nation, whom they shall serve, will I judge: and afterward shall they come out with great substance. 15 And thou shalt go to thy fathers in peace; thou shalt be buried in a good old age. 16 But in the fourth generation they shall come hither again: for the iniquity of the Amorites is not yet full. 17 And it came to pass, that, when the sun went down, and it was dark, behold a smoking furnace, and a burning lamp that passed between those pieces. 18 In the same day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying, Unto thy seed have I given this land, from the river of Egypt unto the great river, the river Euphrates: 19 The Kenites, and the Kenizzites, and the Kadmonites, 20 And the Hittites, and the Perizzites, and the Rephaims, 21 And the Amorites, and the Canaanites, and the Girgashites, and the Jebusites.*** This demonstrates to us that God doesn't fail to fulfill his promises and

we can depend upon the promises of God. We remind you that Sihon was king of the Amorites whose land God told Abraham that he would give his seed for a possession.

In verses 27-30 we have a proverb (song) that gave record that the event was God ordained to fulfill his purpose. We see the name of God is again magnified in showing forth his mighty power; since the Amorites god, Chemosh, was unable to deliver them from the one true and living God.

It is mentioned again in scripture in: ***Ps 136:18-20; 16 To him which led his people through the wilderness: for his mercy endureth forever. 17 To him which smote great kings: for his mercy endureth for ever: 18 And slew famous kings: for his mercy endureth for ever: 19 Sihon king of the Amorites: for his mercy endureth for ever: 20 And Og the king of Bashan: for his mercy endureth for ever: 21 And gave their land for an heritage: for his mercy endureth for ever: 22 Even an heritage unto Israel his servant: for his mercy endureth forever. 23 Who remembered us in our low estate: for his mercy endureth for ever: 24 And hath redeemed us from our enemies: for his mercy endureth forever. 25 Who giveth food to all flesh: for his mercy endureth forever. 26 O give thanks unto the God of heaven: for his mercy endureth forever.*** It is explained here, and a historical record is left, that God gave the land taken here as a heritage to Israel. It is also a manifestation of God's great mercy.

From a reference in: ***Am 2:9 Yet destroyed I the Amorite before them, whose height was like the height of the cedars, and he was strong as the oaks; yet I destroyed his fruit from above, and his roots from beneath. 10 Also I brought you up from the land of Egypt, and led you forty years through the wilderness, to possess the land of the Amorite.*** We learn these two points:

- We see here; the Amorites are described as giants, in our vernacular, yet Israel prevailed over them by the power and decree of God.
- God tells us here in Amos that he, God, destroyed the Amorite by his heavenly decree and by destroying his roots, fighting for Israel, on earth.

We have confirmation of this, in this chapter of our study in: ***Nu 21:34 And the LORD said unto Moses, Fear him not: for I have delivered him into thy hand, and all his people, and his land; and thou shalt do to him as thou didst unto Sihon king of the Amorites, which dwelt at Heshbon.*** God tells Moses; I will give you Og as I gave you Sihon.

We must never forget; the battle is the Lord's to give to whom He wills. Therefore, let us strive, to always be in favor in the sight of God, by being obedient subjects to him in our Christian pilgrimage. Israel has demonstrated to us time and again in our study in Exodus and Numbers; when God's people disobey he punishes them, and when they are obedient he blesses them.

Moses and Israel believed God's message of deliverance; it was an encouragement to them. Let us believe God's message of deliverance to us, the Gospel of Jesus Christ, that in the final resurrection, we will ever be with the Lord, in the place he has prepared for our occupation, the new heaven, the new earth, and the New Jerusalem. Praise ye the Lord! Hallelujah! His mercy endureth forever!

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