

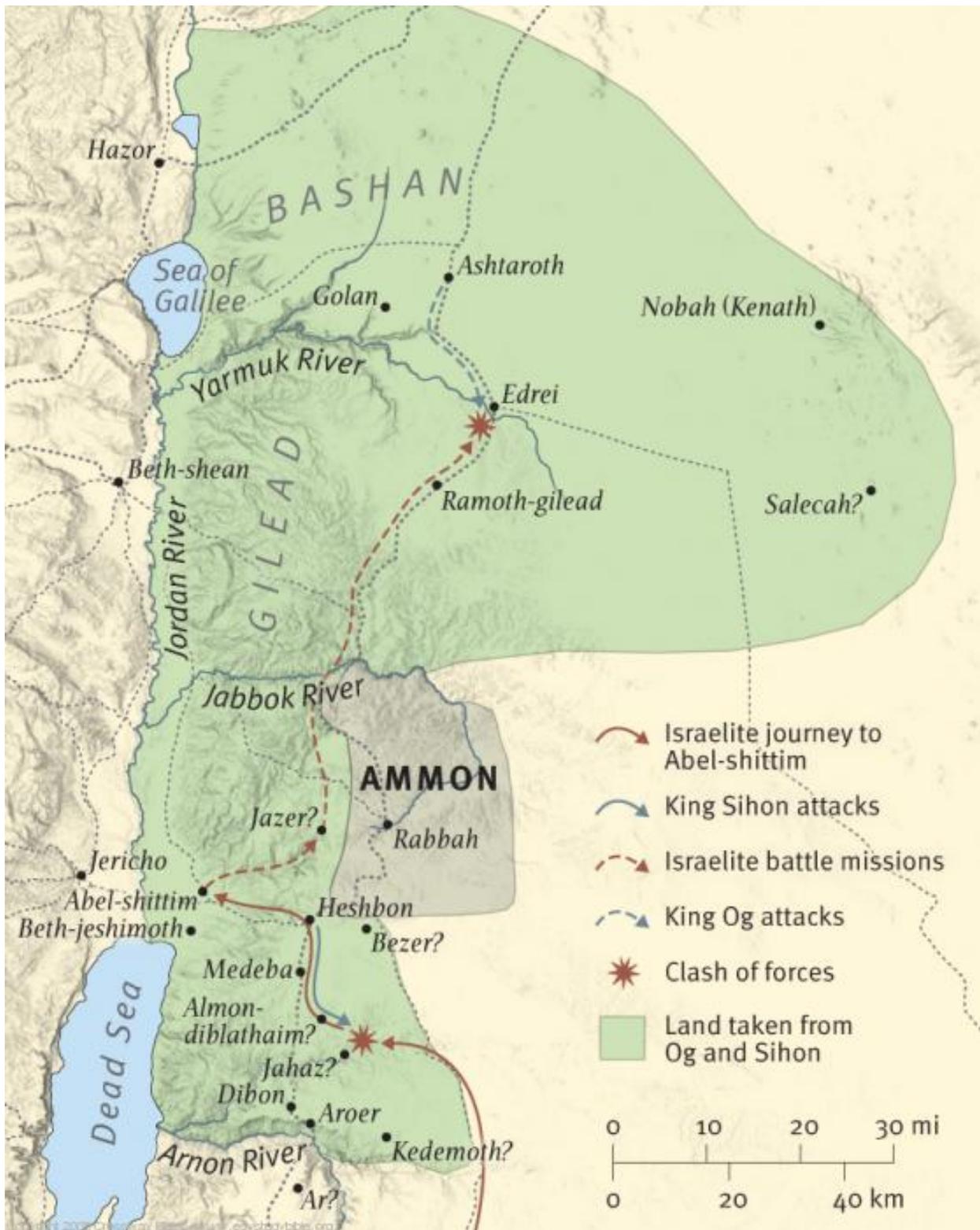
Deuteronomy 3:1-22

Here is something to get us started:

Sections:

- I. Verses 1-7: God delivers Og, king of Bashan and all his people, all 60 cities
- II. Verses 8-11: they took the land from the **two** kings; extra cultural information
- III. Verses 12- 17: distributions of the Transjordan allotment
- IV. Verses 18- 22: men of war go over the Jordan to help conquer for the other tribes: do not fear, the Lord your God fights for you.

- I. Verses 1-7: God delivers Og, king of Bashan and all his people, all 60 cities
 - a. *“Then we turned and went up the road to Bashan, and Og, king of Bashan, with all his people came out to meet us in battle at Edrei. ² But the Lord said to me, ‘Do not fear him, for I have delivered him and all his people and his land into your hand; and you shall do to him just as you did to Sihon king of the Amorites, who lived at Heshbon.’ ³ So the Lord our God delivered Og also, king of Bashan, with all his people into our hand, and we smote them until no survivor was left. ⁴ We captured all his cities at that time; there was not a city which we did not take from them: sixty cities, all the region of Argob, the kingdom of Og in Bashan. ⁵ All these were cities fortified with high walls, gates and bars, besides a great many unwallled towns. ⁶ We utterly destroyed them, as we did to Sihon king of Heshbon, utterly destroying the men, women and children of every city. ⁷ But all the animals and the spoil of the cities we took as our booty.*
 - b. Verse 1 records them turning again.
 - c. The previous section was recording them conquering Sihon, the Amorite, king of Heshbon.
 - d. This is in Numbers 21:33-35
 - e. Now they are about to conquer the area around the Jordan river.
 - f. This is still recounting events that already took place.
 - g. See the map
 - h. ESV Study Bible:
 - i. *Israel Defeats Og and Sihon*
 - j. *Deuteronomy reviews how the Israelites defeated King Sihon when he refused them passage through his land and attacked them at Jahaz. Soon afterward, the Israelites spied out Jazer and captured it. As they headed north from Jazer, the Israelites were attacked by King Og's forces at Edrei, but they defeated him and took control of his land as well.*



- k. Verse 2 is the Lord giving encouragement to Moses. God will deliver him into their hands as He did with Sihon.
- l. Verse 3: they “smote him” until no survivor was left.

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- m. Verse 4: they captured all their cities. Once again, there is an emphasis that there was not a city which they did not take from them. They took 60 cities from Argob. Verses 13-14 may give clues to other names for this place but on the map it seems that it is listed as “Bashan.”
 - n. Verse 5: There is an emphasis on the strength of these cities and I believe a juxtaposition of the strength of the cities versus the greater strength of our God.
 - i. High walls
 - ii. Gates and bars
 - iii. The IVP Bible backgrounds commentary gives insight: *Gateways were often multichambered (featuring inner and outer gates) and sometimes included a turn of some sort within the gateway. The Iron Age outer gate at Tell en-Nasebeh has slots in the stone beside the gate where bars would have been placed. The inhabitants would lock the gates by sliding the bars into sockets in the wall.*¹
 - o. Still they also took some unwallled towns.
 - p. Verses 6-7: utterly destroyed them and men, women and children, as they did Sihon, king of Heshbon. But they took the animals and the spoils of the cities as booty.
 - q. “utterly destroyed” is to “Put under the ban.”
- II. Verses 8-11: they took the land from the **two** kings; extra cultural information
- a. ⁸ *“Thus we took the land at that time from the hand of the two kings of the Amorites who were beyond the Jordan, from the valley of Arnon to Mount Hermon⁹ (Sidonians call Hermon Sirion, and the Amorites call it Senir): ¹⁰ all the cities of the plateau and all Gilead and all Bashan, as far as Salecah and Edrei, cities of the kingdom of Og in Bashan. ¹¹ (For only Og king of Bashan was left of the remnant of the Rephaim. Behold, his bedstead was an iron bedstead; it is in Rabbah of the sons of Ammon. Its length was nine cubits and its width four cubits by ordinary cubit.)*
 - b. Numbers 32:33 records the land distribution.
 - c. “thus” this is a summary.
 - d. They took the land from the two kings.
 - e. These two kings were “beyond” the Jordan. This was the other side of the promised land.
 - f. See the Arnon River at the bottom of the map.
 - g. There is geographical information here and also cultural.
 - h. Verse 9 deal with who calls Hermon what.
 - i. Verse 10: this is about all the cities which they took,
 - i. all these cities were in the plateau.
 - ii. All Gilead
 - iii. All Bashan
 - j. Detail of the cities: As far as... see them on the map
 - i. Salecah
 - ii. Edrei

¹ Victor Harold Matthews, Mark W. Chavalas, and John H. Walton, [*The IVP Bible Background Commentary: Old Testament*](#), electronic ed. (Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 2000), Dt 3:5.

- k. Verse 11 is interesting about this remnant of this Rephaim.
 - l. IVP Bible Backgrounds Commentary: **Og's iron bed:** *Though many commentators and even some translations have identified this as a basalt sarcophagus, the language is clear enough and "iron bed" should be retained. Just as many objects described as gold, silver or ivory are not made of those but are decorated, overlaid or gilded with them, so we need not imagine a bed of solid iron. This account is still in the Bronze Age, when iron was considered precious, so it would not be strange for this to be noted as a remarkable piece. The bed is about thirteen feet long and six feet wide. This is the same size as Marduk's bed in the temple Esagila in Babylon. Beds were not just for sleeping but were often used for reclining on during feasts and celebrations. Some reliefs picture kings reclining on magnificent couches.*²
 - m. Joshua records these as tribal lands east of the Jordan: Josh 12:1–7; 13:8–12
 - n. Deut 2:11 and 20 reference the Rephaim
 - o. The ESV Study Bible shares:
 - p. Mount Hermon (9,232 feet/2,814 m) is a snowcapped mountain at the northern border of Israel, Lebanon, and Syria (see Ps. 42:6; 89:12; 133:3). The alternative names Sirion and Senir are also found in ancient Ugaritic, Hittite, and Assyrian documents. Salecah lay on the southeastern edge of Bashan (Josh. 12:5; 13:11).
 - q. Rabbah, capital of Ammon (2 Sam. 11:1; Amos 1:13–14), is modern-day Amman, Jordan. Og's bed of iron was over 13 feet (4 m) long and 6 feet (1.8 m) wide. This may refer to his coffin. The reference reminds Israel that the "giant" Rephaim have been killed and that Israel's fear of them (see Deut. 1:28) is unfounded. The common cubit (different from a royal cubit) was approximately 18 inches (46 cm).
- III. Verses 12- 17: distributions of the Transjordan allotment
- a. ¹² "So we took possession of this land at that time. From Aroer, which is by the valley of Arnon, and half the hill country of Gilead and its cities I gave to the Reubenites and to the Gadites. ¹³ The rest of Gilead and all Bashan, the kingdom of Og, I gave to the half-tribe of Manasseh, all the region of Argob (concerning all Bashan, it is called the land of Rephaim. ¹⁴ Jair the son of Manasseh took all the region of Argob as far as the border of the Geshurites and the Maacathites, and called it, that is, Bashan, after his own name, Havvoth-jair, as it is to this day.) ¹⁵ To Machir I gave Gilead. ¹⁶ To the Reubenites and to the Gadites I gave from Gilead even as far as the valley of Arnon, the middle of the valley as a border and as far as the river Jabbok, the border of the sons of Ammon; ¹⁷ the Arabah also, with the Jordan as a border, from Chinnereth even as far as the sea of the Arabah, the Salt Sea, at the foot of the slopes of Pisgah on the east.
 - b. Moses recounts distribution of this section of the land.
 - c. The ESV Study Bible shares: *These verses recapitulate the distribution of the lands of Sihon and Og to the tribes of Reuben, Gad, and half the tribe of Manasseh (Num. 32:1–42; 34:13–15). The repeat of this in Deuteronomy underscores that the possession of the Promised Land has begun, which should make Israel more confident to cross the Jordan and conquer the remaining land.*

² Victor Harold Matthews, Mark W. Chavalas, and John H. Walton, [The IVP Bible Background Commentary: Old Testament](#), electronic ed. (Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 2000), Dt 3:11.

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- d. 13b-14: see Number 32:41
 - e. The ESV Study Bible adds insight: Cf. Num. 32:41, which implies Jair's villages were in Gilead, not Bashan (also Judg. 10:4). The Geshurites and Maacathites were separate kingdoms bordering Bashan to the west. They were not conquered by Joshua (Josh. 13:13) and remained independent in David's time (2 Sam. 3:3; 10:6). Machir was the son of Manasseh (Gen. 50:23). Here it refers to his descendants, a subsection of the tribe of Manasseh (see also Josh. 17:1).
 - f. About verse 17 the ESV Study Bible shares: *Chinnereth is another name for the Sea of Galilee. Pisgah is the peak of Mount Nebo, overlooking Jericho and the north end of the Dead Sea, the place where Moses dies (v. 27; 34:1–4).*
- IV. Verses 18- 22: men of war go over the Jordan to help conquer for the other tribes: do not fear, the Lord your God fights for you.
- a. *"Then I commanded you at that time, saying, 'The Lord your God has given you this land to possess it; all you valiant men shall cross over armed before your brothers, the sons of Israel. ¹⁹ But your wives and your little ones and your livestock (I know that you have much livestock) shall remain in your cities which I have given you, ²⁰ until the Lord gives rest to your fellow countrymen as to you, and they also possess the land which the Lord your God will give them beyond the Jordan. Then you may return every man to his possession which I have given you.'²¹ I commanded Joshua at that time, saying, 'Your eyes have seen all that the Lord your God has done to these two kings; so the Lord shall do to all the kingdoms into which you are about to cross. ²² Do not fear them, for the Lord your God is the one fighting for you.'*
 - b. Moses is commanding them to possess the land.
 - c. The ESV Study Bible gives a good summary: *Two and a half tribes already possess their land, but they are commanded here to join the remaining tribes to conquer the land west of the Jordan and only then return to inhabit their Transjordanian land. Wives and children of all tribes are to stay in Transjordan and await the completed conquest.*
 - d. See Josh 4:12, 13 regarding crossing the Jordan to fight.
 - e. Verse 21: this is a powerful command and encouragement to Joshua.
 - f. Verse 22: the Lord fights...
 - g. More notes from the ESV Study Bible:
 - h. *3:20 Though rest here conveys simply peace after warfare, it is a theologically rich term, suggesting the well-being of God's people in God's place under his rule. Thus the notion hints back to the seventh day of creation (cf. Ex. 20:11) and forward to a permanent rest (Ps. 95:7–11; Heb. 3:7–4:11). Cf. Deut. 12:10; 25:19; Josh. 1:13, 15; 21:44; 22:4; 23:1.*
 - i. *3:21–22 The conquests of Sihon and Og give the Israelites a model of the future conquest under Joshua. Unlike its experience 38 years previously at Kadesh, Israel is not to fear the enemy. If God fights, victory is assured (1:30, 42; see also 31:6, 8).*
 - j. The Lord fights for them: Ex 14:14; Deut 1:30; 20:4; Neh 4:20³
 - k.

³ [New American Standard Bible: 1995 Update](#) (La Habra, CA: The Lockman Foundation, 1995).