

Numbers 16 & 17

<p>16:1 Now Korah the son of Izhar, the son of Kohath, the son of Levi, with Dathan and Abiram the sons of Eliab, and On the son of Peleth, sons of Reuben, took men; 2and they rose up before Moses with some of the children of Israel, two hundred and fifty leaders of the congregation, representatives of the congregation, men of renown. 3They gathered together against Moses and Aaron, and said to them,</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">“You take too much upon yourselves, for all the congregation is holy, every one of them, and the Lord is among them. Why then do you exalt yourselves above the assembly of the Lord?”</p>	<p>Korah the Levite (the ringleader v.5-6), and three Reubenites: Dathan and Abiram, On (We don’t hear of On again. Did he repent?), and 250 leaders</p> <p>Exodus 19:5-6 <u>The Kingdom of Priests</u> “Now therefore, if you will indeed obey My voice and keep My covenant, then you shall be a special treasure to Me above all people; for all the earth is Mine. 6And you shall be to Me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.’ These are the words which you shall speak to the children of Israel.”</p> <p>Exodus 28-29 <u>Institution of the Aaronic Priesthood, a mediatorial office</u></p> <p>Exodus 28:1-3 “Now take Aaron your brother, and his sons with him, from among the children of Israel, that he may minister to Me as priest, Aaron and Aaron’s sons: Nadab, Abihu, Eleazar, and Ithamar. 2And you shall make holy garments for Aaron your brother, for glory and for beauty. 3So you shall speak to all who are gifted artisans, whom I have filled with the spirit of wisdom, that they may make Aaron’s garments, to consecrate him, that he may minister to Me as priest.”</p> <p>Exodus 28:43 “They {<i>the garments</i>} shall be on Aaron and on his sons when they come into the tabernacle of meeting, or when they come near the altar to minister in the holy place, that they do not incur iniquity and die. It shall be a statute forever to him and his descendants after him.</p>
<p>4So when Moses heard it, he fell on his face; 5and he spoke to Korah and all his company, saying,</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">“Tomorrow morning the Lord will show who is His and who is holy, and will cause him to come near to Him. That one whom He chooses He will cause to come near to Him. 6Do this: Take censers, Korah and all your company; 7put fire in them and put incense in them before the Lord tomorrow, and it shall be that the man whom the Lord chooses is the holy one. You take too much upon yourselves, you sons of Levi!”</p>	<p>Exodus 30:7-10 “Aaron shall burn on it sweet incense every morning; when he tends the lamps, he shall burn incense on it. 8And when Aaron lights the lamps at twilight, he shall burn incense on it, a perpetual incense before the Lord throughout your generations. 9You shall not offer strange incense on it, or a burnt offering, or a grain offering; nor shall you pour a drink offering on it. 10And Aaron shall make atonement upon its horns once a year with the blood of the sin offering of atonement; once a year he shall make atonement upon it throughout your generations. It is most holy to the Lord.”</p>

<p>8Then Moses said to Korah, “Hear now, you sons of Levi: 9Is it a small thing to you that the God of Israel has separated you from the congregation of Israel, to bring you near to Himself, to do the work of the tabernacle of the Lord, and to stand before the congregation to serve them; 10and that He has brought you near to Himself, you and all your brethren, the sons of Levi, with you? And are you seeking the priesthood also? 11Therefore you and all your company are gathered together against the Lord. And what is Aaron that you complain against him?”</p>	<p><u>Institution of Levitical Office</u> Numbers 3:5-13 And the Lord spoke to Moses, saying: 6“Bring the tribe of Levi near, and present them before Aaron the priest, that they may serve him. 7“And they shall attend to his needs and the needs of the whole congregation before the tabernacle of meeting, to do the work of the tabernacle. 8“Also they shall attend to all the furnishings of the tabernacle of meeting, and to the needs of the children of Israel, to do the work of the tabernacle. 9“And you shall give the Levites to Aaron and his sons; they are given entirely to him from among the children of Israel. 10“So you shall appoint Aaron and his sons, and they shall attend to their priesthood; but the outsider who comes near shall be put to death.” 11Then the Lord spoke to Moses, saying: 12“Now behold, I Myself have taken the Levites from among the children of Israel instead of every firstborn who opens the womb among the children of Israel. Therefore the Levites shall be Mine, 13“because all the firstborn are Mine. On the day that I struck all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, I sanctified to Myself all the firstborn in Israel, both man and beast. They shall be Mine: I am the Lord.” Numbers 4:1-20 The Sons of Kohath (1 Chronicles 6:22 Korah is a son of Kohath) had special Levitical duties</p>
<p>12And Moses sent to call Dathan and Abiram the sons of Eliab, but they said, “We will not come up! 13“Is it a small thing that you have brought us up out of a land flowing with milk and honey, to kill us in the wilderness, that you should keep acting like a prince over us? 14“Moreover you have not brought us into a land flowing with milk and honey, nor given us inheritance of fields and vineyards. Will you put out the eyes of these men? We will not come up!”</p> <p>15Then Moses was very angry, and said to the Lord, “Do not respect their offering. I have not taken one donkey from them, nor have I hurt one of them.” 16And Moses said to Korah, “Tomorrow, you and all your company be present before the Lord—you and they, as well as Aaron. 17“Let each take his censer and put incense in it, and each of you bring his censer before the Lord, two hundred and fifty censers; both you and Aaron, each with his censer.”</p>	<p>The Unrepentant Dathan and Abiram had gone to their tents.</p> <p>Moses accused of ...</p> <p>Moses with binding key says not to accept their prayer. Gen 4:4</p>
<p>18So every man took his censer, put fire in it, laid incense on it, and stood at the door of the tabernacle of meeting with Moses and Aaron. 19And Korah gathered all the congregation against them at the door of the tabernacle of meeting. Then the glory of the Lord appeared to all the congregation.</p>	<p>The glory appeared!</p>

<p>20And the Lord spoke to Moses and Aaron, saying, 21“Separate yourselves from among this congregation, that I may consume them in a moment.”</p> <p>22Then they fell on their faces, and said, “O God, the God of the spirits of all flesh, shall one man sin, and You be angry with all the congregation?”</p> <p>23So the Lord spoke to Moses, saying, 24“Speak to the congregation, saying, ‘Get away from the tents of Korah, Dathan, and Abiram.’”</p> <p>25Then Moses rose and went to Dathan and Abiram, and the elders of Israel followed him. 26And he spoke to the congregation, saying, “Depart now from the tents of these wicked men! Touch nothing of theirs, lest you be consumed in all their sins.”</p> <p>27So they got away from around the tents of Korah, Dathan, and Abiram; and Dathan and Abiram came out and stood at the door of their tents, with their wives, their sons, and their little children.</p> <p>28And Moses said: “By this you shall know that the Lord has sent me to do all these works, for I have not done them of my own will. 29If these men die naturally like all men, or if they are visited by the common fate of all men, then the Lord has not sent me. 30But if the Lord creates a new thing, and the earth opens its mouth and swallows them up with all that belongs to them, and they go down alive into the pit, then you will understand that these men have rejected the Lord.”</p>	<p>Intercession: Moses pleading with God</p>
<p>31Now it came to pass, as he finished speaking all these words, that the ground split apart under them, 32and the earth opened its mouth and swallowed them up, with their households and all the men with Korah, with all their goods. 33So they and all those with them went down alive into the pit; the earth closed over them, and they perished from among the assembly.</p> <p>34Then all Israel who were around them fled at their cry, for they said, “Lest the earth swallow us up also!”</p> <p>35And a fire came out from the Lord and consumed the two hundred and fifty men who were offering incense.</p>	<p>1. The ground swallowed them up. <i>Note: Korah’s sons didn’t all die. Deut 26:11, 1 Chronicles 6:22, 9:19</i></p> <p>2. Fire consumed them (Like Lev. 10:1-3)</p> <p>Is verse 34 repentance?</p>
<p>36Then the Lord spoke to Moses, saying: 37“Tell Eleazar, the son of Aaron the priest, to pick up the censers out of the blaze, for they are holy, and scatter the fire some distance away. 38“The censers of these men who sinned against their own souls, let them be made into hammered plates as a covering for the altar. Because they presented them before the Lord, therefore they are holy; and they shall be a sign to the children of Israel.”</p> <p>39So Eleazar the priest took the bronze censers, which those who were burned up had presented, and they were hammered out as a covering on the altar, 40to be a memorial to the children of Israel that no outsider, who is not a descendant of Aaron, should come near to offer incense before the Lord, that he might not become like Korah and his companions, just as the Lord had said to him through Moses.</p>	<p>Censers are holy.</p> <p>No outsider – See Numbers 3:10 above.</p>

<p>41On the next day all the congregation of the children of Israel murmured against Moses and Aaron, saying, “You have killed the people of the Lord.” 42Now it happened, when the congregation had gathered against Moses and Aaron, that they turned toward the tabernacle of meeting; and suddenly the cloud covered it, and the glory of the Lord appeared. 43Then Moses and Aaron came before the tabernacle of meeting.</p> <p>44And the Lord spoke to Moses, saying, 45“Get away from among this congregation, that I may consume them in a moment.” And they fell on their faces.</p> <p>46So Moses said to Aaron, “Take a censer and put fire in it from the altar, put incense on it, and take it quickly to the congregation and make atonement for them; for wrath has gone out from the Lord. The plague has begun.”</p> <p>47Then Aaron took it as Moses commanded, and ran into the midst of the assembly; and already the plague had begun among the people. So he put in the incense and made atonement for the people. 48And he stood between the dead and the living; so the plague was stopped. 49Now those who died in the plague were fourteen thousand seven hundred, besides those who died in the Korah incident. 50So Aaron returned to Moses at the door of the tabernacle of meeting, for the plague had stopped.</p>	<p>The congregation was not repentant, but blamed Moses and Aaron for the deaths of the leaders</p> <p>God threatens, and begins to punish.</p> <p>The whole congregation is guilty and unrepentant, not many options left for Moses & Aaron to do. They offer prayer to make atonement for them.</p> <p>Romans 5:8 (NKJV) 8But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.</p>
<p>17:1 And the Lord spoke to Moses, saying: 2“Speak to the children of Israel, and get from them a rod from each father’s house, all their leaders according to their fathers’ houses—twelve rods. Write each man’s name on his rod. 3“And you shall write Aaron’s name on the rod of Levi. For there shall be one rod for the head of each father’s house. 4“Then you shall place them in the tabernacle of meeting before the Testimony, where I meet with you. 5“And it shall be that the rod of the man whom I choose will blossom; thus I will rid Myself of the complaints of the children of Israel, which they make against you.”</p> <p>6So Moses spoke to the children of Israel, and each of their leaders gave him a rod apiece, for each leader according to their fathers’ houses, twelve rods; and the rod of Aaron was among their rods. 7And Moses placed the rods before the Lord in the tabernacle of witness.</p>	<p>God’s Purpose?</p> <p>Numbers 12 – Miriam and Aaron oppose Moses</p>

<p>8Now it came to pass on the next day that Moses went into the tabernacle of witness, and behold, the rod of Aaron, of the house of Levi, had sprouted and put forth buds, had produced blossoms and yielded ripe almonds. 9Then Moses brought out all the rods from before the Lord to all the children of Israel; and they looked, and each man took his rod.</p> <p>10And the Lord said to Moses, “Bring Aaron’s rod back before the Testimony, to be kept as a sign against the rebels, that you may put their complaints away from Me, lest they die.” 11Thus did Moses; just as the Lord had commanded him, so he did.</p> <p>12So the children of Israel spoke to Moses, saying, “Surely we die, we perish, we all perish! 13Whoever even comes near the tabernacle of the Lord must die. Shall we all utterly die?”</p>	<p>Gen 49:10 rod = scepter</p> <p>Is verse 12 repentance?</p>
<p>Numbers 18:1-7 Official Duties Numbers 18:8-32 Revenue for Services Numbers 19:1-22 Water Purification Laws</p>	
<p><u>Priesthood of All Believers</u> 1 Peter 2:5; 9 you also, as living stones, are being built up a spiritual house, a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.... 9But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light;</p> <p><u>Pastoral Office (not a mediatorial office)</u> John 20:21-23 So Jesus said to them again, “Peace to you! As the Father has sent Me, I also send you.” 22And when He had said this, He breathed on them, and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. 23“If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.” Acts 20:28 {To the Ephesians Elders} “Therefore take heed to yourselves and to all the flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the church of God which He purchased with His own blood.</p>	

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Chapter 16

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