



KORACH

NUMBERS 16-18


NUMBERS 16:1

וַיִּקַּח קֹרַח בֶּן־יִצְהָר בֶּן־קְהָת בֶּן־לֵוִי וְדָתָן וַאֲבִירָם
בְּנֵי אֱלִיָּאָב וְאֹן בֶּן־פִּלֶת בְּנֵי רְאוּבֵן:

VaYiKakh KoRakh Ben-YitsHar Ben-KeHat Ben-LeVi VeDaTan VaAViRam
BeNei ELiAv VeOn Ben-PeLet BeNei ReUVen

And Qoraḥ, son of Yitshar, son of Qehath, son of Lěwi, took both Dathan
and Abiram the sons of Eliyab, and On, son of Peleth, sons of Re'ubēn,

PARSHA OUTLINE

- 16:1 Korach, a Levite, with three other Reubenites and 250 leaders, leads the congregation of Israel in a major rebellion against Moses and Aaron.**
 - :21 YHVH threatens to kill the whole congregation but Moses & Aaron intercede to save them.**
 - :26 Moses warns the congregation to separate from the rebels.**
 - :31 The ground opens up and consumes the rebels, their families, their tents, and all of their possessions.**
 - :35 Fire from YHVH consumes the 250 with incense.**
 - :37 Their fire-pans are made into a covering for the altar as a memorial.**
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PARSHA OUTLINE

16:41 The congregation assemble against Moses and Aaron again.

:45 YHVH threatens to consume the entire congregation again, and starts killing them with a plague, but Aaron runs into the crowd with incense and stops the plague.

17:1 YHVH has each head of the tribes provide a rod before YHVH.

:8 By the next day, Aaron's rod had budded, blossomed, with ripe almonds.

:10 Aaron's rod to be kept in the tabernacle as a memorial.


18:1 YHVH's specific commissioning of Aaron and his sons, and the other Levites, with their responsibilities and benefits.

NUMBERS 16:3

3 And they assembled against Mosheh and against Aharon, and said to them, “Enough of you! For all the congregation is set-apart, all of them, and יהוה is in their midst. Why then do you lift up yourselves above the assembly of יהוה?”



NUMBERS 16:8-11

- 8** And Mosheh said to Qorah, “Hear now, you sons of Lěwi:
- 9** “Is it little to you that the Elohim of Yisra’ěl has separated you from the congregation of Yisra’ěl, to bring you near to Himself, to perform the service of the Dwelling Place of יהוה, and to stand before the congregation to serve them,
- 10** and that He has brought you near to Himself, you and all your brothers, the sons of Lěwi, with you? Yet you seek the priesthood as well?
- 11** “Therefore you and all your company are set against יהוה. And Aharon, what is he that you grumble against him?”
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NUMBERS 16:12-14

12 And Mosheh sent to call Dathan and Abiram the sons of Eliyab, but they said, “We are not coming up!

13 “Is it little that you have brought us up out of a land flowing with milk and honey, to kill us in the wilderness, that you would also seize total rule over us?

14 “Also, you have not brought us into a land flowing with milk and honey, nor given us inheritance of fields and vineyards. Would you bore out the eyes of these men? We are not coming up!”



NUMBERS 16:18-21

18 So each one took his fire holder, and put fire in it, and laid incense on it, and stood at the door of the Tent of Meeting with Mosheh and Aharon.

19 And Qorah assembled all the congregation against them at the door of the Tent of Meeting. Then the esteem of יהוה appeared to all the congregation.

20 And יהוה spoke to Mosheh, and to Aharon, saying,

21 “Separate yourselves from the midst of this congregation, and let Me consume them in a moment.”



NUMBERS 16:28-32

28 And Mosheh said, “By this you know that יהוה has sent me to do all these works, that they are not from my own heart.

29 “If these die as all men do, or if they are visited as all men are visited, then יהוה has not sent me.

30 “But if יהוה creates what is unheard of, and the earth opens its mouth and swallows them up with all that belongs to them, and they go down alive into the grave, then you shall know that these men have scorned יהוה.”

31 And it came to be, as he ended speaking all these words, that the ground under them split apart,

32 and the earth opened its mouth and swallowed them up, with their households and all the men with Qoraḥ, with all their goods.

NUMBERS 16:35

35 And a fire came out from יהוה and consumed the two hundred and fifty men who were offering incense.



NUMBERS 16:41

41 But all the congregation of the children of Yisra'el grumbled against Mosheh and against Aharon on the next day, saying, "You, you have killed the people of יהוה."



NUMBERS 16:46-48

46 So Mosheh said to Aharon, “Take the fire holder and put fire in it from the altar, and lay incense on, and go, hurry to the congregation and make atonement for them, for wrath has gone out from יהוה, the plague has begun.”

47 And Aharon took it as Mosheh commanded, and ran into the midst of the assembly, and saw that the plague had begun among the people. And he laid on the incense and made atonement for the people,

48 and stood between the dead and the living. And the plague was stopped.

3 GROUPS ADDRESSED

KORACH (LEVITES) The 250?

“We’re ALL holy. Why do you lift yourselves up over us?”

Moses: “Not *enough* that you’re set apart to draw near to serve YHVH?...You are set against YHVH.”

Fire consumes them.

DATHAN & ABIRAM (REUBENITES)

“You’ve just brought us out to kill us! And seize rule over us?”

Moses: “If something unheard of happens to these men, then you know that YHVH has sent me.”

Earth swallows them.

THE REST OF THE CONGREGATION

“We’re all going to die! You’ve killed the people of YHVH!”

**Moses (to Aaron):
“Go, hurry to the congregation with incense and make atonement for them.”**

Plague kills 14,700.

LESSONS TO THE CONGREGATION

YHVH has appointed **Moses** as His authority over the congregation.

YHVH has appointed **Aaron** and his sons as priests. No one else.

The rod of Aaron in the tabernacle is a memorial.

YHVH has appointed **Levites** as helpers/servants to the priests.

The offerings of all Israel go to the Levites, forever.

The others of the **congregation** are NOT to approach YHVH as priests.

The altar covering made from fire-pans is a memorial.



YHVH'S HIERARCHY

In the **PHYSICAL** Realm

YHVH The Elohim

MOSES (His prophet, the Torah)

AARON (High Priest)

HIS SONS (also priests)

LEVITES (set-apart servants)

ISRAEL, the congregation

The GENTILES



Aaron
& Sons

The
Levites

ISRAEL, the congregation

YHVH'S HIERARCHY

In the PHYSICAL Realm

YHVH The Elohim

MOSES (His prophet, the Torah)

AARON (his brother, High Priest)

HIS SONS (also priests)

LEVITES (servants)

ISRAEL, the congregation

The GENTILES

In the SPIRITUAL Realm

YHVH The Father

YESHUA (His Son, the Word)

YESHUA (High Priest)

HIS APOSTLES (“brothers,” also priests)

DISCIPLES (servants, and priests!)

ISRAEL, the congregation, and priests!

The NATIONS

Yeshua,
Apostles

His
Disciples

ISRAEL, the congregation

LESSONS TO US

YHVH does set up His hierarchy of authority.

World: “Everyone do whatever is right in his own eyes.”

YHVH appoints His rulers, and His priests.

World: “We’re all equally holy/set-apart! Why do you lift yourself up?”

YHVH judges rebellion against His authority.

World: “We’re not under the law!

Judge: “Depart from Me, I never knew you, lawless ones!”

Yeshua’s disciples (Israel) are empowered as rulers, and priests

World: “Religion causes wars, and hate. Israel should be wiped away!”

Yeshua,
Apostles

His
Disciples

ISRAEL, the congregation



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