

Exodus 18:24

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

So Moses hearkened to the voice of his father in law, and did all that he had said.

Analysis

So Moses hearkened to the voice of his father in law, and did all that he had said—Moses' immediate obedience demonstrates humility—he accepts correction from father-in-law without defensiveness. The phrase 'hearkened to the voice' (וַיִּשְׁמַע מֹשֶׁה לִקְוֹל, vayishma Moshe l'qol) indicates attentive listening and obedient response. 'Did all that he had said' shows complete implementation, not selective adoption. Moses' teachability models that great leaders receive counsel graciously. His willingness to change methods while maintaining calling demonstrates flexibility within faithfulness. This episode shows that accepting wise counsel doesn't diminish authority—Moses remains leader while improving leadership structure. God's later confirmation (Deut 1:9-18) validates Moses' decision.

Historical Context

This delegation system established the governmental structure that would serve Israel throughout wilderness wandering and into Canaan settlement. The principle of distributed justice became foundational to Israel's society.

Related Passages

Psalm 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Study Questions

1. What does Moses' unhesitating obedience to counsel teach about humility in leadership?
2. How does accepting structural advice while maintaining calling demonstrate wise flexibility?

Interlinear Text

אֲשֶׁר כֵּל וַיַּעֲשֵׂה מֵשֶׁה וְשָׁם עָלָיו וְלֹא חִתֵּן וְלֹא מִשְׁתַּחַת

hearkened So Moses to the voice of his father in law and did H3605 H834

H8085

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H2859

H6213

אמר:

all that he had said

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