

# Exodus 32:26

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Then Moses stood in the gate of the camp, and said, Who is on the LORD'S side? let him come unto me. And all the sons of Levi gathered themselves together unto him.

## Analysis

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Moses' stand at the שַׁעַר הַמַּחֲנֶה (sha'ar hamachaneh, gate of the camp) created a decision point. His cry מִי לַיהוָה אֵלַי (mi l'Adonai elay, Who is on the Lord's side? Let him come to me) forced binary choice—there's no neutrality regarding God. The response 'all the sons of Levi' כָּל־בְּנֵי לֵוִי (kol-benei Levi) showed the Levites' collective loyalty. Their immediate gathering אֵלָיו (elav, to him) demonstrated decisive commitment. This separation prefigures God's consistent call to His people: be separate from the world's rebellion (2 Cor 6:14-18).

## Historical Context

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The Levites' loyalty here earned them the priesthood (Deut 33:8-11). Their willingness to execute judgment even on family members demonstrated covenant love exceeding natural affection—precisely what Jesus later required (Matt 10:37).

## Related Passages

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**James 2:17** — Faith and works

**Hebrews 11:1** — Definition of faith

## Study Questions

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1. What 'gates' in your life demand you declare whose side you're on?
2. How does true loyalty to God sometimes require separation from even close relationships?

## Interlinear Text

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וַעֲמַד	מֹשֶׁה	בֶּן־עַר	הַמַּחֲנֶה	וַיֹּאמֶר	הָיָה
stood	Then Moses	in the gate	of the camp	and said	
H5975	H4872	H8179	H4264	H559	H4310
לִיהוָה	וַאֲסָפוּ	אֵלָיו	אֵלָיו	כָּל	
Who is on the LORD'S		gathered			
H3068	H413	H622	H413	H3605	
בְּנֵי	לֵוִי:				
side let him come unto me	And all the sons	of Levi			
H1121		H3878			

## Additional Cross-References

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**2 Kings 9:32** (Parallel theme): And he lifted up his face to the window, and said, Who is on my side? who? And there looked out to him two or three eunuchs.

**Matthew 12:30** (Parallel theme): He that is not with me is against me; and he that gathereth not with me scattereth abroad.

**Joshua 5:13** (Parallel theme): And it came to pass, when Joshua was by Jericho, that he lifted up his eyes and looked, and, behold, there stood a man over against him with his sword drawn in his hand: and Joshua went unto him, and said unto him, Art thou for us, or for our adversaries?

**2 Samuel 20:11** (Parallel theme): And one of Joab's men stood by him, and said, He that favoureth Joab, and he that is for David, let him go after Joab.

