

Exodus 4:14

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And the anger of the LORD was kindled against Moses, and he said, Is not Aaron the Levite thy brother? I know that he can speak well. And also, behold, he cometh forth to meet thee: and when he seeth thee, he will be glad in his heart.

Analysis

And the anger of the LORD was kindled against Moses, and he said, Is not Aaron the Levite thy brother? I know that he can speak well. And also, behold, he cometh forth to meet thee: and when he seeth thee, he will be glad in his heart וְנִרְאֶאָה אֶת־הָעֵדָה בְּמִשְׁאָה וַיֹּאמֶר יְהוָה אֶל־מֹשֶׁה כֹּל־אֲתִיכָּה פְּלִוי יְדַעַתִּי כִּי־יְדַבֵּר הוּא וְגַם) (בְּנֵה־הָאָה וְזַעֲמָה בְּלֹבֶן—**The anger of the LORD was kindled** (נִרְאֶה אֶת־הָעֵדָה וְזַעֲמָה בְּלֹבֶן—God's displeasure at Moses' resistance. God accommodates weakness but opposes rebellion. **Aaron the Levite thy brother**—God provides a spokesman. **He can speak well** (לְבָרֶר יְדַבֵּר) emphatic: "speaking he will speak"). Aaron becomes Moses' "prophet" to Pharaoh (7:1). **He will be glad in his heart** (וְשָׂמֵחַ בְּלֹבֶן)—true fraternal support, though later Aaron will fail (golden calf, Exodus 32). Moses' reluctance costs him something—Aaron's involvement creates complications. God's first choice was Moses alone; accommodation brings mixed results.

Historical Context

Aaron was likely still in Egypt during Moses' Midian sojourn. How God orchestrated Aaron's departure to meet Moses shows divine providence. Aaron's eloquence proved useful initially (4:30) but later contributed to disaster (32:1-6, 21-24). Moses' refusal to trust God fully had consequences—leadership shared

with Aaron complicated matters. This teaches that resisting God's best plan results in workable but suboptimal alternatives.

Related Passages

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Study Questions

1. How does God's anger at Moses' resistance challenge you to obey promptly rather than negotiate with God?
2. What 'Aaron arrangements' in your life exist because you insisted on accommodations rather than trusting God's original plan?

Interlinear Text

פָּרָאָרְנָה	וְאַף	יְהוָה	בְּמֹשֶׁה	כֹּל	אָמַר
was kindled	And the anger	of the LORD	against Moses	and he said	H3808
H2734	H639	H3068	H4872	H559	
אֲבָרְן	אַחֲרֵךְ	כְּלֵי	כִּי	רְאֵה	
Is not Aaron	thy brother	the Levite	I know	that he can speak	
H175	H251	H3881	H3045	H1696	
רְאֵה	אֲזַרְעָל	הַנֶּגֶת	הַזָּהָר	וְאַתָּה	
that he can speak	H1931	H1571	H2009	H1931	And also behold he cometh forth
H1696					H3318
בְּלֹבֶן	וְשָׁמְעַת	וְרָאֶב	לְקַרְאָתָה	וְאַתָּה	
to meet	thee and when he seeth	H8056	in his heart		
H7125	H7200		H3820		

Additional Cross-References

Exodus 4:27 (References Lord): And the LORD said to Aaron, Go into the wilderness to meet Moses. And he went, and met him in the mount of God, and kissed him.

1 Chronicles 21:7 (Parallel theme): And God was displeased with this thing; therefore he smote Israel.

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