

Numbers 1:48

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

For the LORD had spoken unto Moses, saying,

Analysis

God's direct speech to Moses ('the LORD had spoken unto Moses') emphasizes that Levi's exclusion from military census was divine command, not human innovation. God personally directed every aspect of Israel's organization, demonstrating His active sovereignty over His covenant people. This divine micromanagement should encourage believers that God actively directs His church today through Scripture, not leaving organization to human wisdom or cultural preferences.

Historical Context

God's command regarding Levi's special status occurred earlier (Numbers 1:49-50) and is here referenced as Moses implements the broader census. This shows Scripture's narrative style of recording commands and their execution to emphasize obedience to divine revelation.

Related Passages

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

1 John 4:8 — God is love

Study Questions

1. How does God's detailed direction of Israel's organization encourage confidence that Scripture provides sufficient guidance for church life today?
2. What does this teach us about the danger of organizing church life according to cultural trends rather than biblical principles?

Interlinear Text

רְאֵיתָ בְּרֵיתִי
had spoken For the LORD H413

אֶל־מֹשֶׁה
unto Moses H4872

לֵאמֹר:
saying H559

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