

# Numbers 14:27

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

How long shall I bear with this evil congregation, which murmur against me? I have heard the murmurings of the children of Israel, which they murmur against me.

## Analysis

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Moses and Aaron 'fell upon their faces' before the congregation, assuming the posture of intercessory prayer. They addressed God as 'the God of the spirits of all flesh,' acknowledging His sovereignty over life and death for all humanity. Their question 'shall one man sin, and wilt thou be wroth with all the congregation?' appeals to God's justice, asking Him to distinguish individual guilt from corporate punishment.

## Historical Context

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This intercession demonstrates Moses and Aaron's shepherd-hearts, willing to risk divine wrath to plead for the people who just threatened to stone them. Their selfless mediation prefigures Christ's intercession for enemies.

## Related Passages

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**Romans 2:1** — Judging others

**Matthew 25:31** — Final judgment

## Study Questions

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1. How does Moses' intercession for rebels demonstrate Christlike love for enemies?
2. What does it mean to appeal to God's character and justice in prayer?

## Interlinear Text

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עַד	מַתַּי	לְעַד הַ	הַרְעָה	אֲשֶׁר	הִזְאת	
H5704	H4970	congregation	How long shall I bear with this evil		H2063	H834
		H5712	H7451			
הַמָּה	מְלִינֵי יָם	עַל יְ	אֶת	תִּלְנֹת וְ	בְנֵי יְ	יִשְׂרָאֵל
H1992	which murmur	H5921	H853	the murmurings	of the children	of Israel
	H3885			H8519	H1121	H3478
אֲשֶׁר	הַמָּה	מְלִינֵי יָם	עַל יְ	שָׁמַעְתִּי:		
H834	H1992	which murmur	H5921	against me I have heard		
		H3885		H8085		

## Additional Cross-References

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**Exodus 16:12** (References Israel): I have heard the murmurings of the children of Israel: speak unto them, saying, At even ye shall eat flesh, and in the morning ye shall be filled with bread; and ye shall know that I am the LORD your God.

**1 Corinthians 10:10** (Parallel theme): Neither murmur ye, as some of them also murmured, and were destroyed of the destroyer.

**Mark 9:19** (Parallel theme): He answereth him, and saith, O faithless generation, how long shall I be with you? how long shall I suffer you? bring him unto me.

**Exodus 16:28** (Parallel theme): And the LORD said unto Moses, How long refuse ye to keep my commandments and my laws?

**Numbers 14:11** (Parallel theme): And the LORD said unto Moses, How long will this people provoke me? and how long will it be ere they believe me, for all the signs which I have shewed among them?

