

Numbers 16:11

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

For which cause both thou and all thy company are gathered together against the LORD: and what is Aaron, that ye murmur against him?

Analysis

Moses declares the true target of their rebellion: 'ye gather against the LORD.' What appeared as challenge to human leadership was actually revolt against divine authority. This penetrating insight reveals that all rebellion against God-ordained authority ultimately opposes God Himself. Aaron was merely the visible representative of God's choice.

Historical Context

This echoes Moses' earlier statement when Israel complained: 'your murmurings are not against us, but against the LORD' (Exodus 16:8). The pattern recurs throughout Scripture: rejecting God's appointed leaders constitutes rejecting God (1 Samuel 8:7, Luke 10:16).

Related Passages

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

Study Questions

1. How do you distinguish between legitimate concerns about leadership and rebellion against God's authority?
2. When have you criticized human leaders while really resisting God's will?

Interlinear Text

לְכָה	אַתָּה	וְכָל	תִּבְנַעַד	יְמִינָה
For which cause	H859	H3605	both thou and all thy company	are gathered together
	H3651		H5712	H3259
עַל	יְהוָה	וְאַבְרָהָם	כִּי	תְּלַנוּ
H5921	against the LORD	and what is Aaron	H4100	H1931
H3068		H175	H1931	H3588
			that ye murmur	H3885
בְּלִי:				
H5921				

Additional Cross-References

Exodus 17:2 (References Lord): Wherefore the people did chide with Moses, and said, Give us water that we may drink. And Moses said unto them, Why chide ye with me? wherefore do ye tempt the LORD?

1 Corinthians 3:5 (References Lord): Who then is Paul, and who is Apollos, but ministers by whom ye believed, even as the Lord gave to every man?

Numbers 16:3 (References Lord): And they gathered themselves together against Moses and against Aaron, and said unto them, Ye take too much upon you, seeing all the congregation are holy, every one of them, and the LORD is among them: wherefore then lift ye up yourselves above the congregation of the LORD?