

Numbers 16:14

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Moreover thou hast not brought us into a land that floweth with milk and honey, or given us inheritance of fields and vineyards: wilt thou put out the eyes of these men? we will not come up.

Analysis

Dathan and Abiram mockingly asked if Moses would 'put out the eyes of these men'—accusing him of blinding deception. This inverts reality: their rebellion demonstrated spiritual blindness while Moses consistently revealed God's will. Rebels often accuse others of the very faults they themselves possess, projecting their own deception onto faithful leaders.

Historical Context

The phrase 'put out eyes' may allude to treatment of captured kings or slaves (Judges 16:21, 2 Kings 25:7). By using such violent imagery, they portrayed Moses as a tyrant when he had led with exceptional meekness (12:3). False accusation is a standard tool of rebellion.

Related Passages

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

Study Questions

1. How do you recognize projection when others accuse you of their own sins?
2. What role does truth-telling play in exposing and resisting spiritual rebellion?

Interlinear Text

מֵעַתָּה	לֵאלֹהֵי	אֶרֶץ	זֹבֵחַ	חֵלֶב	וְדִבְשׁ
Moreover	H3808	H413	us into a land	that floweth	with milk and honey
H637			H776	H2100	H2461 H1706
הָבָה יְאֹתָנוּ	וְתִתֵּן	לָנוּ	נַחֲלָת	שָׂדֵה	וְכַרְם
thou hast not brought	or given	H0	us inheritance	of fields	and vineyards
H935	H5414		H5159	H7704	H3754
הָעֵינַי	הָאֲנָשִׁים	הָאֵלֹהִים	תִּנְקֶנָּה	לֵאלֹהֵינוּ	נִשְׁלָחַהּ
the eyes	H376	H1992	wilt thou put out	H3808	we will not come up
H5869			H5365		H5927

Additional Cross-References

Leviticus 20:24 (Parallel theme): But I have said unto you, Ye shall inherit their land, and I will give it unto you to possess it, a land that floweth with milk and honey: I am the LORD your God, which have separated you from other people.