

# Numbers 16:15

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And Moses was very wroth, and said unto the LORD, Respect not thou their offering: I have not taken one ass from them, neither have I hurt one of them.

## Analysis

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Moses, deeply provoked, asked God not to respect the rebels' offering. His vehemence came not from wounded pride but from recognition that their rebellion offended God. The appeal to his own integrity—"I have not taken one ass from them, neither have I hurt one of them"—established that his leadership had been selfless, not exploitative.

## Historical Context

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Moses' self-defense echoes Samuel's later appeal when Israel rejected his leadership (1 Samuel 12:3-5). Both leaders served sacrificially yet faced rejection. Their clean consciences before God enabled them to appeal confidently for divine vindication. Faithful service creates moral authority even when opposed.

## Related Passages

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**Revelation 20:12** — Judgment according to deeds

**Matthew 25:31** — Final judgment

## Study Questions

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1. How does serving with integrity prepare you for seasons of opposition or accusation?
2. When is it appropriate to appeal to your own faithfulness in response to false charges?

## Interlinear Text

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וַיְהִי	לְמֹשֶׁה	מְאֹד	וַיֹּאמֶר	אֶל	יְהוָה	אֵל	יֵת פָּן
wroth	And Moses	was very	and said	H413	unto the LORD	H408	Respect
H2734	H4872	H3966	H559		H3068		H6437
אֵל	מִנְחָתָם	לֹא	אֶחָד	מֵהֶם	נָשָׂא	אֶתִּי	
H413	not thou their offering	H3808	ass	one	H1992	I have not taken	
	H4503		H2543	H259		H5375	
וְלֹא	הִרַעְתִּי	אֶת	אֶחָד	מֵהֶם:			
H3808	from them neither have I hurt	H853	one	H1992			
	H7489		H259				

## Additional Cross-References

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**2 Corinthians 7:2** (Parallel theme): Receive us; we have wronged no man, we have corrupted no man, we have defrauded no man.