

Numbers 16:6

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

This do; Take you censers, Korah, and all his company;

Analysis

Moses told Korah and his followers to prepare censers for the next day—essentially accepting their challenge but shifting judgment to God. This test would reveal whom God had chosen. Moses' confidence came not from political maneuvering but from certainty about God's will. When authority rests on divine appointment rather than human achievement, God Himself will vindicate it.

Historical Context

The censer test recalled Nadab and Abihu's presumptuous offering that resulted in their deaths (Leviticus 10:1-2). Korah and his followers should have learned from that precedent that approaching God contrary to His commands brought judgment. Their willingness to proceed revealed dangerous presumption.

Related Passages

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Study Questions

1. How do you test whether positions or opportunities come from God or from human ambition?
2. What biblical precedents warn against the particular temptations you face?

Interlinear Text

אָתָּה	יְכֹל	קָרָא	מִקְתָּת	וְתִּשְׁעַ	לְכָמָה	קָרְחָה	עָשָׂה	זֶה
H2063	This do	Take	H0	you censers	Korah	H3605	and all his company	
H6213	H3947		H4289		H7141		H5712	

Additional Cross-References

Leviticus 10:1 (Parallel theme): And Nadab and Abihu, the sons of Aaron, took either of them his censer, and put fire therein, and put incense thereon, and offered strange fire before the LORD, which he commanded them not.

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