

# Numbers 17:9

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And Moses brought out all the rods from before the LORD unto all the children of Israel: and they looked, and took every man his rod.

## Analysis

---

**Moses brought out all the rods from before the LORD** (מִטּוֹת מִלִּפְנֵי יְהוָה)—after overnight divine vindication, Moses presents the evidence publicly. Aaron's rod alone had budded, blossomed, and borne almonds (v.8), supernatural proof of God's chosen priesthood. The phrase **they looked, and took every man his rod** (וַיִּקְחוּ אִישׁ מִטּוֹתוֹ) shows transparency: each tribal leader verified his unchanged staff while witnessing Aaron's miraculous transformation.

This public vindication ended Korah's rebellion (chapter 16) with irrefutable divine testimony. Dead wood bore fruit—only God's life-giving power could accomplish this. The image prefigures Christ's resurrection: the 'dry tree' (Luke 23:31) bursting with resurrection life. Aaron's budded rod, kept in the ark (Hebrews 9:4), stood as permanent witness that God alone chooses His priests.

## Historical Context

---

Numbers 17 follows the devastating judgment on Korah, Dathan, and Abiram (chapter 16), where 14,700 died in plague. The rod miracle (circa 1445 BC) provided positive proof of divine selection after the negative proof of judgment, establishing Aaronic priesthood beyond challenge.

## Related Passages

---

**John 3:16** — God's love and salvation

**Ephesians 2:8** — Salvation by grace through faith

**Colossians 1:16** — All things created through Christ

**Psalms 19:1** — Heavens declare God's glory

## Study Questions

---

1. How does God's public vindication of His chosen leaders address ongoing challenges to spiritual authority?
2. What does the transformation of dead wood into fruit-bearing life teach about God's power in seemingly hopeless situations?
3. How does Aaron's budded rod as a 'witness' (v.10) function like resurrection evidence for Christ's claims?

## Interlinear Text

---

וַיֵּצֵא אֶל	מֹשֶׁה ה	אֶת	כָּל	מִטֵּהוּ:	מִלִּפְנֵי י	יְהוָה ה	אֵל
brought out	And Moses	H853	H3605	all the rods	from before	the LORD	H413
H3318	H4872			H4294	H6440	H3068	
כָּל	בְּנֵי י	יִשְׂרָאֵל ל	וַיִּרְאוּ ו	וַיִּקְחוּ ו	אֵשׁ		
H3605	unto all the children	of Israel	and they looked	and took	every man		
	H1121	H3478	H7200	H3947	H376		
מִטֵּהוּ:							
all the rods							
H4294							