

# Numbers 20:10

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And Moses and Aaron gathered the congregation together before the rock, and he said unto them, Hear now, ye rebels; must we fetch you water out of this rock?

## Analysis

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Moses and Aaron gather the assembly before the rock, and Moses addresses them: 'Hear now, ye rebels; must we fetch you water out of this rock?' Moses' frustration erupts in harsh words and the plural 'we' (instead of crediting God alone). This momentary lapse—taking credit for God's miracle—cost Moses entry into Canaan, showing how even great leaders must guard against pride in ministry.

## Historical Context

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This incident contrasts with earlier water-from-rock miracle at Rephidim (Exodus 17:6), where Moses obeyed exactly. Years of patient leadership under constant complaint apparently accumulated, resulting in this flash of frustrated pride.

## Related Passages

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**Matthew 25:31** — Final judgment

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

## Study Questions

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1. How can accumulated frustration in ministry lead to taking credit for God's work?

2. What practices help you maintain humility in spiritual leadership despite opposition?

## Interlinear Text

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וָקָה לוֹ	מֹשֶׁה	וְאַהֲרֹן	אֶת	הַקִּהָל	אֵל	פָּנָיו
gathered	And Moses	and Aaron	H853	the congregation	H413	together before
H6950	H4872	H175		H6951		H6440
הַסֵּלֶע	וַיֹּאמֶר	לָהֶם	שִׁמְעוּ	נָא	הַמֶּרֶם	הֵמָּן
out of this rock	and he said	H0	unto them Hear	H4994	now ye rebels	H4480
H5553	H559		H8085		H4784	
הַסֵּלֶע	הֲזֵה	נוֹצֵץ	לָכֶם	מַיִם:		
out of this rock	H2088	must we fetch	H0	you water		
H5553		H3318		H4325		

## Additional Cross-References

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**James 3:2** (Parallel theme): For in many things we offend all. If any man offend not in word, the same is a perfect man, and able also to bridle the whole body.

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