

# Numbers 20:24

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Aaron shall be gathered unto his people: for he shall not enter into the land which I have given unto the children of Israel, because ye rebelled against my word at the water of Meribah.

## Analysis

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God commands Moses and Aaron to 'speak ye unto the rock before their eyes,' promising water will flow. This method differed from the earlier rock-striking (Exodus 17:6), requiring simple obedience to God's word rather than dramatic action. Speaking to rock demonstrates faith in God's word alone to accomplish miracles—no additional human action needed beyond obedience.

## Historical Context

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The change from striking to speaking tests whether Moses would obey God's specific method or rely on previously successful patterns. This highlights the necessity of present obedience over past precedent in following God's instructions.

## Related Passages

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**Genesis 1:1** — Creation of heavens and earth

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

## Study Questions

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1. How can past success in ministry become hindrance to present obedience if methods change?

2. What does God requiring only spoken word teach about faith in His power versus human effort?

## Interlinear Text

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יָאֵסָף	אַהֲרֹן	אֶל	עַמּוֹ יוֹ	כִּי	לֹא
shall be gathered	Aaron	H413	unto his people	H3588	H3808
H622	H175		H5971		
יָבֹא	אֶל	הָאָרֶץ	אֲשֶׁר	נָתַתִּי	
for he shall not enter	H413	into the land	H834	which I have given	
H935		H776		H5414	
לְבָנָי	יִשְׂרָאֵל	עַל	אֲשֶׁר	מָרִיתָם	אֶת
unto the children	of Israel	H5921	H834	because ye rebelled against	H853
H1121	H3478			H4784	
פִּי	לְמַי	מְרִיבָה:			
my word	at the water	of Meribah			
H6310	H4325	H4809			

## Additional Cross-References

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**Genesis 25:8** (Parallel theme): Then Abraham gave up the ghost, and died in a good old age, an old man, and full of years; and was gathered to his people.

**Deuteronomy 32:50** (Parallel theme): And die in the mount whither thou goest up, and be gathered unto thy people; as Aaron thy brother died in mount Hor, and was gathered unto his people:

**Numbers 31:2** (References Israel): Avenge the children of Israel of the Midianites: afterward shalt thou be gathered unto thy people.

**Numbers 27:13** (Parallel theme): And when thou hast seen it, thou also shalt be gathered unto thy people, as Aaron thy brother was gathered.