

Numbers 20:26

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And strip Aaron of his garments, and put them upon Eleazar his son: and Aaron shall be gathered unto his people, and shall die there.

Analysis

Moses was to 'strip Aaron of his garments, and put them upon Eleazar his son: and Aaron shall be gathered unto his people, and shall die there.' The phrase 'gathered unto his people' indicates joining deceased ancestors in Sheol, affirming continuity between generations and reality of life after death. The transfer of garments while Aaron lived ensured clear succession without contested authority.

Historical Context

Eleazar became high priest, continuing Aaron's line. His descendants held the high priesthood until the exile, except during Eli's period. This unbroken succession demonstrated God's faithfulness to His covenant with Aaron.

Related Passages

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Study Questions

1. What does being 'gathered to one's people' teach about death and family continuity in faith?

2. How do you prepare successors in your areas of ministry responsibility?

Interlinear Text

אֶת	וְהִלְבִּשְׁתָּ	בְּגָד יוֹ	אֶת	אַהֲרֹן	אֶת	וְהִפַּשְׁתָּ
	and put	of his garments		Aaron		And strip
H853	H3847	H899	H853	H175		H6584
וְיָמָת	אֶת	אֶת	בְּנֵי	אֶלְעָזָר		
unto his people and shall die		Aaron	his son	them upon Eleazar		
H4191		H175	H1121	H499		

שָׁמָּה:
H8033

Additional Cross-References

Numbers 20:24 (Parallel theme): 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.

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