

Numbers 20:29

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And when all the congregation saw that Aaron was dead, they mourned for Aaron thirty days, even all the house of Israel.

Analysis

Moses and Eleazar 'came down from the mount,' and 'when all the congregation saw that Aaron was dead, they mourned for Aaron thirty days.' The entire nation grieved their first high priest's passing, showing genuine affection despite previous rebellions against him (16:3, 41). The 30-day mourning period matched Moses' later mourning (Deuteronomy 34:8), honoring leaders who served faithfully despite personal cost.

Historical Context

Traditional mourning periods in Israel lasted 30 days for significant leaders (Deuteronomy 34:8) versus 7 days for ordinary deaths. This extended mourning honored Aaron's unique role as Israel's intercessor and mediator.

Related Passages

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Study Questions

1. How should churches honor faithful leaders who complete their service and depart?
2. What legacy do you want to leave that causes others to genuinely mourn your absence?

Interlinear Text

וְיָרָא	כָּל	הַעֲדָה	כִּי	עָלָיו	אֶת	אַרְאָן
saw	H3605	And when all the congregation		H3588	was dead	for Aaron
H7200		H5712			H1478	H175
they mourned	H853	for Aaron	thirty	days	H3605	even all the hous
H1058		H175	H7970	H3117		H1004
ישָׁבָאַל:						
of Israel						
H3478						

Additional Cross-References

Deuteronomy 34:8 (References Israel): And the children of Israel wept for Moses in the plains of Moab thirty days: so the days of weeping and mourning for Moses were ended.

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