

Numbers 26:9

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And the sons of Eliab; Nemuel, and Dathan, and Abiram. This is that Dathan and Abiram, which were famous in the congregation, who strove against Moses and against Aaron in the company of Korah, when they strove against the LORD:

Analysis

The specific naming of Dathan and Abiram as those who 'stroved against Moses and against Aaron in the company of Korah' serves as historical memorial of rebellion's consequences. Their inclusion in this census record decades later demonstrates that infamous sin leaves lasting marks on family history. Yet the preservation of Korah's line (verse 11) shows God's grace can transcend ancestral sin. This illustrates that individual rebellion brings personal judgment but doesn't necessarily curse entire family lines when descendants choose faithfulness.

Historical Context

This second census occurred 38 years after the first (chapter 1), documenting the new generation replacing those who died in wilderness wandering. The reference to Korah's rebellion (chapter 16) reminded the new generation of rebellion's consequences. The explicit note that 'Korah's sons died not' (verse 11) explains the Psalms attributed to 'sons of Korah' (Psalms 42, 44-49, 84-85, 87-88), showing mercy can interrupt judgment's cycle.

Related Passages

[Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth](#)

Psalm 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Study Questions

1. How does the preservation of Korah's line despite his rebellion demonstrate God's grace toward subsequent generations?
2. What lessons from ancestors' failures can inform your own faithfulness to God?

Interlinear Text

הוּא	תַּאֲבִיכֶם	זֶה	וְתִּמְאֵל	אֶלְיָהוּ בֶן	וְתִּבְנֵי
And the sons	of Eliab	Nemuel	This is that	Dathan	and Abiram
H1121	H446	H5241	H1885	H48	H1931
אֲשֶׁר	בְּנֵית	זֶה	קָרְוָא	תַּאֲבִיכֶם	זֶה
This is that	Dathan	and Abiram	which were famous	in the company	H834
H1885	H48	H7148	H5712		
בְּנֵית	אֶבְרָן	וְעַל	מֹשֶׁה	וְעַל	בְּנֵצֶת
when they strove	against Moses	H5921	H4872	H5921	H5327
H5327				H175	
יְהֹהָה:	אֶבְרָן	וְעַל	בְּנֵצֶת	וְעַל	בְּנֵי קֹרָה
of Korah	when they strove	H5921	against the LORD	H3068	
H7141	H5327				

Additional Cross-References

Numbers 1:16 (Parallel theme): These were the renowned of the congregation, princes of the tribes of their fathers, heads of thousands in Israel.