

# Numbers 3:29

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

The families of the sons of Kohath shall pitch on the side of the tabernacle southward.

## Analysis

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The Kohathites encamped on the south side of the tabernacle, positioning them for immediate access to the holy furnishings they would transport. This strategic placement reflects divine wisdom in organizing worship logistics. The Hebrew teyman (southward) positioned them near the altar and laver. God orders His people not randomly but with purpose—proximity to sacred objects required those who understood their holiness. This foreshadows how elders must be positioned near spiritual truth to guard and teach it (Titus 1:9).

## Historical Context

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The tabernacle arrangement formed a hollow square with the twelve tribes positioned around it. The Levite clans formed an inner square directly around the tabernacle, serving as mediators between God's holy presence and the people. This arrangement could span several miles given the size of the encampment.

## Related Passages

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**1 Corinthians 13:4** — Characteristics of love

**John 15:13** — Greatest form of love

## Study Questions

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1. How does your spiritual position affect your service capacity?
2. What does it mean to be strategically placed by God for His purposes?
3. How should proximity to sacred things shape our reverence?

## Interlinear Text

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מִשְׁפָחָת בָּנֵי קֹהֶת יַעֲלֶה יְמִינָה כִּי  
The families of the sons of Kohath shall pitch on the side  
H4940 H1121 H6955 H2583 H5921 H3409

תִּמְנָהּ בְּמִשְׁפָּכָה  
of the tabernacle southward  
H4908 H8486

## Additional Cross-References

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**Numbers 1:53** (Temple): But the Levites shall pitch round about the tabernacle of testimony, that there be no wrath upon the congregation of the children of Israel: and the Levites shall keep the charge of the tabernacle of testimony.

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