

Numbers 3:5

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,

Analysis

God's command to 'bring the tribe of Levi near' establishes their unique position of service to Aaron and his sons in maintaining the tabernacle. The Levites' intermediate position—above the common Israelites but below the Aaronic priests—illustrates that God establishes offices and ranks according to His sovereign will. This hierarchical structure does not diminish anyone's worth but assigns different roles for effective kingdom function, anticipating Paul's teaching about the body of Christ having many members with different functions (1 Corinthians 12).

Historical Context

The Levites' consecration followed the golden calf incident where they demonstrated loyalty to God by executing judgment on idolaters (Exodus 32:26-29). This zealous devotion qualified them for sacred service.

Related Passages

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Study Questions

1. How does the Levites' intermediate position between priests and people illustrate that functional roles differ even when spiritual standing is equal?

2. What does the Levites' service to Aaron teach us about how different offices in the church support one another?

Interlinear Text

לֹאמֶר: מֹשֶׁה אֶל יְהוָה וַיֹּאמֶר רְבִיבָה
spake And the LORD unto Moses saying
H1696 H3068 H413 H4872 H559

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