

# Numbers 3:6

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Bring the tribe of Levi near, and present them before Aaron the priest, that they may minister unto him.

## Analysis

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God commands: 'Bring the tribe of Levi near, and present them before Aaron the priest, that they may minister unto him.' The Hebrew 'sharat' (minister/serve) indicates service under Aaron's direction. Levites assisted priests but couldn't perform priestly duties (offering sacrifices, entering the holy place, burning incense). This distinction between priests and Levites illustrates the difference between Christ's unique mediatorial work and believers' serving ministry. Only Christ offers the atoning sacrifice (Heb 7:27), but all believers serve as 'ministers of Christ' (1 Cor 4:1) under His authority, assisting His ongoing work.

## Historical Context

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The Levites' service began here and continued until the Second Temple's destruction in 70 AD. They performed tasks like preparing sacrifices, maintaining temple grounds, providing music for worship, teaching the Law, and assisting priests. Chronicles details their extensive organization (1 Chr 23-26). The hereditary Levitical system ensured trained personnel for sacred service, with skills and knowledge passed from generation to generation. While the specific system ended, the principle continues - churches need organized, trained servants to assist pastoral leadership.

## Related Passages

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**Romans 10:9** — Confession and belief for salvation

**John 3:16** — God's love and salvation

**James 2:17** — Faith and works

**Romans 1:17** — The righteous shall live by faith

## Study Questions

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1. How are you assisting those in spiritual leadership rather than either usurping their role or neglecting to serve?
2. Do you understand the distinction between Christ's unique saving work and your service under His authority?

## Interlinear Text

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אֶת־אֶת־מֵת־הַלְויִם־וְאֲמִדָּת־אֶת־לְפָנֵי־אַבְרָהָם  
Bring the tribe of Levi and present them before Aaron

H7126 H853 H4294 H3878 H5975 H6440 H175

הַכֹּה־וְיִשְׁרְתָּה־וְאַתֶּם  
the priest that they may minister H853

H3548 H8334

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