

# Numbers 33:39

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And Aaron was an hundred and twenty and three years old when he died in mount Hor.

## Analysis

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**Aaron was an hundred and twenty and three years old when he died in mount Hor**—The specific age (123) emphasizes the completion of Aaron's life and ministry. He had lived long enough to see God's faithfulness through the Exodus, Sinai covenant, tabernacle construction, and wilderness trials, yet not long enough to enter rest.

The number resonates with symbolism: Aaron was three years older than Moses (Exodus 7:7), who died at 120 (Deuteronomy 34:7). Both men lived extraordinary lifespans, yet both fell short of Canaan. This teaches that even the most privileged service to God doesn't exempt us from mortality or consequences. Yet Hebrews 9:11-12 shows Christ's high priesthood surpasses Aaron's—Jesus entered not an earthly promised land but heaven itself.

## Historical Context

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Aaron's tenure as high priest (approximately 40 years) established the Levitical priesthood that would serve Israel for 1,500 years until Christ. His sons and descendants maintained the sacrificial system, making Aaron's legacy one of the most enduring in biblical history.

## Related Passages

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**James 2:17** — Faith and works

## Study Questions

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1. What does Aaron's long life but ultimate exclusion from Canaan teach about the relationship between faithful service and personal holiness?
2. How does Aaron's incomplete journey point forward to Christ, the high priest who did enter God's rest on our behalf?

## Interlinear Text

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וְאֶהְרֹן | בֶּן | שָׁלֹשׁ | וְעֶשְׂרִים | וּמֵאָתַת | שָׁנָה | בָּמָתָו  
**And Aaron** **old** **and three** **and twenty** **was an hundred** **years** **when he died**  
H175 H1121 H7969 H6242 H3967 H8141 H4194

בְּהַר | הָהוֹרִים  
**Hor** **in mount**  
H2023 H2022