

# Numbers 4:18

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Cut ye not off the tribe of the families of the Kohathites from among the Levites:

## Analysis

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The command 'cut ye not off the tribe of the families of the Kohathites' makes Aaron and his sons responsible for the Kohathites' safety. The priests must cover the holy things properly to protect those who would transport them. This establishes the principle that spiritual leaders bear responsibility for those under their care. The Hebrew imperative mood emphasizes urgent obligation. This models pastoral care—elders must protect the flock from spiritual danger through sound teaching and wise oversight (Acts 20:28-31).

## Historical Context

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Aaron and his sons bore direct responsibility because they alone could enter the holy place to cover the sacred objects. Any failure in properly covering them would result in Kohathite deaths when they attempted transport. This placed the burden of precision on the priesthood, not on the transporters.

## Related Passages

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

**Hebrews 11:1** — Definition of faith

**Psalms 19:1** — Heavens declare God's glory

**Genesis 1:1** — Creation of heavens and earth

## Study Questions

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1. How do spiritual leaders bear responsibility for protecting those they lead?
2. What happens when leaders fail to provide proper spiritual covering and guidance?
3. How can we pray for and support those charged with our spiritual oversight?

## Interlinear Text

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אַל	תִּכְרֹתוּ	אֶת	שֵׁבֶט	מִשְׁפַּחַת	הַקֹּהֲנִים	מִתּוֹךְ
H408	<b>Cut ye not off</b>	H853	<b>the tribe</b>	<b>of the families</b>	<b>of the Kohathites</b>	<b>from among</b>
	H3772		H7626	H4940	H6956	H8432

הַלֵּוִיִּם:  
**the Levites**  
H3881