

Numbers 4:27

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

At the appointment of Aaron and his sons shall be all the service of the sons of the Gershonites, in all their burdens, and in all their service: and ye shall appoint unto them in charge all their burdens.

Analysis

The phrase 'at the appointment of Aaron and his sons' establishes the principle of ordained authority in worship. The Gershonites, though Levites, served under priestly direction. They could not decide for themselves what to carry or when; authority came from above. This hierarchy in worship leadership reflects the Reformed understanding of church government—God establishes order and authority structures for the edification and protection of His people.

Historical Context

Aaron, as high priest, held ultimate responsibility for the tabernacle and its service. His sons, the priests, worked under his direction. The Levites served under the priests' supervision, creating three tiers of sacred service, each with distinct roles and responsibilities.

Related Passages

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

Study Questions

1. How does the principle of appointed leadership in worship guard against individualism and disorder?
2. What balance should exist between recognizing human authority in the church and Christ's ultimate headship?
3. In what ways does submission to godly authority demonstrate trust in God's ordering of His church?

Interlinear Text

עַל	פִּ	אָבָר	בָּנִי	כָּל	תִּתְּהִ	ה
H5921	At the appointment	of Aaron	and his sons	H1961	H3605	
	H6310	H175	H1121			
עַבְדָּת	מִ	בָּנִי	לְ	לְ	מִשְׁאָם:	
and in all their service	and his sons	of the Gershonites	H3605	all their burdens		
H5656	H1121	H1649		H4853		
עַבְדָּת	מִ	וּפְקִדָּת	מִ	עַלְהָם	בְּמִשְׁמָת	רְתָת
and in all their service	and ye shall appoint	H6485	H5921	H4931	unto them in charge	
H3605						
מִשְׁאָם:						
H853	H3605	all their burdens				
		H4853				

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