

Korah's Rebellion (Numbers 16)

Introduction: *Review of the "priesthood of believers" run amok*

In Exodus 19 the Lord first said that his people Israel were a kingdom of priests, and when Peter speaks about all Christians being priests, he is quoting Exodus 19:6.

1. Korah's Rebellion (v. 1-40)

"Every heretic has his verse."

Authority structures are vital to the welfare of God's people and the world. But no one who craves prestige, like Korah did, should seek leadership in the household of God.

NT Application: *Korah's Rebellion (Jude 11)*

"Woe to them! For they have gone in the way of Cain, have run greedily in the error of Balaam for profit, and perished in the rebellion of Korah." (Jud 1:11).

2. Aaron's Atonement (v. 41-50)

"And he put on the incense and made atonement for the people. He stood between the dead and the living, and the plague was stopped."

NT Application: *Christ standing between the dead and the living*

"No man takes this honor to himself, but he who is called by God" (Heb 5:4)

"Jesus transcends Aaron; Aaron might have feared death at the hands of the people, Jesus Christ did actually meet it, and yet there he stood even in the hour of death, waving his censer, staying the plague, and dividing the living from the dead. ...

"My dear hearers, do you perceive this great truth, that there is nothing which can save the soul of man, save Jesus Christ standing between that soul and the just judgment of God? And oh, I put again the personal enquiry to you, are you sheltered behind Christ?" (C. H. Spurgeon).