

Lesson # 8 – Rebellion Against Moses

Moses and Aaron had been chosen by God to lead the Israelite people. As we have studied before, these people were prone to murmur and complain. At one time, while they were wondering in the wilderness, three men decided to rebel against Moses and Aaron. These men were Korah, a Levite, and Dathan, and Abiran who were from the tribe of Rueben. They decided that they were just as able to lead the people as Moses and Aaron were. These men talked to other men and got them to also rebel and finally there were about 250 men who went to talk to Moses and Aaron.

These men told Moses that they were not pleased with his leadership, and they wanted to be appointed as the leaders instead. Moses was not happy about this. He went to God for help, and God was not happy either. He gave Moses instructions about how to handle the situation. He told Moses to tell the men to meet the next day and God would let it be known what His desire was for leadership. They were to bring their censors and to put fire and incense in them for their meeting the next day. Moses warned them that they had taken too much upon themselves.

The next morning, the 250 men came with their censors and stood at the door of the tabernacle. The Lord spoke to Moses and Aaron to separate themselves from the rest of the congregation so that they would not be hurt. The rest of the congregation departed from around the evil men. Korah, Dathan, and Abiran stood around their tents with their wives and children.

Moses said, “If these men die naturally, then the Lord has not sent me to be the leader, but if the earth opens up and swallows them and their belongings, you will know the Lord has rejected them.”

As Moses finished speaking, the ground split apart and swallowed them. All the men with Korah and their goods went down alive with their goods and it closed over them. Fire consumed the other 250 men!

God wanted His people to know that Moses and Aaron had been selected by Him as the leaders of the people. They were to obey and respect God’s leaders.

We are to obey our leaders today. We should respect our parents, our teachers, and the elders of the church. God has chosen them to lead us.

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QUESTIONS

- T F 1. Korah, Dothan, and Abiram wanted to be leaders.
- T F 2. They got 100 others to rebel against Moses.
- T F 3. God was not pleased with this.
- T F 4. Moses said God would choose HIS leader.
- T F 5. Korah was very nice to Moses.
- T F 6. Moses told the men to meet the next day.
- T F 7. The men were to bring censors with them.
- T F 8. No one showed up the next morning.
- T F 9. Everyone was to get away from the tents of Korah, Dothan and Abiram.
- T F 10: God did not show HIS choice as leader.
- T F 11. The earth swallowed up the three men and their possessions.
- T F 12. It is okay to disrespect God's leaders.