

## **Korah's Rebellion**

Numbers 16 – 17

by Don Falkos

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A Levite named Korah conspired with two other men to lead a rebellion against Moses and Aaron. They had 250 followers. They said, "The Lord has set all of us apart. You're no better than the rest of us. You have gone too far."

Moses responded, "It's no small thing that God has chosen you Levites to serve in the Tabernacle and to minister to the people. Are you now demanding the priesthood as well? You are not rebelling against me or Aaron; you are rebelling against the Lord. It's you who have gone too far. Tomorrow morning you and all your followers are to burn incense before the Lord. Aaron will also be there. The Lord will choose from among you."

In the morning, when all these men had gathered to burn incense, the ground suddenly split open swallowing Korah and his two co-conspirators along with their wives and children and everything they owned. The earth closed over them, and they were gone. Then fire blazed out from the Lord burning up the 250 men who had followed Korah into rebellion.

The people of Israel continued to complain against Moses and Aaron. So the Lord said to Moses, "Collect a staff from the leader of each of the twelve tribes of Israel. Inscribe each leader's name on his staff. Inscribe Aaron's name on the staff of the tribe of Levi. Place these staffs in the Tabernacle. Buds will sprout on the staff belonging to the man whose family I choose for the priesthood."

Moses did as the Lord commanded. The next day he found that Aaron's staff had sprouted, budded, blossomed, and produced ripe almonds. From that day on Aaron's staff was kept in the Tabernacle and the complaints of the people were silenced.