

Parshat Korach: For the Sake of Heaven?

<p>Numbers 16: 1-11</p> <p>Now Korah, son of Izhar son of Kohath son of Levi, betook himself, along with Dathan and Abiram sons of Eliab, and On son of Peleth—descendants of Reuben—</p> <p>to rise up against Moses, together with two hundred and fifty Israelites, chieftains of the community, chosen in the assembly, men of repute.</p> <p>They combined against Moses and Aaron and said to them, “You have gone too far! For all the community are holy, all of them, and the LORD is in their midst. Why then do you raise yourselves above the LORD’s congregation?”</p> <p>When Moses heard this, he fell on his face.</p> <p>Then he spoke to Korah and all his company, saying, “Come morning, the LORD will make known who is His and who is holy, and will grant him access to Himself; He will grant access to the one He has chosen.</p> <p>Do this: You, Korah and all your band, take fire pans,</p> <p>and tomorrow put fire in them and lay incense on them before the LORD. Then the man whom the LORD chooses, he shall be the holy one. You have gone too far, sons of Levi!”</p> <p>Moses said further to Korah, “Hear me, sons of Levi.</p> <p>Is it not enough for you that the God of Israel has set you apart from the community of Israel and given you access to Him, to perform the duties of the LORD’s Tabernacle</p>	<p>במדבר טז: א-יא א</p> <p>וַיִּקַּח קֹרַח בֶּן־יִצְחָר בֶּן־קֹהַת בֶּן־לֵוִי וְדָתָן וְאַבִּירָם בְּנֵי אֶלְיָאָב וְאוֹן בֶּן־פִּלֵּת בְּנֵי רְאוּבֵן:</p> <p>וַיִּקְמוּ לִפְנֵי מֹשֶׁה וְאַנְשֵׁים מִבְּנֵי־יִשְׂרָאֵל חֲמִשִּׁים וּמְאַתָּים נְשִׂאֵי עֵדָה קְרָאִי מוֹעֵד אֲנָשֵׁי־שָׁם:</p> <p>וַיִּקְהָלוּ עַל־מֹשֶׁה וְעַל־אַהֲרֹן וַיֹּאמְרוּ אֲלֵהֶם רַב־לָכֶם כִּי כָל־הָעֵדָה כֹּהֲנִים קְדוֹשִׁים וּבְתוֹכְכֶם יְהוָה וּמִדּוּעַ תִּתְנַשְּׂאוּ עַל־קְהַל יְהוָה:</p> <p>וַיִּשְׁמַע מֹשֶׁה וַיִּפֹּל עַל־פָּנָיו:</p> <p>וַיִּדְבֹר אֶל־קֹרַח וְאֶל־כָּל־עֵדוּתוֹ לֵאמֹר בִּקֹּר וַיִּדַע יְהוָה אֶת־אֲשֶׁר־לוֹ וְאֶת־הַקְּדוֹשׁ וְהַקְּרִיב אֵלָיו וְאֶת אֲשֶׁר יִבְחַר־בּוֹ יִקְרִיב אֵלָיו:</p> <p>וְזֹאת עֲשׂוּ קַחוּ־לָכֶם מִחֹתוֹת קֹרַח וְכָל־עֵדוּתוֹ: וַתִּנּוּ בָהֶן וְאִשׁ וְשִׂמּוֹן עָלֵיהֶן וְקִטְרֹת לִפְנֵי יְהוָה מִחֹר וְהִזָּה הָאִישׁ אֲשֶׁר־יִבְחַר יְהוָה הוּא הַקְּדוֹשׁ רַב־לָכֶם בְּנֵי לֵוִי:</p> <p>וַיֹּאמֶר מֹשֶׁה אֶל־קֹרַח שְׁמַעוּנָא בְנֵי לֵוִי: הַמַּעֲט מִכֶּם כִּי־הִבְדִּיל אֱלֹהֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל אֶתְכֶם מֵעֵדַת יִשְׂרָאֵל לְהַקְרִיב אֶתְכֶם אֵלָיו לַעֲבֹד אֶת־עַבְדוֹת מִשְׁכַּן יְהוָה וְלַעֲמֹד לִפְנֵי הָעֵדָה לְשָׁרְתָם:</p> <p>וַיִּקְרַב אֹתָהּ וְאֶת־כָּל־אֲתֵיבָהּ בְּנֵי־לֵוִי אֹתָהּ וּבִקְשׁוּתָם גַּם־כִּהְיָה:</p>
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and to minister to the community and serve them?

Now that He has advanced you and all your fellow Levites with you, do you seek the priesthood too?

Truly, it is against the LORD that you and all your company have banded together. For who is Aaron that you should rail against him?"

לָכֵן אַתֶּם וְכָל־עַמְתְּכֶם הַנְּעַדִּים עַל־יְהוָה וְאַהֲרֹן מִהִי הוּא כִּי
(תלוננו) [תלנינו] עָלָיו:

1. Pirkei Avot 5:17
2. [Eruvin 13b:10-11](#)
3. Jerusalem Talmud Sanhedrin 4:22
4. [Mishnah Yevamot 1:4](#)