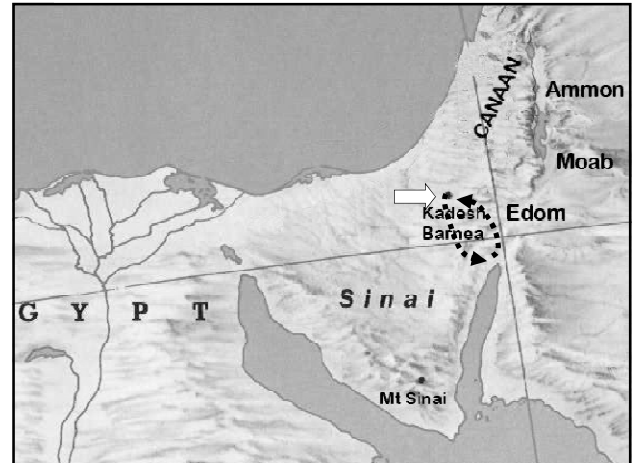


Gleanings from the Pentateuch

The Rebellion of Korah and Co. Numbers 16:1-35



Korah's Rebellion

Numbers 16:1-2

1. The Conspirators

- Korah – a Kohathite Levite (cousin of Moses)
- Dathan, Abriam, and On – Reubenites
- 250 prominent leaders – several Levites and men from other tribes

Korah's Rebellion

Numbers 16:3-14

2. The Charge

- *The unnecessary (oppressive) positions of Moses and Aaron, especially of the priesthood*
 - "all the congregation are holy" – they can all function as priests before God
 - "the Lord is in their midst" – they are all equal in authority and relationship to God

Korah's Rebellion

Numbers 16:15-30

3. The Tests

- Korah & Co. – offer incense before the Lord like a priest to see whom the Lord chooses
- Dathan & Abiram – the manner in which they die (natural or unnatural)

Korah's Rebellion

Numbers 16:31-35

4. The Judgment

- Dathan, Abiram, Korah and all that belonged to them were swallowed alive by the ground
- The 250 leaders who offered incense died by fire from the Lord before the Tent of Meeting

Korah's Rebellion

Application (Primary)

➤ Approaching God who is holy must be on His terms through His provision or it will result in His judgment

Fulfillment = Jesus Christ

Korah's Rebellion

Application (Secondary)

1. *Discontinuity*: As new covenant believers, we are all "priests" (1 Peter 2:5)

- through Christ we are qualified to draw near to God and offer up acceptable worship
- every aspect of our lives is to be a spiritual service of worship

Korah's Rebellion

Application (Secondary)

2. *Continuity*: God appoints spiritual leaders in the church

- Beware of resenting or envying those in positions of biblical leadership
- Beware of self-ambition – be faithful in the gifts and responsibilities God has given you

Korah's Rebellion

Hebrews 13:17

"Obey your leaders, and submit to them; for they keep watch over your souls, as those who will give an account. Let them do this with joy and not with grief, for this would be unprofitable for you."