

# Korach, Torah

## Numbers 16:20-17:24

(20) and the LORD spoke to Moses and Aaron, saying, (21) “Stand back from this community that I may annihilate them in an instant!” (22) But they fell on their faces and said, “O God, Source of the breath of all flesh! When one man sins, will You be wrathful with the whole community?” (23) The LORD spoke to Moses, saying, (24) “Speak to the community and say: Withdraw from about the abodes of Korah, Dathan, and Abiram.” (25) Moses rose and went to Dathan and Abiram, the elders of Israel following him. (26) He addressed the community, saying, “Move away from the tents of these wicked men and touch nothing that belongs to them, lest you be wiped out for all their sins.” (27) So they withdrew from about the abodes of Korah, Dathan, and Abiram. Now Dathan and Abiram had come out and they stood at the entrance of their tents, with their wives, their children, and their little ones. (28) And Moses said, “By this you shall know that it was the LORD who sent me to do all these things; that they are not of my own devising: (29) if these men die as all men do, if their lot be the common fate of all mankind, it was not the LORD who sent me. (30) But if the LORD brings about something unheard-of, so that the ground opens its mouth and swallows them up with all that belongs to them, and they go down alive into Sheol, you shall know that these men have spurned the LORD.” (31) Scarcely had he finished speaking all these words when the ground under them burst asunder, (32) and the earth opened its mouth and swallowed them up with their households, all Korah’s people and all their possessions. (33) They went down

## במדבר ט"ז:כ'-י"ז:כ"ד

(כ) וַיְדַבֵּר יְהוָה אֶל־מֹשֶׁה וְאֶל־אַהֲרֹן לֵאמֹר: (כא) הִבַּדְלוּ מִתּוֹךְ הָעֵדָה הַזֹּאת וְאָכְלָה אֹתָם כָּרְגֵעַ: (כב) וַיִּפְּלוּ עַל־פְּנֵיהֶם וַיֹּאמְרוּ אֵל אֱלֹהֵי הַרְוַחַת לְכָל־בֶּשָׂר הָאִישׁ אַחַד יַחֲטֵא וְעַל כָּל־הָעֵדָה תִּקְצָף: {ס} (כג) וַיְדַבֵּר יְהוָה אֶל־מֹשֶׁה לֵאמֹר: (כד) דַּבֵּר אֶל־הָעֵדָה לֵאמֹר הָעֵלוּ מִסְבֵּיב לְמִשְׁכַּן־קָרַח דָּתָן וְאַבִּירָם: (כה) וַיָּקָם מֹשֶׁה וַיֵּלֶךְ אֶל־דָּתָן וְאַבִּירָם וַיִּלְכוּ אַחֲרָיו זִקְנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל: (כו) וַיְדַבֵּר אֶל־הָעֵדָה לֵאמֹר סוּרוּ זֶא מֵעַל אֲהֵלֵי הָאֲנָשִׁים הַרְשָׁעִים הָאֵלֶּה וְאַל־תִּגְעוּ בְּכָל־אֲשֶׁר לָהֶם פֶּן־תִּסָּפוּ בְּכָל־חַטֹּאתֵיכֶם: (כז) וַיַּעֲלוּ מֵעַל מִשְׁכַּן־קָרַח דָּתָן וְאַבִּירָם מִסְבֵּיב וְדָתָן וְאַבִּירָם יָצְאוּ נֹצְצִים פָּתַח אֲהֵלֵיהֶם וַנִּשְׂיָהֶם וּבִנֵיהֶם וְטַפָּם: (כח) וַיֹּאמֶר מֹשֶׁה בְּזֹאת תִּדְעוּן כִּי־יְהוָה שָׁלַח־נִי לַעֲשׂוֹת אֵת כָּל־הַמַּעֲשִׂים הָאֵלֶּה כִּי־לֹא מִלִּבִּי: (כט) אִם־כַּמּוֹת כָּל־הָאָדָם יִמָּתוּן אֵלֶּה וּפְקֻדַת כָּל־הָאָדָם יִפְקֹד עֲלֵיהֶם לֹא יִהְיֶה שָׁלַח־נִי: (ל) וְאִם־בְּרִיאָה יִבְרָא יְהוָה וּפְצָתָה הָאָדָמָה אֶת־פִּיהָ וּבָלְעָה אֹתָם וְאֶת־כָּל־אֲשֶׁר לָהֶם וַיִּרְדּוּ חַיִּים שְׂאֵלָה וַיִּדְעֻתֶם כִּי נֹאצּוּ הָאֲנָשִׁים הָאֵלֶּה אֶת־יְהוָה: (לא) וַיְהִי כִכְלָתוֹ לְדַבֵּר אֵת כָּל־הַדְּבָרִים הָאֵלֶּה וַתִּבְקַע הָאָדָמָה אֲשֶׁר תַּחְתֵּיהֶם: (לב) וַתִּפְתַּח הָאָרֶץ אֶת־פִּיהָ וַתִּבְלַע אֹתָם וְאֶת־בְּתֵיהֶם וְאֵת כָּל־הָאָדָם אֲשֶׁר לָקָרַח וְאֵת כָּל־הָרְכוּשׁ: (לג) וַיִּרְדּוּ הֵם וְכָל־אֲשֶׁר לָהֶם חַיִּים שְׂאֵלָה וַתִּכַּס עֲלֵיהֶם הָאָרֶץ וַיֵּאבְדוּ מִתּוֹךְ הַקֶּהֶל: (לד)

alive into Sheol, with all that belonged to them; the earth closed over them and they vanished from the midst of the congregation. (34) All Israel around them fled at their shrieks, for they said, “The earth might swallow us!” (35) And a fire went forth from the LORD and consumed the two hundred and fifty men offering the incense. (1) The LORD spoke to Moses, saying: (2) Order Eleazar son of Aaron the priest to remove the fire pans—for they have become sacred—from among the charred remains; and scatter the coals abroad. (3) [Remove] the fire pans of those who have sinned at the cost of their lives, and let them be made into hammered sheets as plating for the altar—for once they have been used for offering to the LORD, they have become sacred—and let them serve as a warning to the people of Israel. (4) Eleazar the priest took the copper fire pans which had been used for offering by those who died in the fire; and they were hammered into plating for the altar, (5) as the LORD had ordered him through Moses. It was to be a reminder to the Israelites, so that no outsider—one not of Aaron’s offspring—should presume to offer incense before the LORD and suffer the fate of Korah and his band. (6) Next day the whole Israelite community railed against Moses and Aaron, saying, “You two have brought death upon the LORD’s people!” (7) But as the community gathered against them, Moses and Aaron turned toward the Tent of Meeting; the cloud had covered it and the Presence of the LORD appeared. (8) When Moses and Aaron reached the Tent of Meeting, (9) the LORD spoke to Moses, saying, (10) “Remove yourselves from this community, that I may annihilate them in an instant.” They fell on their faces. (11) Then Moses said to Aaron, “Take the fire pan, and put on it fire from the altar. Add incense and take it quickly to the community and make expiation for them. For wrath has gone forth from the LORD: the plague has begun!” (12) Aaron took it, as Moses had ordered, and ran to the midst of

וּכְלִי־יִשְׂרָאֵל אֲשֶׁר סָבִיבֵתֵיהֶם נָסוּ לְקִלְמָם  
כִּי אָמְרוּ פְּנֹת־תְּבַלְעֵנּוּ הָאָרֶץ: (לה) וְאִישׁ  
יִצָּאָה מֵאֵת יְהוָה וַתֹּאכַל אֶת הַחֲמִשִּׁים  
וּמֵאֲתַיִם אִישׁ מִקְרִיבֵי  
הַקְטֹרֶת: {ס} (א) וַיְדַבֵּר יְהוָה  
אֶל־מֹשֶׁה לֵאמֹר: (ב) אָמַר אֶל־אֶלְעָזָר  
בְּנֵ־אֹהֲרֹן הַכֹּהֵן וַיִּרֶם אֶת־הַמִּחָתָת מִבֵּין  
הַשָּׂרִפָּה וְאֶת־הָאֵשׁ זָרָה הִלָּאָה כִּי קִדְּשׁוּ:  
(ג) אֵת מִחָתוֹת הַחֲטָאִים הָאֵלֶּה בַּנְּפֹשׁוֹתָם  
וְעִשׂוּ אֹתָם רִקְעֵי פָחִים צְפוּי לַמִּזְבֵּחַ  
כִּי־הֵקְרִיבֶם לִפְנֵי־יְהוָה וַיִּקְדְּשׁוּ וַיְהִיו לְאוֹת  
לְבָנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל: (ד) וַיִּקַּח אֶלְעָזָר הַכֹּהֵן אֶת  
מִחָתוֹת הַנְּחֹשֶׁת אֲשֶׁר הִקְרִיבוּ הַשָּׂרִפִּים  
וַיִּרְקְעוּם צְפוּי לַמִּזְבֵּחַ: (ה) זָכָרוֹן לְבָנֵי  
יִשְׂרָאֵל לְמַעַן אֲשֶׁר לֹא־יִקְרַב אִישׁ זָר  
אֲשֶׁר לֹא מִזֶּרַע אֹהֲרֹן הוּא לְהִקְטִיר קְטֹרֶת  
לִפְנֵי יְהוָה וְלֹא־יִהְיֶה כְּקֹרַח וּכְעֵדָתוֹ כַּאֲשֶׁר  
דִּבֶּר יְהוָה בְּיַד־מֹשֶׁה לוֹ: {פ}  
(ו) וַיִּלְנוּ כָּל־עֵדֶת בְּנֵי־יִשְׂרָאֵל מִמִּחָתָת  
עַל־מֹשֶׁה וְעַל־אֹהֲרֹן לֵאמֹר אַתֶּם הַמֵּתִים  
אֶת־עַם יְהוָה: (ז) וַיְהִי בַּהֲקֵהֶל הָעֵדָה  
עַל־מֹשֶׁה וְעַל־אֹהֲרֹן וַיָּפְנוּ אֶל־אֹהֶל מוֹעֵד  
וְהִנֵּה כֶּסֶהוּ הָעֲנָן וַיֵּרָא כְבוֹד יְהוָה: (ח)  
וַיָּבֹא מֹשֶׁה וְאֹהֲרֹן אֶל־פְּנֵי אֹהֶל  
מוֹעֵד: {ס} (ט) וַיְדַבֵּר יְהוָה  
אֶל־מֹשֶׁה לֵאמֹר: (י) הֲרִמוּ מִתּוֹךְ הָעֵדָה  
הַזֹּאת וְאָכְלָה אֹתָם כְּרָגַע וַיִּפְּלוּ  
עַל־פְּנֵיהֶם: (יא) וַיֹּאמֶר מֹשֶׁה אֶל־אֹהֲרֹן קַח  
אֶת־הַמִּחָתָה וְתֹנֶעְלֶיהָ אֵשׁ מֵעַל הַמִּזְבֵּחַ  
וְשִׂים קְטֹרֶת וְהוֹלֵךְ מִהֲרָה אֶל־הָעֵדָה וְכִפֵּר  
עֲלֵיהֶם כִּי־יִצָּא הַקֶּצֶף מִלִּפְנֵי יְהוָה הַחֵל  
הַנֶּגֶף: (יב) וַיִּקַּח אֹהֲרֹן כַּאֲשֶׁר דִּבֶּר מֹשֶׁה  
וַיֵּרֵץ אֶל־תּוֹךְ הַקֶּהֶל וְהִנֵּה הַחֵל הַנֶּגֶף  
בָּעָם וַיִּתֵּן אֶת־הַקְטֹרֶת וַיִּכְפֹּר עַל־הָעָם: (יג)  
וַיַּעֲמֵד בֵּין־הַמֵּתִים וּבֵין הַחַיִּים וַתַּעֲצֹר  
הַמַּגֵּפָה: (יד) וַיְהִיו הַמֵּתִים בַּמַּגֵּפָה אַרְבַּעַה  
עָשָׂר אֶלֶף וּשְׁבַע מֵאוֹת מִלִּבְד הַמֵּתִים  
עַל־דְּבַר־קֹרַח: (טו) וַיֵּשֶׁב אֹהֲרֹן אֶל־מֹשֶׁה

the congregation, where the plague had begun among the people. He put on the incense and made expiation for the people; (13) he stood between the dead and the living until the plague was checked. (14) Those who died of the plague came to fourteen thousand and seven hundred, aside from those who died on account of Korah. (15) Aaron then returned to Moses at the entrance of the Tent of Meeting, since the plague was checked. (16) The LORD spoke to Moses, saying: (17) Speak to the Israelite people and take from them—from the chieftains of their ancestral houses—one staff for each chieftain of an ancestral house: twelve staffs in all. Inscribe each man's name on his staff, (18) there being one staff for each head of an ancestral house; also inscribe Aaron's name on the staff of Levi. (19) Deposit them in the Tent of Meeting before the Pact, where I meet with you. (20) The staff of the man whom I choose shall sprout, and I will rid Myself of the incessant mutterings of the Israelites against you. (21) Moses spoke thus to the Israelites. Their chieftains gave him a staff for each chieftain of an ancestral house, twelve staffs in all; among these staffs was that of Aaron. (22) Moses deposited the staffs before the LORD, in the Tent of the Pact. (23) The next day Moses entered the Tent of the Pact, and there the staff of Aaron of the house of Levi had sprouted: it had brought forth sprouts, produced blossoms, and borne almonds. (24) Moses then brought out all the staffs from before the LORD to all the Israelites; each identified and recovered his staff.

אֶל־פֶּתַח אֹהֶל מוֹעֵד וְהַמִּגַּפָּה נִעְצְרָה: {פ}  
 (טז) וַיְדַבֵּר יְהוָה אֶל־מֹשֶׁה לֵאמֹר: (יז)  
 דַּבֵּר אֶל־בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל וְקַח מֵאֵתֶם מִטֵּה  
 מִטֵּה לְבַיִת אָב מֵאֵת כָּל־נְשֵׂי־אֵהֶם לְבַיִת  
 אֲבֹתָם שְׁנַיִם עָשָׂר מִטּוֹת אִישׁ אֶת־שְׁמוֹ  
 תִּכְתֹּב עַל־מִטֵּהוּ: (יח) וְאֵת שֵׁם אֶהֱרֹן  
 תִּכְתֹּב עַל־מִטֵּה לְוִי כִּי מִטֵּה אֶחָד לְרֹאשׁ  
 בֵּית אֲבוֹתָם: (יט) וְהִנַּחְתֶּם בְּאֹהֶל מוֹעֵד  
 לְפָנַי הָעֵדוּת אֲשֶׁר אוֹעֵד לָכֶם שָׁמָּה: (כ)  
 וְהָיָה הָאִישׁ אֲשֶׁר אֲבַחֲרֶבּוּ מִטֵּהוּ יִפְרַח  
 וְהִשְׁפֵּתִי מֵעַלֵי אֶת־תְּלֻנּוֹת בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל  
 אֲשֶׁר הֵם מְלִינִם עֲלֵיכֶם: (כא) וַיְדַבֵּר מֹשֶׁה  
 אֶל־בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל וַיִּתְּנוּ אֵלָיו כָּל־נְשֵׂי־אֵיהֶם  
 מִטֵּה לְנִשְׂיָא אֶחָד מִטֵּה לְנִשְׂיָא אֶחָד  
 לְבַיִת אֲבֹתָם שְׁנַיִם עָשָׂר מִטּוֹת וּמִטֵּה  
 אֶהֱרֹן בְּתוֹךְ מִטּוֹתָם: (כב) וַיִּנַּח מֹשֶׁה  
 אֶת־הַמִּטֵּת לְפָנַי יְהוָה בְּאֹהֶל הָעֵדוּת: (כג)  
 וַיְהִי מִמָּחֳרָת וַיֵּבֵא מֹשֶׁה אֶל־אֹהֶל הָעֵדוּת  
 וְהִנֵּה פָּרַח מִטֵּה־אֶהֱרֹן לְבַיִת לְוִי וַיֵּצֵא  
 פָּרַח וַיִּצֵּץ צִיץ וַיִּגְמַל שְׂקָדִים: (כד) וַיֵּצֵא  
 מֹשֶׁה אֶת־כָּל־הַמִּטֵּת מִלְּפָנַי יְהוָה  
 אֶל־כָּל־בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל וַיִּרְאוּ וַיִּקְחוּ אִישׁ  
 מִטֵּהוּ: {פ}

