

In the previous chapter Numbers 16 the position /role of both Moses and Aaron was challenged. In fact attempted to be usurped this even though God had appointed them. in Aarons case Ex28 .

Korah Dathan Abiram plus all who stood with them perished. This was done by them being swallowed up by the earth opening up and closing upon them immediately following Moses pronouncement that a new thing happen God at work accomplishing this. As a result Moses was ratified again.

Unfortunately Aaron was not.

To correct this matter God set forth a TEST OF PROOF..(MARK OR SIGN OF HIS AUTHORISATION).

Aaron's actions at the end of chapter16 he standing as a buffer to stop God's destroying angel was obviously not enough to remove doubt.

What was the cause of this doubt?

perhaps:- 1 Aaron's four sons were appointed priests with him but two were slain by God.

2 Aaron and Miriam had rebuked Moses and were punished by God Miriam was made a CLEAN LEPER white as snow Aaron acting as mediator here was verbal chastened.NUMBERS12

3Did the people transfer blame for calamities to Aaron not taking responsibility themselves.?

Ironically attributing to Aaron the position of mediator but not understanding exactly how this worked.

In chapter17 God required that each head of the tribes of Israel bring a rod and place them with Aaron's Rod in the Tabernacle of the Congregation before the Testimony WHERE SAID GOD I WILL MEET WITH YOU.

In this manner 13 rods from Aaron and the heads of the tribes were so brought and placed. When looking at these rods it might be asked what exactly were they? Were they different types of wood?

I suggest that they all were similar in type and appearance but made separate by the carved names of their owners.

God said he would mark out the difference. How? The Rod that blossomed.

How was this manifested? Not just by Blossoms but also by Buds and Almonds.

Each of these are normally produced at different times in the year each leading to the other. Therefore having them all appear Human intervention is not possible. This is a confirmation of the scripture stating in the mouth of two or three witnesses a matter is established!

Witness

3 signs produced by God.

At least 14 Human witnesses Moses Aaron and the 12 heads of the tribes

Clearly God's agency was manifested proof irrefutable.

The buds ,Blossoms and Almonds was illustrate the Fruits of the spirit.

Lessons to be Learnt

We all have ability (Aaron was a good speaker and strangely enough well thought of Ex 3 v10 to 18. He was a Levite one separated from the general lot but joined to God in service

We all have failings which can cause doubt both individually and with in others yet all the faithful except Jesus had/have Thorns in the Flesh yet we are called to a higher calling 1corinthians 1 and overcome Rev Chapters 2 and 3 walking in the footsteps of Jesus the Good Shepherd and proven mediator before God.