

Who is In Charge?

Numbers 16
Pastor Rodney Woo

I. Rebels rise up against God's appointed leaders (16:1-11)

A. Committee of Complainers target the spiritual leaders

1. Korah (16:8)
2. Dathan and Abiran (16:2)
3. 250 leaders (16:2)

B. Central complaint (16:3)

C. God's leaders respond with Humble faith in God alone (16:4-11)

1. Posture of Humility (16:4 earlier 14:5; later 20:6)
2. Points to Holiness of God (16:5)
3. Place of Honour Reminder (16:8-11)

II. Reuben rebels rise up against God's appointed leaders (16:12-35)

A. Rebels charge Moses with failed leadership (16:12-14)

B. God's leaders prepare the Rebel to meet God (16:15-30)

1. Initial Response (16:15)
2. Intercession (16:19-22)
3. Invitation to see God's choice (16:29-30)

C. God responds in Holy judgement (16:31-35)

III. Entire Congregation turns against God's appointed leaders (16:41-49)

- A. Murder charge against leaders (16:49)
- B. Manifestation of God's glory (16:42)
- C. Mediation by leaders (16:46-48)
- D. Messianic Mediator

Discussion Questions

1. Describe a time when you were criticised for a decision you made, or when you criticised someone else's decision in leadership.
2. Based on Numbers 16, what would be an appropriate biblical response in both situations?
3. Find a creative way to encourage and support one leader today.

Notes

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