

Bad Company
Numbers 16.1-2

Now Korah the son of Izhar, son of Kohath, son of Levi, and Dathan and Abiram the sons of Eliab, and On the son of Peleth, sons of Reuben, took men. 2 And they rose up before Moses, with a number of the people of Israel, 250 chiefs of the congregation, chosen from the assembly, well-known men.

One Point: Leaving the faith for the land of avarice.

One Question: How much is enough?

Why did Korah and company leave the assembly?

“You have gone too far.” Vs. 3

Who were they really fighting? Vs.11

Korah and company had the chance, why didn't they come back?

“You have gone too far sons of Levi.”

Moses let God be the judge. Vs. 16-17, 28-30.

New Testament application.

Why did they leave 2

Many Christians neglect the book of Numbers because it starts with the monotonous repetition of census. In the Hebrew Scriptures, they call it *In the wilderness*. It is stories about 40 years of wandering in the desert. Stories of sin, rebellion, wandering, and God's constant care for the children of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. Today we look at four Israelites who rebelled over who would lead this people without an address. You might remember the ringleader Korah from our series on Jude.

In this series, we are looking at people who departed the promised land of God for a land of destitution. Korah had a good place as a Levite: power, position, a guarantee of land and food donated by the other eleven tribes, but he wanted more power, he wanted all the power. He staged a coup against Arron and Moses. Bad company! 1 Cor 15.33

The desire for power has taken more than one soul to perdition. That is a fancy word in the faith that means, “*a state of eternal punishment and damnation into which a sinful and impenitent person passes after death.*”

Korah gathered three cohorts from the tribe of Rueben, and another 250 leading men to support them in the plot to supplant Moses. Korah was the ringleader. All sons of Abraham by birth, but not by spirit.

A lesson Paul teaches in Romans is that birth into Abraham's line is not birth into the kingdom. Many people are born into a Christian family, but they never accepted the core of the faith. Moses tells them they are not rebelling against his leadership but the LORD's. Num 16.11

This rebellion is not from a Christian heart, but a heart deceived a minion of the evil one. Led to desire power in a workplace, family, club, or the church. It is all based on greed; gathering power, because with power comes wealth and control. It flies in the face of the royal law and the second overriding commandment.

Disciples of Jesus are helpers, not subversives—neighbors, not overlords.

