



## Lesson 40: God's High Priest

### *Scriptural Basis:*



Numbers 16 and 17 **and 18!**

### *Overview:*

Several men grumble against Moses and Aaron, asserting that they are just as deserving of a leadership role as them. Moses lets God decide, and God is VERY clear in his answer – He causes the earth to open up and swallow the men leading the rebellion. Next, He causes Aaron's staff to sprout leaves as His way of showing that He selected Aaron from among the entire assembly to be His High Priest.

### *Things to consider:*

This rebellion is part of a bigger rebellion that started when the Israelites chose not to trust God, and to fear men when it came to going into the Promised Land. In this account, the men took it even further and chose not to fear God and to trust in their own ambitions. As we see in the story, this is a recipe for making huge mistakes.

### *The gospel in the story:*



Our hearts are deceitful and sick (Jer. 17:9), and only God can heal them. The Israelite's rebellion illustrates exactly what we are all prone to: fearing man instead of God and putting our hope in our own abilities rather than God. The good news is that despite our state of sin and fallenness, God chooses to provide a high priest as a means of reconciliation. In the early days, the high priest was Aaron and his lineage, but now, our High Priest is His Son Jesus who gives new hearts that desire after God to those who put their faith in Him.

### *Bible Study for Preparation:*



Read Numbers 16 and 17. Contemplate the stark contrast to the rebel's lack of fear and reverence for God, as compared to Moses and Aaron, who approached God by falling facedown in prayer.

## *Teaching the lesson:*

- A: Review – last week – facing the Giants
- B: Bible verse memory activity
- C. Story
- D. Additional activity