

CHAPTER 4

KORAH'S REBELLION

...."The Lord also spoke to Moses, saying, "Speak to the sons of Israel, and tell them that they shall make for themselves tassels on the corners of their garments throughout their generations, and that they shall put on the tassel of each corner a cord of blue. And it shall be a tassel for you to look at and remember all the commandments of the Lord, so as to do them and not follow after your own heart and your own eyes, after which you played the harlot, in order that you may remember to do all My commandments, and be holy to your God. I am the Lord your God who brought you out from the land of Egypt to be your God; I am the Lord your God." Now Korah the son of Izhar, the son of Kohath, the son of Levi, with Dathan and Abiram, the sons of Elilab. and on the son of Peleth, sons of Reuben, took action and they rose up before Moses, together with some of the sons of Israel, two hundred and fifty leaders of the congregation, chosen in the assembly, men of renown. And they assembled together against Moses and Aaron, and said to them, "You have gone far enough. for all the congregation are holy, every one of them, and the Lord is in their midst; so why do you exalt yourselves above the assembly of the Lord?"....

Numbers 15:37-16:3

A SEVERE ADMONITION TO ALL "LEADERSHIP" IN THE CHURCH

Let us look closely at the story of Korah and his rebellion against Moses (God). This is a very important story because it points to many spiritual principles which are, of course, eternal and which affect us a great deal at this time in the church, especially considering the fact that we are in the "last of the last hour". What has happened here initially in this portion of scripture, is that God has spoken to Moses His prophet, telling him to speak to the sons of Israel, and commanding them to make for themselves "tassels"; these tassels were to be a sign for them to, both look at and remember "all" the commandments of the Lord, so as to do them and not follow after their own heart and their own eyes - after which they had played the harlot. With these commandments of God came also a stern admonishment of their past harlotry and sin against Him. We must keep in mind the simple fact that God spoke to Moses what HE desired to say to His people, and that Moses, as His messenger, was only delivering the message which God had

given to him. Between Numbers 15:41 and Numbers 16:1 there is a space in time. Moses, in obeying the command of God, went to the people of Israel and told them exactly what God had said to him and so what is about to happen in Numbers 16:1 is a result or consequence of Moses' perfect obedience before God in delivering God's message to His people. The first thing we notice in the beginning of chapter 16 is the fact that Korah along with Dathan and Abiram "took action" and the Word states that they rose up before Moses together with some of the sons of Israel, two hundred and fifty leaders of the congregation, chosen in the assembly, men of renown.

THE "CALLED ONES OF GOD"

The cross reference given for the term "chosen in the assembly" is literally "called ones of God". So right away we establish the fact that these ones who had set themselves in rebellion against Moses were those who were "men of renown" and "called" of God. As they assembled together, they accused Moses and Aaron of exalting themselves above the congregation, stating that, as far as they were concerned, the congregation was already walking in holiness and asked the question under the influence of a "spirit of accusation":

...."so why do you exalt yourselves above the assembly of the Lord?"....

It becomes obvious through the actions of these leaders that their hearts had become hardened towards God and not only were they unaware of their "past harlotry" and they considered their own actions proper and in place before God and they accused Moses of being "inaccurate" and "improperly motivated". These accusations, of course, were not true, for in the time of close and intimate fellowship with God Moses was enabled to receive the message of the Lord and his only intent was to be obedient to the task given him by God. Korah and those with him were clearly disrespectful of Moses and Aaron and no doubt even coveted the position they had with God. Because Korah and his men had not given themselves wholly to serve God and obey Him, they failed to see the authority of the Lord in the words which Moses brought to the people. It is most important to note that in their attack against Moses no mention was ever made of Moses relationship with God, which we know was a close one. Even today, as we go forth to judge the apostles and prophets of God, that is, the words of God which are spoken through them, we must surely take into consideration that one's

consecration before the Lord, for it is only to the degree that one "fellowships" with God that they can be used of God.

ALL STRIFE IN THE MIDST OF GOD'S PEOPLE HAS AS ITS ROOT - "SELF-INTEREST"

When the people of God, even "men of renown", have not subjected themselves wholly to the Word of God (authority of God) then they can in no way discern that which has its origin in the Spirit of God and that which has its origin in the flesh. Anyone who gives preeminence to their own darkened understanding instead of the Word of God will only subject themselves to those things or people whom they can use to further their own selfish interests and this is precisely why every ounce of strife found in the church has its root in self-interest, whereas every ounce of harmony and one accord has its root in the common purpose of seeking first the establishment of God's Kingdom at all cost to oneself. In attacking Moses, without any consideration of his close relationship with God, the leaders showed that they had their own priorities wrong, for as is portrayed clearly in the ministry of Moses and the call upon his life, God requires all those who are called to the ministry to keep fellowship with Him as their "top priority". It is not to minister to people and it is not to minister unto the Church. It is to minister unto the Father, first and foremost, in order that they might be empowered to carry out all the will of God to perfection! If anyone "presumptuously" steps outside of God's requirement to minister unto Him first then they shall lack the power to effectively set the captives free.

“ANY ACTION” TAKEN APART FROM A REVELATION OF GOD'S WORD AND THE UNCTION OF THE HOLY SPIRIT IS MOTIVATED BY THE DESIRE FOR SELF- GLORY

We must clearly understand that "any action" taken apart from a "revelation" of the Word of God and the unction of the Holy Spirit is motivated by the desire for self-glory and the "approval" of men, rather than for the glory of God. Because many of those who are called as delegated authorities have put aside, for the most part, their time of ministering unto the Lord, they have "departed" from the only provision that will empower them to successfully carry out the will of God for their lives. For without the love of God having been shed abroad in their heart daily, a process which enlarges their capacity for God's power and wisdom, their

efforts shall be found to be in vain and the Enemy shall be enabled to continue his onslaught upon their congregations. It is only as all the servants of God seek to have a pure heart before the Lord, that is, one wholly given to Him to carry out His "purposes", that the power of God's anointing shall return to the midst of the congregations and thus break the yoke of bondage which has been "held onto" unnecessarily for many years. It is through the distinct lack of fellowship with God that enables Satan to promote self-interest in the hearts of God's servants and, unless the actions of self-interest are repented of somewhere down the line they will be used by the evil one to persecute the true bondservants and handmaidens of the Lord and they, just as Korah did, shall "take action". We must become a people who live and move and have our being in Christ, a people who are moved solely by the revealed knowledge of God's Word, but as it is written that the entrance of His Word brings light, we must open our hearts to allow that glorious entrance, or any darkness which has been held to shall remain, thus distorting and perverting our service to our most Holy God. It is an extremely critical time in the history of the Church Age as the Father begins to establish "true" working models of the five-fold ministry in the Local Churches.

THE "SPIRIT OF KORAH"

Let us meditate on the words of the Father concerning the "spirit of Korah" (self-exaltation, self-desire and rebelliousness):

...."Tell My people to "remember" Korah's rebellion!"....

...."Tell My people that this is a most dangerous time to be found "maligning" those whom I have sent as gifts to My Church in this last hour. For truly I say to you, My wrath shall know no bounds to those rebellious ones who have forsaken "intimate" fellowship with Me in order to "secure" the praises of men. There are those of My children who still consider their most important relationships those which have been established with "flesh and blood" and thus their relationship with Me which was once so glorious now lies in darkness. As My apostles and prophets move swiftly to the forefront of the local churches, by My great and awesome power, everything now covered up shall be uncovered and everything now hidden shall be made clear. Indeed each man's work shall become evident and those who have refused to repent of their "constant" disobedience and selfishness and who have continued to build their houses upon the sand despite the

rapidly approaching "storm clouds", shall find themselves exposed, and they shall surely be ashamed before all men; for in rejecting My "sent ones" they have rejected Me and the life and light which were needful for them to walk in victory; but instead of receiving My "gifts" they hardened their hearts against Me and they both persecuted and slandered My precious bondservants and handmaidens, but I, through My great and awesome power have sustained all those who were turned away and as surely as I live, I shall show "them" that it was I who have loved and kept those who were sent to them, and with an "unbearable torment of soul" they shall acknowledge all those whom I have placed in the local Church as "delegated authorities", those that have been given the anointing to both establish and build My "spotless and unblemished Church".... (see word below)

...."There will be only two reactions to the above word, My beloved ones. One of extreme anger or one of a deep, "sorrowful" repentance. Truly I say to you for one to still retain their prideful arrogance in the face of the "anointing" which is upon My words, will mean that that one shall surely reap My judgement which is reserved for the "sons of disobedience" and they shall perish in their rebellion; for they have "blasphemed the glory" and I shall make them a sign which shall shake violently the hearts of the prideful and the rebellious. But to those who allow the entrance of My words and who thus experience a deep and "sorrowful" repentance, I shall restore them to their "rightful" place in My Body and they shall "affix" (append) themselves to those whom I have sent and they shall be taught and they shall be blessed; for they shall indeed know the full measure of My mercy and My longsuffering. Let there be no misunderstanding of the fact that I love dearly all of My children, but I will not for one moment tolerate wilful rebellion against My anointing! Indeed the time which I have spoken of previously has now arrived. Guard your hearts well and with all diligence, My beloved ones, for My glory shall abound in the midst of the congregation"....

"PRECONCEIVED NOTIONS" AND "MENTAL ASCENSIONS"

"Preconceived notions" and "mental ascensions" on the part of the children of God shall always lead to failure and defeat. Therefore, let us abide in Christ that we might not be held captive in any way to hinder God's greatest purpose, that is, the establishment of His Kingdom in the earth. Without a constant and abiding fellowship with God, our "view" of God's eternal purposes will be shallow and vague and not only shall we miss God's direction for our own lives but we shall

also be found in some way to be in a position of rebellion against the authority (inherent - His Word or delegated - His ordained and anointed handmaidens and bondservants) of God. Should the servant of God "neglect" their time in prayer and communion with Him, they shall be deceived and ultimately end up replacing their perfect obedience to God with a lot of self-initiated "hard work", and thus they shall come to the point where they are no good to God, to themselves or to others and unless a true repentance is forthcoming on their part they shall be found to be "misrepresenting" Jesus Christ and many shall be lead astray because of their words and actions.

A GREATER RESPONSIBILITY PLACED ON THE DELEGATED AUTHORITIES

To the degree that a delegated authority comes to a place outside the "leading" of the Holy Spirit, it is to that degree that they shall lead astray those who are following after them, and while those who have "allowed" themselves to be led astray - through their own failure to obey the command to guard their heart with ALL diligence - are responsible and accountable for their actions to God, the greater responsibility falls on the ones whom God had entrusted to lead His people into the fulness of their inheritance in Christ. As servants of God let us not be caught short in this area and let us hold fast to a diligent seeking of God's Word, for it is only to the degree that we give God's Word "preeminence" in our lives that we shall make our way prosperous and have the success that rightfully belongs to all those who have made Jesus Christ their Lord (Joshua 1:5- 9).

THE "SPIRIT OF IDOLATRY"

Through the actions of Korah, Dathan and Abiram and the rest of the leaders we can see that they had not "wholly" submitted themselves to the Lord and therefore, when God sent His prophet to deliver His message concerning the holiness of the congregation, they were "offended" and they took action and rebelled against Moses. The same "spirits" that worked in the midst of the people of Israel when Moses first fellowshipped with God on the mount - the spirit of idolatry and the spirit of rebellion which drove the people to formulate their worship in the golden calf - was now working again in the midst of Korah and the leaders. The "spirit of idolatry" will always be "allowed" entrance on the ground of one's desire to serve "anything" or "anyone" before the Most High God. In other

words, if we are not prepared to give our hearts wholly to God then we shall allow "ground" - the ground of self- desire - for this spirit to deceive us and, in deceiving us, influence us to worship "idols" which will in turn take us further and further apart from our God. The deepest motivation of those who participated in Korah's rebellion was not only the fact that they themselves desired to have a more prominent role in the leadership, but also that they reserved the right, in their own thinking, to worship God as they chose, with no regard to God's "divine requirement". In other words, when God spoke His message through Moses, commanding the people of Israel to remember all His commandments, to do them and not to follow after their own heart and their own eyes, after which they had played the harlot, Korah and the leaders became offended. Why? Because the Word of God spoken through His prophet had cut them to the quick and exposed the deepest thoughts and intentions of their heart and so to "justify" their own actions, they were "compelled" to downgrade both the servant of God and the words that were spoken through him.

"TAKING OFFENSE" - THE SURE SIGN OF A REBELLIOUS HEART-ATTITUDE

It is a rebellious ("religious") people who become offended at the Word of God and yet God continues to send "His delegated authorities" forth to minister the deepest thoughts and intentions of His heart and to expose the wickedness and the sinfulness which have kept the multitudes from the "pure" worship and fellowship that the Father desires. God is calling "all" of His children to forsake their idols and the sin which can so easily beset them - if they allow it to - and humble themselves before Him. For it is only as the children of God submit themselves to the authority of God (Word of God) that they shall come into the place where they are able to receive the wondrous inheritance that He has provided for them in Christ. Many times, through the foolishness and the hard-heartedness of the people of God, they leave Him on the outside looking in and yet He desires to deal in a most personal way with each one of His children. Up until this time - in the church - many have rejected God's "delegated authorities" for exactly the same reasons that the leaders of Israel did as they "maintained" their desire to worship God as they chose instead of how God ordained. They have come to view "anything" or "anyone" outside of their own preconceived notions and mental ascensions as not being from God! Let each and every one of us "allow" the Word of God to do His work in our hearts so that we

might "always" humbly consider the will of God for our lives in all that we do.

DEEP HUMILITY (UTTER DEPENDENCE UPON THE FATHER AND HIS WORD) - THE ESSENCE OF ALL TRUE DELEGATED AUTHORITY

Now let us take a close look at Moses' reaction to all that was happening and thereby gain a clear understanding of the way that we are called to carry ourselves in the face of Satan's onslaught.

The Word of God states in Numbers 12:3:

...."Now the man Moses was very humble, more than any man who was on the face of the earth"....

and in Numbers 16:4:

...."When Moses heard this, he fell on his face;....

We see that under these serious accusations of Korah and those with him Moses neither got angry or lost his temper. He simply fell on his face before the Lord. Through the years, and God's dealings with him, Moses came to the place wherein he "knew" that all that he had - the authority delegated to him included - was from the Lord and through his personal relationship and close fellowship with the Lord, he knew that not only was it the Lord who had sent him, but the Lord who had given him the words to speak through the "pressure-filled" situations in Egypt as he stood before the Pharaoh and also through all the times of "backslidenness" and hardheartedness the people of Israel went through. Moses had come to "know" his God in such a way that he could have no doubt that all the authority which he himself possessed was of God. Therefore, he did not seek to "justify" himself in any way before the people. In the same way today, as we go forth to carry out the will of God for our lives, we must (through many dealings and experiences as we exercise faith in God's Word) continually humble ourselves before the Father and His Word and thus allow Him to show Himself strong on our behalf, for as we do, He shall surely become "all" to us. It is in this assurance of Him being our "all" that we are enabled (empowered) to lay aside the seeking of man's approval to seek only the approval of God. The "fear of man" is the greatest catalyst for darkness in the church, for it is this very fear that causes one to

worship man for who he is as opposed to worshipping God for who He is. Now let us take a close look at the reaction of Moses to this serious accusation made against him:

We see from the Word of God that Moses' first reaction was to fall on his face before God. This action was a spontaneous reaction produced by his years of seeking God and fellowshiping with Him. Moses neither got angry nor lost his temper because he knew his God and, as mentioned before, he knew that the words he had spoken were of God and therefore he did not seek to justify himself. All who would truly serve God must come to the "deep realization" that the very greatest things they accomplish for God will be the very things for which they are persecuted the most! If one is going to walk above compromise at all times then at all times they must forsake any thought of who they are "apart from Christ" - and, from faith to faith and glory to glory, have built within them by the Holy Spirit the glorious revelation of who they are in Christ - the Anointed One and His Anointing.

THE "ESTABLISHED" HEART - THE PREREQUISITE TO ABSOLUTE VICTORY IN ALL THINGS

In this final hour it is only the "established" heart that shall gloriously overcome the persecutions, the accusations, and the afflictions of Satan and his forces, that shall come against all those who desire to live godly lives in Christ Jesus. Quite simply put, it is to the degree that we "know" our God - and in knowing Him place "all" of our trust in Him - that we shall escape the snare of the Evil One which continually seeks to move us to take upon ourselves a false air of "self-importance". Again, Moses knew that all authority belongs to the Lord and therefore he did not seek to justify himself and, not only did he not seek to justify himself, because he knew God he foresaw the consequences of their rebellion and therefore humbled himself in love before his God on their behalf. Let all those who call themselves servants of God understand clearly that it is only a constant close and intimate relationship with God day to day in faith and obedience that shall "allow" them to be kept and protected from the desire to exalt themselves. Therefore, we can say from this that to the degree that one fellowship with God in the manner which is required of them (for each believer is called uniquely by the Father in this area) it is to that degree that they will avoid the "folly" of "self-exaltation" in ministry.

THE "MANTLE" OF PERFECT OBEDIENCE (LOVE)

In this time of the building up of the spotless and unblemished (glorious) Church, God is raising up leaders to carry the mantle of perfect obedience; leaders who are not moved by "self-initiative", but who are moved solely by the love abiding in their hearts. The "true" delegated authority is one who has humbled themselves deeply before God and thus when they are freely reviled by those whose hearts are not one with Him this constitutes a "serious problem" in the eyes of the Lord. Now certainly there are those who have taken upon themselves an "authority" which is not of God and thus when they are confronted with the Truth - exactly opposite to the proper attitude of Moses, who knew his God - these false authorities must continually seek to "justify" themselves, seeking always the approval of flesh and blood for their actions with no "inward" consideration for the will of God. I must issue a severe warning to any child of God who would take lightly the command of God to love Him with their "whole" heart, for if in the life of any child of God, ministry unto the Lord is not their first and foremost priority, then to the degree it is not, it is to that degree that they shall "fail". For if we are not constrained by the love of God shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Spirit then we shall have "miss" God in this "most critical time" and shall find ourselves abiding in failure, for "selfishness" always fails while love never fails!

THE CALL TO INTIMATE PRAYER AND FELLOWSHIP WITH GOD

All true ministry has its root in intimate prayer and fellowship with God, therefore, for one to take lightly their call to minister to the Lord first and foremost is for one to exalt themselves above the wisdom of God. And, in their failure to comply with God's requirement their "deepest" belief is that they themselves are somehow capable of carrying out that which can only be carried out in and by the power of God. As the individual child of God is obedient in the area of ministry unto the Lord - regardless of how much "time" they have been in the faith - they shall become aware of that which has proceeded from God and that which has not - without exception! Had Korah and those with him been right before God in their hearts they would have known that the words which Moses spoke were of God. And so as we go on to look at God's reaction to this rebellion let us set ourselves to learn the most valuable lessons provided in order that we might avoid the pitfalls of a self-exalting heart.

"THE LORD WILL SHOW WHO IS HIS, AND WHO IS HOLY"

...."and he spoke to Korah and all his company, saying, 'Tomorrow morning the Lord will show who is His, and who is holy, and will bring him near to Himself; even the one whom He will choose, He will bring near to Himself. Do this: take censers for yourselves, Korah and all your company, and put fire in them, and lay incense upon them in the presence of the Lord tomorrow; and the man whom the Lord chooses shall be the one who is holy. You have gone far enough, you sons of Levi!' Then Moses said to Korah, "Hear now, you sons of Levi, is it not enough for you that the God of Israel has separated you from the rest of the congregation of Israel, to bring you near to Himself, to do the service of the tabernacle of the Lord, and to stand before the congregation to minister to them; and that He has brought you near, Korah, and all your brothers, sons of Levi, with you? And are you seeking for the priesthood also? Therefore you and all your company are gathered together against the Lord; but as for Aaron, who is he that you grumble against him?" Then Moses sent a summons to Dathan and Abiram, the sons of Eliab; but they said, "He will not come up. Is it not enough that you have brought us up out of a land flowing with milk and honey to have us die in the wilderness, but you would also lord it over us? Indeed, you have not brought us into a land flowing with milk and honey, nor have you given us an inheritance of fields and vineyards. Would you put out the eyes of these men? He will not come up!" Then Moses became very angry and said to the Lord, "Do not regard their offering! I have not taken a single donkey from them, nor have I done harm to any of them." And Moses said to Korah, "You and all your company be present before the Lord tomorrow, both you and they along with Aaron. And each of you take his firepan and put incense on it, and each of you bring his censer before the Lord, two hundred and fifty firepans; also you and Aaron shall each bring his firepan." So they each took his own censer and put fire on it, and laid incense on it; and they stood at the doorway of the tent of meeting, with Moses and Aaron. Thus Korah assembled all the congregation against them at the doorway of the tent of meeting. And the glory of the Lord appeared to all the congregation"....

Numbers 16: 5-19

In verse 5 we see immediately an important point as Moses spoke to Korah and all his company saying:

...."the Lord will show who is His and who is holy..."

Again Moses had a revelation of the fact that "all" authority belongs to the Lord and therefore he did not seek to justify himself. He stated clearly to his "accusers" that God was his sole vindication. Only those who have such assurance of the fact that they are in the centre of God's will would dare call for God to judge "any" situation! First of all, Korah, and those with him, had accused Moses of exalting himself in the assembly of God's people.

In Romans 2:1 we see clearly a spiritual principle which was in action in this situation:

...."therefore you are without excuse every man of you who passes judgement, for in that you judge another, you condemn yourself; for you who judge practice the same things. And we know that the judgement of God rightly falls upon those who practice such things"....

From this portion of God's Word we can now understand clearly what was happening and what was the root motivation of Korah and his company's actions against Moses and Aaron, for the very words that they spoke revealed the deepest intent of their heart: TO EXALT THEMSELVES, and thus they became jealous of the anointing upon Moses and Aaron. This is why when we hear or see someone attributing negative (false) comments against a brother or sister in the Lord - particularly those who have been given a position of spiritual leadership, we can "know" that at the "root" of it is an envy and/or jealousy, born of a fear of one getting ahead of another in spiritual things and in one's relationship to God. If one takes it upon themselves to judge another with an "unrighteous judgement", then the words which they speak out of the abundance of their heart shall clearly betray their own position before God, for no one who issues forth "unwholesome words" (Ephesians 4:29) of unrighteous judgement can ever be found walking in the love of God or in obedience to His will. Far from condemning those whom we know to be in this position of "accuser of the brethren", we must pray diligently lest we ourselves take offense at any ungodly action before us and thus fall short of perfect obedience to the command to love one another.

THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN RIGHTEOUS AND UNRIGHTEOUS JUDGEMENT

The difference between righteous judgement and unrighteous judgement (John 8:15-16) (John 7:24) is that "righteous judgement" is the pure judgement of God. It is a word spoken in perfect accordance with the revealed knowledge of God's Word and the unction of the Holy Spirit. In this case it is the "anointed" word itself which convicts the heart of the hearer. "Unrighteous judgement" is a word spoken - or an action taken - which has its origin in the "flesh" and has, as its root motivation in the speaker, the desire to "exalt themselves above" the one being spoken to or against. How "fine" this line can be but how far apart is the fruit which is born! We, as believers, have no right to take the judgement of others upon ourselves. Our task is to be so empty of a "self-consciousness" and a "sin-consciousness" that we become fit and pure vessels of God's love and then, in "every" word and deed, God's righteous and "necessary" judgement shall be manifested and He shall accomplish through us the precious work which He has set out to accomplish in all those who cross our path. Let us not think for a moment that the love of God and the judgement of God can be separated for it is God's loving Word that convicts us of sin and judges our "inordinate" actions, and if we hearken to it, it keeps us apart from the certain death and darkness which is the result of all "sowing" in unrighteousness.

BEWARE SPEAKING "ACCUSATORY" AND "IDLE" WORDS IN THIS FINAL HOUR!

In Numbers 16:11 Moses states:

...."therefore you and all your company are gathered together against the Lord"....

Moses, having such a clear revelation of the fact that the words he spoke were of God, was able to state boldly that the apparent attack against him in the physical was, in reality, against the Lord. To all those who would "casually" direct their "accusations and reviling" against the handmaidens and bondservants of God, let them be forewarned that God shall take all such "idle" words personally and, as we shall continue on to see in the story of Korah and his men, His judgement will be both swift and devastating to the arrogant and the rebellious.

THE SPIRIT OF GLORY

It is important to note that when a "delegated authority" of God is suffering for righteousness' sake the glory of the Lord will always appear. In other words, God will manifest His presence in some way to some degree in the given situation.

...."Whoever speaks, let him speak, as it were, the utterances of God; whoever serves, let him do so as by the strength which God supplies; so that in all things God may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom belongs the glory and dominion forever and ever, Amen. Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal among you, which comes upon you for your testing, as though some strange thing were happening to you, but to the degree that you share the sufferings of Christ, keep on rejoicing; so that also at the revelation of His glory, you may rejoice with exultation. If you are reviled for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the Spirit of glory and of God rests upon you"....

1 Peter 4:11-14

As we strive in the Lord to serve our God we must become aware of His ways and His means and understand that it is only in our "perfect accordance" with His will that we can glorify God in "all" we do.

"ALL" SIN AND REBELLION IN THE MIDST OF GOD'S PEOPLE SHALL BE JUDGED IN THIS LAST HOUR - BEGINNING WITH THOSE IN LEADERSHIP

We see from Numbers 16 verses 5-19, that Moses begins to carry out the Lord's instructions concerning Korah's rebellion and calls for them to assemble together the next morning saying:

...."Tomorrow morning the Lord will show who is His, and who is holy, and will bring him near to Himself; even the one whom He will choose, He will bring near to Himself"....

vs.5

Moses also sent a summons to Dathan and Abiram but they refused to come up saying:

...."Is it not enough that you have brought us up out of a land flowing with milk and honey to have us die in the wilderness, but you would also lord it over us?"....

vs.13

These words of Dathan and Abiram betrayed their lack of faith and trust in God and also the "spirit of self-exaltation" that was working through them against Moses. The first sign of a lack of faith is the "grasping" to discern all things through the five physical senses - in other words, what can be seen and felt and heard. It is from this place of "faithlessness" that Dathan and Abiram ran into trouble and so too, we see here a "severe" warning for the children of God today, for if the child of God "chooses" to discern "anything" through their five physical senses (as their "final" authority and apart from the revealed knowledge of God's Word) then they too will - as Dathan and Abiram did - claim, in their heart, that the "land" they left (the "world") is the one flowing with "milk and honey" and that the "path" (the life of the Cross [self-denial]) that God would have for their lives is futile. It is the failure of the children of God to live by "revelation" that has led to the "rampant presumptuous activity" which has infested many areas of the church of Jesus Christ, through unbelief and rebelliousness up until this time. Let us understand clearly that God "must" judge sin and if sin is found amongst His people then, because of their "alignment" (agreement) with the lies of the Evil One, even those who have been blessed with much in the past shall be judged in such a way that "all" that is not of God shall be consumed!

THE LOVE OF GOD - THE "DEFINING" CHARACTERISTIC OF ALL TRUE DELEGATED AUTHORITY

So Moses told Korah and his company to wait until the next morning when the Lord would show who was His and who was holy. One revelation that the delegated authority of God must have burning deeply in their heart is the fact that God, and God alone, is their vindication, for any failure to walk in love towards one's enemies and the failure to pray for those who persecute them shall only betray the pride and rebellion in their own hearts. Truly the bondservants and handmaidens of the Lord in this last hour shall be known by their love for "all" who cross their path. The questioning of Moses' authority was not with Moses now, but with the Lord. The people thought they were merely opposing Moses and Aaron and did not think for even one moment that they were rebelling against God

Himself. But, as we saw in previous teachings, God and His true delegated authority are inseparable. The same spirit which held Korah and his company captive in their quest to overthrow Moses and Aaron was the one spoken of by the Lord Jesus in John 16:2-3 when He said:

...."They will make you outcasts from the synagogue, but an hour is coming for everyone who kills you to think that he is offering service to God. And these things they will do, because they have not known the Father, or me"....

As it is only close and intimate fellowship with the Father and the Son which will guard and protect us against "self-exaltation" in the ministry, let us understand that a failure to partake of this "required" fellowship in obedience to God shall surely cause one to revile IN SOME WAY those whom God has sent, and unless a deep and thorough repentance is forthcoming, then God's righteous judgement shall abide with that one until such a time as they humble themselves before Him. It is never possible to "maintain" one attitude towards God and another attitude towards all those who are walking in obedience before Him. If we truly love God with our "whole hearts", and are therefore willing to do all of His will at all times, then we shall love those whom He has sent (John 7:17). If, through "holding part back" from God we walk in disobedience, our discernment shall become darkened and thus we shall be "incapable" of understanding that which God seeks to accomplish - in any given situation - and we will "surely" be found reviling those whom He has delegated His authority to and this is a most serious thing in the eyes of the Father!

JESUS IS LORD! - SATAN IS AN "ABJECT" FAILURE!

Anything that Satan is attempting against us in this hour is his "futile" attempt to prevent God's "ministers" from taking part in the "major offensive" against his schemes and strongholds that the Father has orchestrated. In "knowing" that Satan is an "abject" failure, let us be found remaining steadfast in the faith and love of God and we shall most certainly see his absolute defeat on "all" fronts. One thing is certain where Satan and his forces are concerned - they shall be "devastated" and scattered in the path of the great fury (wrath) that the Father is about to release against the powers of darkness. Praise God! This is truly not a good time for ANY who would "align" themselves with the "doctrines of death and darkness" that - up until this time - have kept vast multitudes of God's children

apart from being partakers of the "fulness" of their precious inheritance in Christ. This will change radically in the next few months! On the one hand I rejoice at what a glorious time it is for all those who are truly seeking first the Kingdom and whose deepest heart-desire is to do "all" things in righteousness. On the other hand it is an extremely dangerous time for anyone to be walking outside of the Covenant to "any" degree for Satan and his forces are seeking whom they "may" devour and one must be found "maintaining" an intimate fellowship with the Father and His Word - it is our only assurance of total protection and absolute victory and we must be found interceding and praying for "any" brothers and sisters God has put across our path who remain even in this late, late, hour, unprepared.

THE CALL TO "PERFECT FELLOWSHIP" - THE ONLY PLACE OF SAFETY FROM "SELF-EXALTATION"

In entering into the understanding that the "vindication" of a true servant of God belongs to God Himself, let us also clearly understand the importance and the "responsibility" of the "delegated authority" of God to walk in that place of "perfect fellowship" with the Father and His Word - the place in which one is enabled and empowered to walk continually "above" error or incorrect doctrine. All error and incorrect doctrine is always the result of one seeking to exalt themselves above God and His purposes and plans through a holding to an element of "self-desire". If for some reason one who is in a position of leadership begins to "mentally ascend" to God's will then they shall surely lead the people astray to some degree, but let this be understood here and now: there are only two reasons for one in authority to "allow" this to happen:

1. The leader in question has usurped that position through their own natural means and unholy thirst for power.
2. The leader is called but "refuses" to allow God to have all of their lives and thus, in their foolishness and their mistrust of God, they have taken up a position in a place far "below" where the true Church is called to dwell.

Simply put, God has made the "Provision" for all those who are called to walk in perfect obedience from the apostle to the prophet, to the pastor and teacher to the evangelist and to every other member of the Body of Christ, there is no

difference! No child of God need be intimidated by the "true" delegated authorities of God for they are but vessels of God's love and wisdom to the rest of the Body, called to lead all of God's people - even to the very last one - into the "fulness" of their inheritance in Christ. But tragically, the failure to give one's whole heart to God - to live no longer for themselves - becomes the only reason why one would not receive the delegated authorities of God along with "every" word they speak.

"ALL" VINDICATION IS FROM GOD

...."For every one who does evil hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his deeds should be exposed. But he who practices the truth comes to the light, that his deeds may be manifested as having been wrought in God"....

John 3:20-21

...."No weapon formed against you shall prosper; and every tongue that accuses you in judgment you will condemn. This is the heritage of the servants of the Lord, and their vindication is from Me," declares the Lord"....

Isaiah 54:17

As "delegated authorities" of God we do not need to seek justification for our actions from things (sources) apart from God, but we "must" know that our vindication is from the Lord. If one does not have a "revelation" of this fact then they shall surely succumb to the pressures and persecutions which are certain to arise as they walk in perfect obedience. If we do not have an "absolute assuredness" that our words and actions are the product of an abiding love in our hearts - an assuredness given only by God Himself - then the desire to seek revenge or hold unforgiveness, and thus violate the law of love, shall overcome us to some degree.

LOVE YOUR ENEMIES AND PRAY FOR ALL THOSE WHO ARE USED AS VESSELS OF PERSECUTION AGAINST YOU

Above all else, any time persecution comes our way, we must be found loving our enemies and praying for "all" those who persecute us. It is one thing for someone to sin against us, it is another thing entirely for us to be dragged into sin

by that sin against us! When somebody reviles someone in the church and one "allows" themselves to be used as a vessel of that attack against authority, delegated or otherwise, then as the lies are passed on, the words spoken become contagious. We, as children of God, must learn to bridle our tongues (James 1:26-27) and we must let no unwholesome words proceed from our mouth (Ephesians 4:29) for, and as in all other things, we must seek to glorify God in our speaking also. We must also set ourselves to be the "stopping point" with any slander or gossip which might come our way particularly those words which come against the authority of God - for it is certain that the "spirit of rebellion" is highly contagious.

THE SEVERE CONSEQUENCES OF REBELLION

Again in Numbers 16:20-22 we see the men of God falling on their face before the Lord to intercede on behalf of a people who are about to be judged severely by God. All those who have truly humbled themselves before God will have, abiding in their hearts, that deep inbred love of God for mankind regardless of their sin.

...."Then the Lord spoke to Moses, saying, "Speak to the congregation, saying, "Get back from around the dwellings of Korah, Dathan and Abiram"....

Numbers 16:23-24

So now, summarizing that which has happened up until this time, we see that Moses first delivered the Word of the Lord to his people and unto their leaders and that Korah, along with Dathan and Abiram took offense and they rose up together with 250 other leaders of the congregation against Moses and Aaron and falsely accused them of exalting themselves above the people. Moses on hearing these words, and because he knew God so well, foresaw immediately the consequences of their rebellion and interceded on their behalf before God and God's immediate word to Korah and all his company was for them to gather together the following morning. The next morning the glory of the Lord appeared to all the congregation and the Lord spoke to Moses and Aaron, telling them to separate themselves from among the congregation because His intention was to consume them instantly. But once again Moses and Aaron interceded on behalf of the people before the Lord and God gave Moses instructions to tell the

congregation to get back from around the dwellings of Korah, Dathan and Abiram.

And now we shall go on to see the "absoluteness" of God's judgement upon the rebellion of His people in Numbers 16:23-33:

...."Then Moses arose and went to Dathan and Abiram, with the elders of Israel following him, and he spoke to the congregation, saying, "Depart now from the tents of these wicked men, and touch nothing that belongs to them, lest you be swept away in all their sin." So they got back from around the dwellings of Korah, Dathan and Abiram: and Dathan and Abiram came out and stood at the doorway of their tents, along with their wives and their sons and their little ones. And Moses said, "By this you shall know that the Lord has sent me to do all these deeds; for this is not my doing. If these men die the death of all men, or if they suffer the fate of all men, then the Lord has not sent me. But if the Lord brings about an entirely new thing and the ground opens its mouth and swallows them up with all that is theirs, and they descend alive into Sheol, then you will understand that these men have spurned the Lord. Then it came about as he finished speaking all these words, that the ground that was under them split open, and the earth opened its mouth and swallowed them up, and their households, and all the men who belonged to Korah, with their possessions. So they and all that belonged to them went down alive to Sheol; and the earth closed over them, and they perished from the midst of the assembly"

As we move into the final stages of this last hour we must come to understand the absolute purposes and plans of God for His Church. God's number one desire is to remove "all" rebellion from His church and with it all sin and death in order that Satan might no longer have any foothold (ground) whatsoever in the midst of His people. This story of Korah's rebellion becomes for us in the Church a bold type and symbol of the fact that it is man's "rebellion" which forces the judicial hand of God. In His dealings with the Israelites, they tempted God ten times and five other times they refused to believe Him and yet, in His mercy and lovingkindness He forgave them. But in this time of Korah's rebellion He came out to judge. And although God answered the prayer of Moses, His judgement consumed all the leaders of the rebellion and all who had "aligned" themselves with them.

EACH MAN'S WORK SHALL BECOME EVIDENT IN THIS HOUR - WITHOUT EXCEPTION!

So too, in this last hour, shall the Judgement of God befall "all" that is not in Christ for it is written that each man's work shall become evident and we must "know" that God has said that every so-called "good work" and "labour", which has its origin apart from Him, shall be consumed by Him. Time and time again God, through the apostles and prophets, has given a severe admonition and warning for us to disassociate our "affections" from the world and its ways because He knows that fellowship with the world will open up a man's heart for Satan to plant seeds of rebellion and thus allow him to hold captive many children of God who choose carnality over godliness. We must come to understand fully that the gates of Hell will never prevail against the "Church" that is walking in the revealed knowledge of God's Word but we must also clearly understand that a heart not wholly given to God (a rebellious spirit) will open the door to Satan to hinder the work of God in some way. In the last scripture we see a graphic description of God's final judgement on the actions of His rebellious leaders. After Moses had spoken the Word of the Lord (verses 28-30) God immediately backed His Words and His judgement was set in motion.

In verse 32 the Word states that:

...."the earth opened its mouth and swallowed them up, and their households and all the men who belonged to Korah, with their possessions"....

THE "HOUSEHOLD" - GOD'S UNIT OF SALVATION

Many people often state after they read of God's judgement, that it seems "unfair". In this case the fact that the earth opened its mouth and swallowed not only the leaders up but their households and all who had aligned themselves with Korah and their possessions, but we must understand that this judgement of God simply typifies God's desire to remove "all" rebellion from the midst of His people and "all" those things around them and with them that have been touched by it. Again from verse 32, it is interesting to notice how much preeminence is given to the "household" as the unit of salvation. In other words, God desires that parents teach their children and bring them up in godliness and obedience which, as we studied before, is the reciprocal action to rebellion and disobedience. As we

come to know God to a greater degree we shall come to understand clearly that even though it is up to each individual to confess Jesus as their Lord, God has made the provision if those in authority - whether in the Church or the family - operate in the principle of obedience, to open the door for "all" that "belong" to that true delegated authority to come into the fulness of their inheritance in Christ. As we truly seek to grasp a deep revelation of spiritual authority, we must learn to constantly lift up our vision of God's will for His Church in order that we might first develop a deep desire to set ourselves apart from anything which would detract from the glorious Church - that is that Church without sin, without fear, without rebellion and without death, and whose sole characteristic is the glory of God. As we go on to study we shall look deeply into the absoluteness of the principle of Jesus (obedience) and the principle of Satan (rebellion) and we shall then come to understand that all rebellion against God and His delegated authorities releases the force of death and we shall also see that it is only the obedient child of God that can drive death out of the church (and the earth) and replace that death and darkness with the Life and Light of God. Anyone who has ever walked closely with God knows clearly how God feels about rebellion and sin. As one continues to abide more deeply in Christ they begin to experience the righteous indignation of the Lord and, in seeing this holy wrath of the Lord, one sometimes wonders why God does not just obliterate everything that has borne falsely the name of Jesus Christ. But, of course, we know all about God's mercy and His longsuffering over His stubborn and obstinate children and His great love of mankind.

THE CALL TO INTERCESSION FOR ALL THOSE IN REBELLION AGAINST THE HIGHEST PURPOSES OF GOD

We must therefore, as handmaidens and bondservants of the Lord Jesus Christ, set ourselves to intercession that we might stem the tide of God's wrath and judgement against the sons of disobedience - praying intensely at all times - that they might, through our prayers and the power of the Holy Spirit, be led into a repentance leading to a knowledge of the truth for it does not please God to have to judge sin and rebellion in the midst of His people. But when there remains no seed of repentance in the heart of the rebellious and sinful one then His judgement shall "surely" be forthcoming. God must judge all sin and rebellion in His church that has not been purged by the Word of God and the Blood of the Lamb, for failure to do so would be tantamount to giving His approval to Satan to work

freely in the midst of His people. All these things considered, let us understand clearly that it is we who have been given authority over Satan and all his power (darkness), but if we fail to shine as lights in the midst of this crooked and perverse generation then we can in no way drive out the death and darkness of the Evil One from the midst of God's people. So again, it is only an abiding "perfect obedience" which shall continually bring us to - and keep us in - the precious place the Father has given us in Christ - that is, the place of "ascension" (all authority) with all that is of death and darkness under our feet. The sooner we all realize that there are no shortcuts but only one way - the narrow path of perfect obedience - then the sooner the glory of God shall fill the earth to the great pleasure and delight of the Father's heart.

ALL REBELLION RELEASES THE FORCE OF DEATH

In knowing that rebellion against God and His delegated authorities releases the force of death, we can understand why God prophesies through His apostles and prophets saying such things as,

...."I will not stand for the rejection of My bondservants and handmaidens any more"...

for not only are they rejecting God by rejecting His delegated authorities, but, in their rebellion and disobedience, they are also releasing the force of death and darkness out into the church and how much longer is the Father going to put up with that?

THE PREPARATION OF A TRUE WORKING "FIVE-FOLD MINISTRY"

One of the chief things that has been happening over the past few decades in the Church, is that God is preparing His apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors and teachers and bringing them into their proper position. He has trained them in their times spent before Him in intimate fellowship to walk in perfect obedience and to gain a revelation of His absoluteness as the Church age comes to a close. It is through these "absolute revelations" that the absoluteness of the "Divine Requirement" shall be ministered to all the children of God and all those who truly love God shall thus be lifted up (elevated) - as they hear these precious and holy words coming forth from the Throne Room - into their proper place in the Church.

Let it be understood that there are two messages of judgement: one good news and one bad news. The good news is for the people who are worshipping in spirit and truth and seeking to walk in perfect obedience in all that they do. The bad news is for the slothful and the wicked and the rebellious children of God who refuse to reject the spirit of this world, and who have thus "allowed" themselves to be possessed by all that that spirit entails (humanism, false religion and carnality).

CHOOSE THIS DAY WHOM YOU WILL SERVE!

Now it is certain that it is up to each individual believer to decide whether they are going to go on with God into the "fulness" of their inheritance in Christ or remain in bondage to an element of self-desire, but it is just as certain that those who "forsake" the will of God to follow after their own rebellious way and who, thus, will be found reviling the delegated authorities and blaspheming the glory of God (blasphemo doxa) shall be severely and thoroughly judged in this most critical hour of the entire Church age. There are many when they hear words such as these who say, "well, God's not like that", but because they have no knowledge of their own sinful and rebellious ways - through a lack of "direct contact" with the One whom they claim to serve - they do not realize that they have trampled underfoot the Son of God and have regarded as unclean the Blood of the Covenant and thus, have insulted the Spirit of Grace. God has no hatred for mankind and does not judge mankind in themselves apart from sin and rebellion. It is the sinfulness and rebelliousness that are inherent in the old nature, by way of the first Adam, that God has a controversy with, and it is only as we continue to reach out to receive the fulness of the provision that God has blessed us with in Christ, that we can escape the sin and rebellion which shall surely be consumed regardless of where it is found. In all judgement, whether it be the church of Jesus Christ or the world, the onus is not now with God, for He has clearly stated, through the ministering of His Word, the way to experience salvation from the certain, terrifying expectation of judgement and the fury of the fire which will consume the adversaries. Let each one of us come to know and have a deep revelation of the judgements which are upon the earth, for indeed it is a terrifying thing to fall into the hands of the living God without having the assurance that we are cleansed continually from all unrighteousness by the precious Blood of the Lamb (Hebrews 10:26-31).

THE GRAVE DANGER OF RETAINING "EMOTIONAL ATTACHMENTS" - WHICH ARE A "CATALYST" TO THE "FEAR OF MAN"

...."But on the next day all the congregation of the sons of Israel grumbled against Moses and Aaron, saying, "You are the ones who have caused the death of the Lord's people." It came about, however, when the congregation had assembled against Moses and Aaron, that they turned toward the tent of meeting, and behold, the cloud covered it and the glory of the Lord appeared. Then Moses and Aaron came to the front of the tent of meeting, and the Lord spoke to Moses, saying, "Get away from among this congregation, that I may consume them instantly." Then they fell on their faces. And Moses said to Aaron, "Take your censer and put in it fire from the altar, and lay incense on it; then bring it quickly to the congregation and make atonement for them, for wrath has gone forth from the Lord, the plague has begun!" Then Aaron took it as Moses had spoken, and ran into the midst of the assembly, for behold, the plague had begun among the people. So he put on the incense and made atonement for the people. And he took his stand between the dead and the living, so that the plague was checked. But those who died by the plague were 14,700, besides those who died on account of Korah. Then Aaron returned to Moses at the doorway of the tent of meeting, for the plague had been checked"....

Numbers 16:41-50

From the actions of the people the following day, that is, the grumbling against Moses and Aaron, accusing them of being the ones who caused the death of the Lord's people, we can see many things. First of all - once again - we see that the spirit of rebellion is very contagious and that as soon as the people began to grumble it spread in their midst and they quickly forgot the awesome judgement which had manifested before their eyes the day before. It is obvious from this portion of scripture that many of the congregation were still in rebellion against God for they did not place their importance upon God's words and actions but rather they "mourned" for their sinful and rebellious former leaders - hence the grave danger of retaining any "emotional attachments". As we go forth in our daily walks, seeking to avoid the pitfalls of carnality and that fear of man which brings a snare, we must realize that carnal eyes seek only to lean upon "flesh and blood" and thus they do not have the revelation that all "true" authority comes from God. It is a most dangerous thing for a child of God to lack a revelation of divine

authority, but it is certain that none who follow after their "own" physical and mental perceptions can walk in the spiritual because it is above and beyond the "fallen" nature of man and the five physical senses inherent within - unless those senses have been "renewed" to the point wherein they are able to discern between good and evil (righteousness and unrighteousness (Hebrews 5:14). On the surface it seems surprising that any of those who had witnessed the absolute and devastating judgements of the day before could still align themselves against God and His authority, but this is just another clear portrayal of the foolishness of man's wisdom and his failure to realize that God's thoughts are higher than his own. Thus, as they go forth in their rebellion, exalting themselves above God and His servants, they draw down the judgements of God upon themselves. Once again we see that Moses - empowered by the divine love of God in his heart - took action on behalf of those who reviled them and he told Aaron to make atonement for the people and thus the plague was checked but not before 14,700 besides those who died on account of Korah, met their death. The only way for the child of God to have a clear and true revelation of the authority of God in this last hour - whether delegated or inherent - is to be in close fellowship with the Father and His Word and to pray without ceasing - seeking only to please God in all that they do.

SATAN AND REBELLION ARE SYNONYMOUS

In understanding that rebellion is the principle of Satan, we can certainly see perhaps more clearly why God can in no way align Himself with rebelliousness or with anyone who aligns themselves with it. We know that the first time that rebellion came on the scene was when Lucifer rebelled against God, was defeated and cast out of Heaven, as Satan. From this we can say that all rebellion has its beginning in that foolishness which Lucifer displayed when he rebelled against Almighty God, and thus we see that anyone who in any way aligns themselves with the old nature (the mind of Satan) commits an act of rebellion against God. We need to explode the myth that children of God cannot be "held captive" by the Evil One to carry out his will (which is rebellion against God and all His purposes - lawlessness) (2 Timothy 2:26)! If we are not being obedient to the voice of the Spirit of God and the Word of God then we are aligning ourselves in some way with the lies and schemes of the "Evil One and the principle of rebellion and this is precisely the way that God looks at it. We can look at anything any way we want to but unless we seek to see "all" things through the eyes of God then our "opinions" are useless. One can most assuredly think that they are right in their

dealings with God and their idea of how to carry out His will, and even how to please Him, but the only thing that shall stand is the revelation of God's Word (Will) as administered by the Holy Spirit to the deepest fibre of one's being.

OUR NUMBER ONE PRIORITY - INTIMATE FELLOWSHIP WITH THE FATHER AND HIS WORD

And so, our number one priority must always be to spend time with God as He directs us and He will surely reveal the deepest thoughts and intentions of His heart. In our diligence we shall take a firm hold of the call to perfect obedience for our lives and forsake the sin and rebellion that leads only to corruption and death for the true wages of righteousness - which are superabundant life. As we reflect back on this story of Korah and his rebellion, let us look at some things which will help us avoid the pitfalls which are still prevalent today and which shall continue to exist as long as Satan remains on the loose. To the degree that one remains in bondage to a "spirit of disobedience", it is to that degree that they will see only the barrenness of the "wilderness" (world) but on the other hand, as the child of God keeps their eyes fixed on the Word, then regardless of what circumstances they may find themselves in, they will always be able to see, in their spirit, the greater promises of God which lay ahead in their sojourn through this earth.

TRUE AUTHORITY IS NOT A MATTER OF OUTWARD INSTRUCTION BUT OF INWARD REVELATION

The first and foremost principle which we, as children of God, must adhere to is to be submitted to God's authority and learn to receive all that which God sends to us for our edification through His delegated authorities for these delegated authorities are not given to us for our harm but for our good. To safeguard against following after "flesh and blood" rather than God, every child of God must have this revelation: authority is not a matter of outward instruction but of inward revelation. It must also be understood that none who "adhere" to a "reliance" on the five physical senses are able to walk on the narrow path of perfect obedience, for they shall be fooled continually by the things they hear and see, and to them the "narrow path" shall seem to be folly while the "broad" path of destruction shall seem to be the only way to go. We must understand that only the "faithful" may enjoy spiritual abundance - those who, by faith, accept the leadership and guidance of the Holy Spirit and the leadership of God's delegated

authority. For to whatever degree one holds to "self-reliance" rather than an absolute reliance upon the Holy Spirit to lead them into all truth and to teach them all things, it is to that degree that they shall remain in "controversy" with the authority of God - both delegated and inherent. Again, let us clearly understand that rebellion is the principle of death, the principle of Satan and that whenever one resists God's authority, delegated or otherwise, God's judgement is immediate upon that one. Back-biting and inward resistance to God's delegated authority originate from a rebellious spirit and so therefore let us not fall prey to an "unbridled tongue" and let us not fail to give God's Word preeminence in our lives, for as His love is shed abroad in our hearts it will surely wash us and cleanse us continually of anything that would seek to resist the authority of God. Let us always remember that the call to submit ourselves to authority is in no way being subject to a person, but rather being subject to the anointing of God which is on and in that person - the anointing which came to that person when God ordained them to be His delegated authority. As we continue on in our service to God and the story of Korah and his rebellion are brought to our thinking let us remember that:

...."these things happened to them as an example and they were written for our instruction, upon whom the ends of the ages have come"....

1 Corinthians 10:1-11