

Numbers 17

King James Version (KJV)

17 And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,

²Speak unto the children of Israel, and take of every one of them a rod according to the house of their fathers, of all their princes according to the house of their fathers twelve rods: write thou every man's name upon his rod. (rod- also means scepter in Hebrew) (12 rods- one for Levi – means that Ephraim and Manasseh have one rod for the two of them)

³And thou shalt write Aaron's name upon the rod of Levi: for one rod shall be for the head of the house of their fathers.

⁴And thou shalt lay them up in the tabernacle of the congregation before the testimony, where I will meet with you.

⁵And it shall come to pass, that the man's rod, whom I shall choose, shall blossom: and I will make to cease from me the murmurings of the children of Israel, whereby they murmur against you. (These rods were made of almond tree wood) (God is again trying to show the people that He chose Moses and Aaron. They didn't take command on their own)

⁶And Moses spake unto the children of Israel, and every one of their princes gave him a rod apiece, for each prince one, according to their fathers' houses, even twelve rods: and the rod of Aaron was among their rods.

⁷And Moses laid up the rods before the LORD in the tabernacle of witness.

⁸And it came to pass, that on the morrow Moses went into the tabernacle of witness; and, behold, the rod of Aaron for the house of Levi was budded, and brought forth buds, and bloomed blossoms, and yielded almonds. (It budded and produced fruit overnight – which is a miracle)

⁹And Moses brought out all the rods from before the LORD unto all the children of Israel: and they looked, and took every man his rod.

¹⁰And the LORD said unto Moses, Bring Aaron's rod again before the testimony, to be kept for a token against the rebels; and thou shalt

quite take away their murmurings from me, that they die not. (God has had enough of the rebellion of the people. This is their last chance) Hebrews-9:4 (Aaron's rod was kept in the Ark of the Covenant after this event)

¹¹ And Moses did so: as the LORD commanded him, so did he.

¹² And the children of Israel spake unto Moses, saying, Behold, we die, we perish, we all perish.

¹³ Whosoever cometh any thing near unto the tabernacle of the LORD shall die: shall we be consumed with dying? (It never ends with these people)