

Korah's Rebellion

*(Based on Numbers 16)(Based on Numbers
17:1-18:3)*

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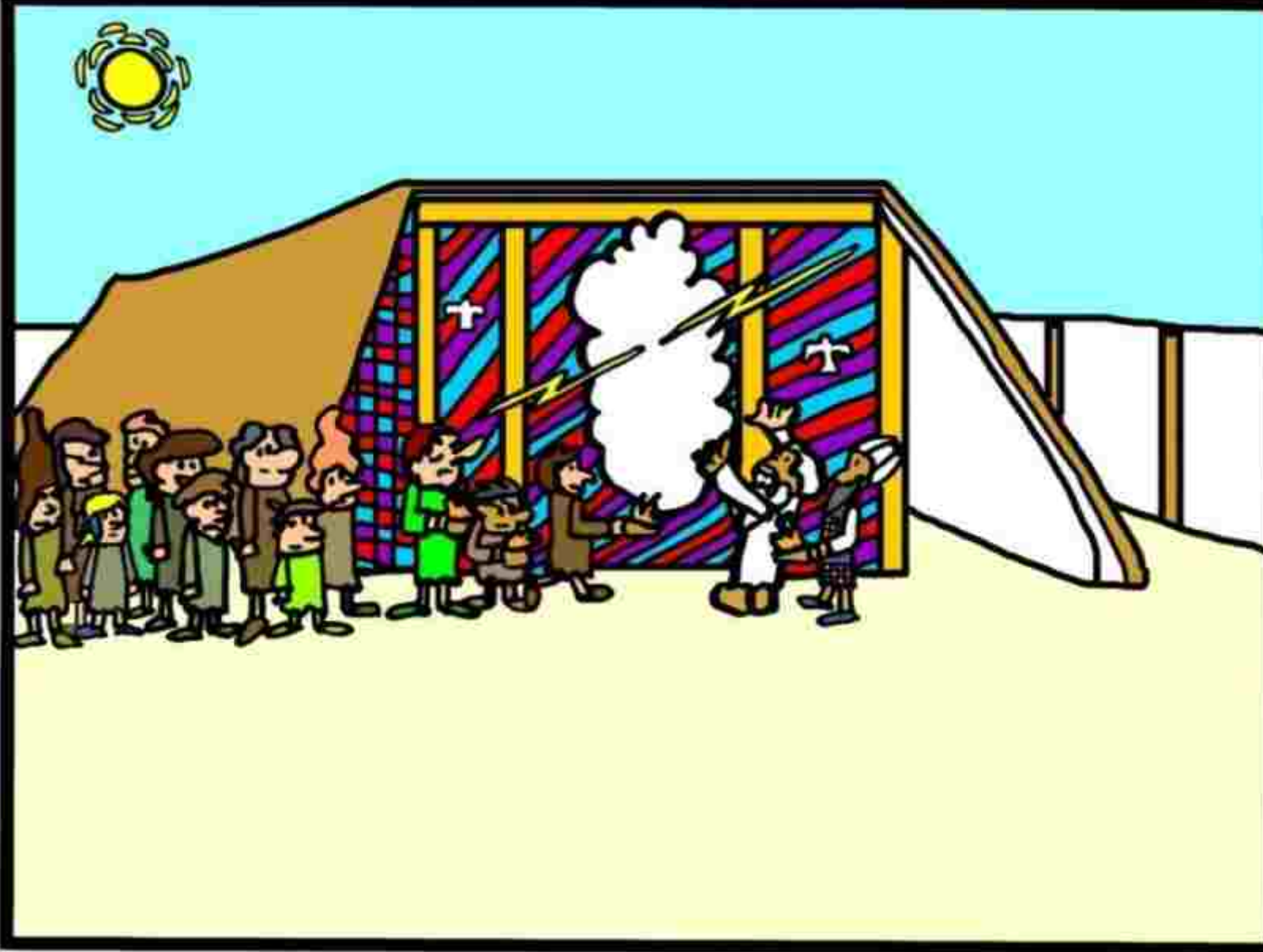
Three men named Korah, Dathan and Abiram gathered 250 leaders and came to Moses and Aaron. "All of God's people are holy. Why then do you put yourselves up to be the bosses over everybody?" they said. When Moses heard their words he fell on his face.



Then Moses said to Korah, "Do you think it is a small thing that God picked you, the tribe of Levi to work at the tabernacle? Now, do you want Aaron's job? You want to be priests? You are fighting against the Lord. You have gone too far!"



The rebels continued their insults. "You brought us out of a great country (Egypt) to kill us in the desert and you keep acting like a prince over us!" Moses answered, "Tomorrow morning the Lord will show who belongs to Him. All of you come before the Lord with fire in censers."



The next day Korah turned all the people of Israel against Moses and they came to the tabernacle. Then the glory of the Lord appeared to everyone. God wanted to wipe them out, but Moses prayed for them.



God told Moses to tell everyone to get away from the tents of Korah, Dathan and Abiram. Then Moses said, “If these men die the normal way people die, then the Lord did not send me, but if the Lord makes the earth open up and swallow them alive, then know that these men have made God very angry.



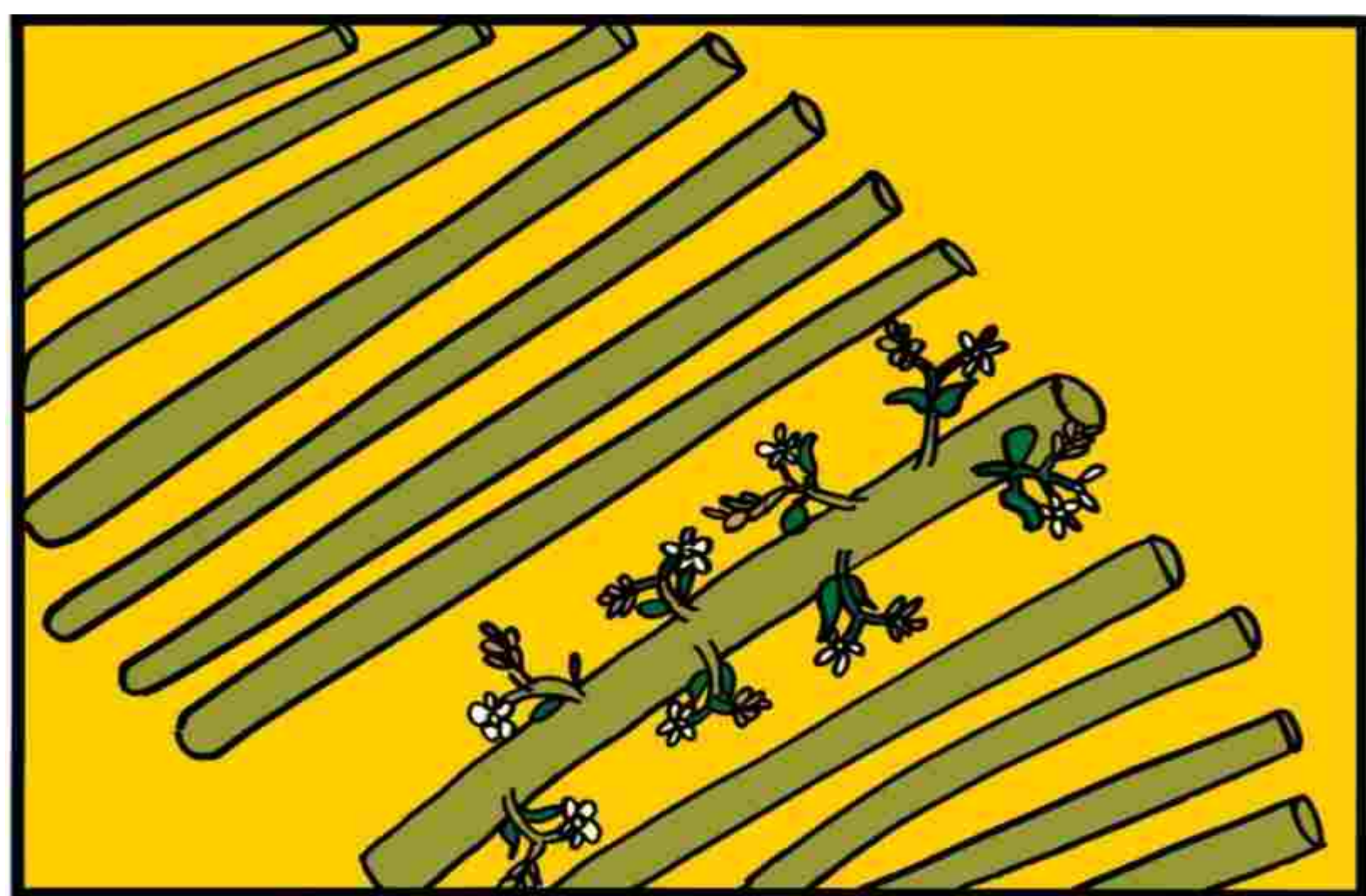
The ground opened and the 3 rebels, their belongings and their families, fell into the earth alive. Korah's sons did not follow their father in the rebellion (they stayed on the Lord's side) so Korah's sons did not die. Then the ground closed up again. The people of Israel ran. Fire came out from the Lord and killed the 250 men who had joined with the three rebels.



Aaron's son flattened the censors into plates and attached them to the altar to remind the people of Israel that only the family of Aaron was chosen to be the Lord's priests and no one else should try to do their job.



The next day the people of Israel came to Moses and Aaron saying, “You killed the Lord’s people!” The Lord was angry and his glory appeared over the tabernacle. Many people began to die, but Aaron ran among the people with a burning censor and stood between the dead and the living. Then the deaths stopped.



God did a special miracle, to prove for all time that he had picked Aaron to be his priest. Each tribe brought a rod with their tribe's name on it, and put it in the tabernacle over night. Aaron's name was on the rod for the tribe of Levi. During the night God caused Aaron's rod to grow leaves, blossoms and even almonds.



Lord, help me to remember to pray for my leaders at home, at church and at school. Help me to remember that it is not easy to be a leader and that YOU help your leaders. I don't want to make it hard for the leaders in my life.