

**SSS 4**  
**Book 4**  
**Psalms 90-106**

**3 March 2024**

**Psalm 106**

**ENVY AMONG LEADERS**

*<sup>16</sup> When they envied Moses in the camp,  
And Aaron the saint of the LORD,*

*<sup>17</sup> The earth opened up and swallowed Dathan,  
And covered the faction of Abiram.*

*<sup>18</sup> A fire was kindled in their company;  
The flame burned up the wicked.*

*Psalm 106:16-18*

**HISTORICAL CONTEXT**

*<sup>1</sup> Now Korah the son of Izhar, the son of Kohath, the son of Levi, with Dathan and Abiram the sons of Eliab, and On the son of Peleth, sons of Reuben, took men;*

*<sup>2</sup> and they rose up before Moses with some of the children of Israel, two hundred and fifty leaders of the congregation, representatives of the congregation, men of renown.*

*<sup>3</sup> They gathered together against Moses and Aaron, and said to them,  
"You <sup>10</sup>take too much upon yourselves, for all the congregation is holy, every one of them, and the LORD is among them. Why then do you exalt yourselves above the assembly of the LORD?"*

*<sup>4</sup> So when Moses heard it, he fell on his face;*

*<sup>5</sup> and he spoke to Korah and all his company, saying, "Tomorrow morning the LORD will show who is His and who is holy,<sup>11</sup> and will cause him to come near to Him. That one whom He chooses He will cause to come near to Him.*

*<sup>6</sup> Do this: Take censers, Korah and all your company;*

*7 put fire in them and put incense in them before the LORD tomorrow, and it shall be that the man whom the LORD chooses is the holy one. You take too much upon yourselves, you sons of Levi!"*

*Numbers 16:1-7*

1. Leadership problems
2. Dealing with the problem
3. Lessons learned

*23 So the LORD spoke to Moses, saying,*

*24 "Speak to the congregation, saying, 'Get away from the tents of Korah, Dathan, and Abiram.' "*

*25 Then Moses rose and went to Dathan and Abiram, and the elders of Israel followed him.*

*26 And he spoke to the congregation, saying, "Depart now from the tents of these wicked men! Touch nothing of theirs, lest you be consumed in all their sins."*

*27 So they got away from around the tents of Korah, Dathan, and Abiram; and Dathan and Abiram came out and stood at the door of their tents, with their wives, their sons, and their little children.*

*28 And Moses said: "By this you shall know that the LORD has sent me to do all these works, for I have not done them of my own will.*

*29 If these men die naturally like all men, or if they are visited by the common fate of all men, then the LORD has not sent me.*

*30 But if the LORD creates a new thing, and the earth opens its mouth and swallows them up with all that belongs to them, and they go down alive into the pit, then you will understand that these men have rejected the LORD."*

*31 Now it came to pass, as he finished speaking all these words, that the ground split apart under them,*

*32 and the earth opened its mouth and swallowed them up, with their households and all the men with Korah, with all their goods.*

*<sup>33</sup> So they and all those with them went down alive into the pit; the earth closed over them, and they perished from among the assembly.*

*<sup>34</sup> Then all Israel who were around them fled at their cry, for they said, "Lest the earth swallow us up also!"*

*<sup>35</sup> And a fire came out from the LORD and consumed the two hundred and fifty men who were offering incense. Numbers 16:23-35*

## **THE PROBLEM OF IDOLATRY**

*<sup>19</sup> They made a calf in Horeb,  
And worshiped the moulded image.*

*<sup>20</sup> Thus they changed their glory  
Into the image of an ox that eats grass.*

*<sup>21</sup> They forgot God their Savior,  
Who had done great things in Egypt,*

*<sup>22</sup> Wondrous works in the land of Ham,  
Awesome things by the Red Sea.*

*<sup>23</sup> Therefore He said that He would destroy them,  
Had not Moses His chosen one stood before Him in the breach,  
To turn away His wrath, lest He destroy them.*

*Psalm 106:19-23*

## **HISTORICAL CONTEXT**

*<sup>1</sup> Now when the people saw that Moses delayed coming down from the mountain, the people gathered together to Aaron, and said to him, "Come, make us gods that shall go before us; for as for this Moses, the man who brought us up out of the land of Egypt, we do not know what has become of him."*

*<sup>2</sup> And Aaron said to them, "Break off the golden earrings which are in the ears of your wives, your sons, and your daughters, and bring them to me."*

*<sup>3</sup> So all the people broke off the golden earrings which were in their ears, and brought them to Aaron.*

*<sup>4</sup> And he received the gold from their hand, and he fashioned it with an engraving tool, and made a moulded calf.*

*Then they said, "This is your god, O Israel, that brought you out of the land of Egypt!"*

*<sup>5</sup> So when Aaron saw it, he built an altar before it. And Aaron made a proclamation and said, "Tomorrow is a feast to the LORD."*

*<sup>6</sup> Then they rose early on the next day, offered burnt offerings, and brought peace offerings; and the people sat down to eat and drink, and rose up to play.*

*<sup>7</sup> And the LORD said to Moses, "Go, get down! For your people whom you brought out of the land of Egypt have corrupted themselves.*

*<sup>8</sup> They have turned aside quickly out of the way which I commanded them. They have made themselves a moulded calf, and worshiped it and sacrificed to it, and said, 'This is your god, O Israel, that brought you out of the land of Egypt!' "*

*<sup>9</sup> And the LORD said to Moses, "I have seen this people, and indeed it is a stiff-necked people!*

*<sup>10</sup> Now therefore, let Me alone, that My wrath may burn hot against them and I may consume them. And I will make of you a great nation."*

*Exodus 32:1-10*

1. The Worship of the golden calf

2. The threat of the LORD

## **THE INTERCESSION OF MOSES**

*<sup>11</sup> Then Moses pleaded with the LORD his God, and said: "LORD, why does Your wrath burn hot against Your people whom You have brought out of the land of Egypt with great power and with a mighty hand?*

*<sup>12</sup> Why should the Egyptians speak, and say, 'He brought them out to harm them, to kill them in the mountains, and to consume them from the face of the earth'? Turn from Your fierce wrath, and relent from this harm to Your people.*

*<sup>13</sup> Remember Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, Your servants, to whom You swore by Your own self, and said to them, 'I will multiply your descendants as the stars of*

*heaven; and all this land that I have spoken of I give to your descendants, and they shall inherit it forever.' "*

*<sup>14</sup> So the LORD relented from the harm which He said He would do to His people.*

*Exodus 32:11-14*

1. Pleading with the LORD
2. Relenting of the LORD