



# Zelophehad's Daughters

RECEIVING OUR INHERITANCE

Numbers 26:33-34; 27:1-11; 36:1-13; Joshua 17:3-6; I Chronicles 7:15

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## Zelophehad's Daughters

In Numbers 26 we find that God has Moses take a second census. Not one person was alive from the original census except Caleb, Joshua, and Moses. All the rest of the Israelites from twenty years old and above had died in the wilderness. This was just what God had promised because of their blatant disobedience and sin. They refused to trust God and enter into the Promised Land. I'm sure it was a very sad time for God to have to begin again. He had to see if a new generation would *choose* to trust Him and claim the rich inheritance He had for them.

In the midst of what I feel may have been one of God's biggest disappointments in His people a bright spot emerges! It is the story of five women, sisters, who challenge the status quo! They actually came to Moses and all the Israeli powers to be and asked God, "Give us an inheritance." *They were claiming their inheritance by faith instead of rejecting it!* Who were these brave women?

Numbers 27 says they were the descendants of Joseph's family through the son of Hopher. He had no sons but five daughters. Scripture mentions all five of these special women by name four different times. Their names were Mahlah, Noah, Hoglah, Micah, and Tirzah. This seems significant to me in light of the fact God never bothers to mention the name of the Pharaoh during the time of the Exodus. WOW! What makes them so special to the heart of God?

### THEY BELIEVED GOD!

These five sisters came to Moses and Eleazar and the leaders of Israel to claim their father's inheritance in the Promised Land. Remember this is by faith as the Canaanites are still in the Promised Land, but they *chose* to do as He had promised!

Numbers 27:4 says, "Why should the name of our Father be removed from among His family because He had no sons. Give us

our possession among our Father's brothers."

These five sisters came and "*stood in the gap*" (Ezekiel 22:30) for their family to get the blessing of God! What was Moses response to the five women? I love what Moses does! He asks God for direction in this unusual case. The mark of a godly leader is that he doesn't "shoot from the hip" or make snap judgments. He brings the case to the Lord (Numbers 5:22). In verse six the Lord gives Moses the direction he is seeking. Hallelujah!!! We have a communicating God! If we ask, He will answer! The question is—are we listening?

In Numbers 27:7 we see that God affirms the women; "The daughters of Zelophehad speak what is right. [How amazing—God agrees with the five sisters!] You shall surely give them an inheritance among their Father's brothers and cause the inheritance to pass to them." What a radical decision for that day in time! God honors their faith.

The first hurdle is over. The sisters have the mind of God and the permission of Moses and the leadership team. However, do you think such a radical departure from the status quo will go uncontested? No! The whole last chapter of the book of Numbers, chapter 36, is given to working out the implications of this decision in the extended family.

The chief fathers of the family came and spoke to Moses before the chief fathers of Israel. They said to Moses, "The Lord commanded you to give the land as an inheritance by lot to the children of Israel. You were commanded to give the inheritance of brother Zelophehad to his daughters. *If* they are married outside our tribe, the inheritance will be taken from our father's inheritance and given to the tribe in which she marries." They were concerned for the tribe.

Moses agreed with them. He gave them specific directions from God on how to handle the problem:

1. They were to marry only within the family of their father's tribe.
2. Everyone would keep the inheritance of the tribe of his father.

3. Every daughter who possessed an inheritance in any tribe would become a wife of someone from her father's tribe, so that the children of Israel might each possess the inheritance of their fathers.
4. Every tribe should keep his own inheritance.

Isn't this a practical example of God's willingness to lead and guide us if we will seek His face and His wisdom about the circumstances of our lives (Psalm 32:8)?

What was the sisters' response? "Just as the Lord commanded Moses, so did Zelophehad's daughters."

### THEY OBEYED GOD!

They married the sons of their father's brothers. They married into the families of Manasseh, the son of Joseph. The inheritance remained in their father's tribe. Zelophehad's daughters *believed, trusted, and obeyed!* Because of their faith, their inheritance and their father's inheritance were not lost! What about us? Are we *believing* and *obeying* God?

The story is not finished yet. This was all done *by faith* before Israel had conquered Canaan. In Joshua 17:3-4 we read that after Joshua had conquered the Promised Land, the sisters came to him to claim what God had promised them—an inheritance! Joshua and the elders gave it to them. Because of their faith, their boldness, and their persistence.

### THEY RECEIVED ALL GOD HAD FOR THEM!

Their inheritance in the family was *claimed* and not lost.

What about us? Are we willing to *believe* God by faith and *claim* with boldness and persistence *all* that God has for us and those that we love? Are we willing to "*stand in the gap*" for our father's inheritance that *none* might be lost, and that the full purposes of Jesus might be enjoyed in every heart and life?

## CLAIMING OUR INHERITANCE; SAYING "YES" TO JESUS

Are you willing to say, "Yes, Jesus, I am willing to call upon you so You can show me great and mighty things that I do not know"?

If so, would you pray the following prayers:

*"Yes, Jesus, I am willing to meet you daily in your Word and prayer so you can reveal Yourself to me."*

*"Yes, Jesus, I am willing to pray daily for revival among God's people."*

*"Yes, Jesus, I am willing to pray for three unsaved friends to meet You."*

*"Yes, Jesus, I am willing to pray for a spiritual awakening in my country."*

*"Yes, Jesus, I am willing to pray for a country that You lay on my heart."*

*"Jesus, I am willing to pray with other like-minded believers for these concerns. It can be in a prayer group or with a prayer partner."*

## SAYING "YES" AT NOON EACH DAY

To seal these commitments to pray for revival, would you be willing to covenant together, if at all possible, to **STOP** what you are doing at **12:00 noon every day** to pray for Jesus to come and touch our nation in revival grace? If this isn't possible, would you set aside some other time each day?

The saintly missionary "Praying Hyde" in India did this very thing. A group of prayer warriors called the Punjab Prayer Union covenanted to pray for revival every day at noon. After twelve years of difficult service, God came in mighty wave of revival fire

among the Punjab of India.

It seems Jesus would like for us to call upon Him so we can be like Zelophehad's five daughters and receive **ALL** that the Father has for us. Don't you think so too?

### **PRAYER PARTNER**

If you do not have a prayer partner who you pray with on a regular basis, ask Jesus to give you the right one. Ask this person if they would be willing to pray with you.

If you are interested in starting a prayer group in your home, we have resources available to help you get started.

**If you need help finding a prayer partner, or would like to be a part of a prayer group, we would be happy to help you find one.**

Titus Women also has a weekly prayer call every Tuesday that anyone can join. It begins at 8:30PM EST. The number to call is **712-770-4010** access code **372632#**.

"For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them."  
Matthew 18:20

"Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful."  
Colossians 4:2

"Call to me and I will answer you and tell you great and unsearchable things you do not know." Jeremiah 33:3

Feel free to call us at 859-858-4222 x119 or email us at [office@tituswomensministry.org](mailto:office@tituswomensministry.org) for more information.



## STOP at NOON

"Call to Me and I will answer..."

**P**–Personal revival

**R**–Relational revival; family and friends

**A**–Area revival; neighbors, church community

**Y**–Your leaders; boss, pastor

**E**–Extend the revival to the nation

**R**–Revival for the lost world

How to Start a Revival, by Gypsy Smith:

*Go home, lock yourself in your room, kneel down in the middle of your floor. Draw a chalk mark all around yourself and ask God to start the revival inside the chalk mark. When He has answered your prayer the revival will be on.*

Jeannine Brabon, OMS Missionary to Colombia: *Revival is when we come to the realization that Jesus Himself is the only One who is able to meet the deepest needs of our lives, and we stop looking elsewhere.*