



Number 27: 1-11

We recently began a much overdue survey of the Old Testament in our adult Bible study, and it has proven to be such a fertile soil! It was one quiet moment of personal study that lead me to try, for the umpteenth time, to tackle a book whose worth has, up until now, eluded me. The Book of Numbers.

And what a surprise I found waiting in chapter 27. When I first read it, something clicked, but I wasn't exactly sure what. Then, one evening while driving home from work, alone in my car, it came to me. Read the first eleven verses of chapter 27:

⁽¹⁾The daughters of Zelophehad son of Hopher, the son of Gilead, the son of Makir, the son of Manasseh, belonged to the clans of Manasseh son of Joseph. The names of the daughters were Mahlah, Noah, Hoglah, Milcah and Tirzah. They approached ⁽²⁾the entrance to the Tent of Meeting and stood before Moses, Eleazar the priest, the leaders and the whole assembly, and said, ⁽³⁾"Our father died in the desert. He was not among Korah's followers, who banded together against the LORD, but he died for his own sin and left no sons. ⁽⁴⁾Why should our father's name disappear from his clan because he had no son? Give us property among our father's relatives. "⁽⁵⁾ So Moses brought their case before the LORD ⁽⁶⁾ and the LORD said to him, ⁽⁷⁾"What Zelophehad's daughters are saying is right. You must certainly give them property as an inheritance

among their father's relatives and turn their father's inheritance over to them. ⁽⁸⁾"Say to the Israelites, 'If a man dies and leaves no son, turn his inheritance over to his daughter. ⁽⁹⁾ If he has no daughter, give his inheritance to his brothers. ⁽¹⁰⁾ If he has no brothers, give his inheritance to his father's brothers. ⁽¹¹⁾ If his father had no brothers, give his inheritance to the nearest relative in his clan, that he may possess it. This is to be a legal requirement for the Israelites, as the LORD commanded Moses.' "

What is going on here is remarkable. Numbers 27 is the appeal of Zelophehad's five daughters to Moses in regard to their inheritance. Their father had died without any sons, and under the law of the time, his daughters were left without an inheritance. Such an appeal was virtually unheard of because at that time a woman's station in society was only slightly higher than that of a child.

Children were always on the lowest social level, which is one reason why Jesus said we have to become as a child. In the culture of this day, all of society revolved around *men*.

Moses does two very interesting things here. He not only hears the appeal of these ladies, he *humbly* admits that he does not know the answer! He takes it to God, and God not only hears it, He gives the ladies much, much more than they had asked for, as all they had asked for was the land. God

says, in effect, "Not only can you have the land, but you have the right to pass it on just as if you were Zelophehad's sons." It came under their power completely.

Today, this exchange means very little. But at the time Numbers 27 takes place, this is absolutely, unbelievably HUGE.

What had escaped me until that fateful drive home, was this point: *no* leader under God can afford to *not* listen with fullest attention to the appeals of the lowly or to their counsel. He cannot afford to adopt the attitude in which he will not listen to the people that he is supposed to be leading.

It is a very important lesson and principle of law that comes out of Moses' humility, meekness, and willingness to hear, whereas other leaders of his day (and ours!) would likely have not even allowed those women to come into their presence.

There are only two cases in the life of Moses in which a woman came before him for either a judgment or in accusation. This was one of them, and the other one was his sister, Miriam. We know what happened to Miriam. It makes for an interesting contrast.

But that isn't all. There is actually something much more significant going on here— something that has escaped me for a long time. Turn to page four to read about it.



Stephanie Lee's cousin **Angel Tucker** is in need of fervent prayer. The 31 year old mother of 3 is having some very serious health issues.

Jeff Whittington's cancer is growing again, and his kidneys are being affected. He will be starting chemo soon now.

Al needs our prayer and support. Let's be there for him as he is always there for us.

Mark's friend **Bob** is losing his battle with cancer. Prayers are needed for all concerned.

Todd's mom is recovering from a difficult health problem in Indiana University Health Bloomington Hospital.

Sister **Bette** is having difficulties with her medications and needs prayer and encouragement.

Continue praying for our dear brother **Jack** as he continues his road to recovery.

Tyler's Grandpa, **Robert Myers**, is recovering from surgery and needs prayer.

Keep it Clean

Let's do our part in keeping our building clean. Please keep your area clean, and pitch in when you see a need. We shouldn't put everything off on those who volunteer to clean the building.

Perpetual Prayer List

Please keep these people on your prayer list.

- Alex Chambers
- Mia Cook
- Jack Horrocks
- Max Horrocks
- Louise Johnson
- Bette Oney-Self
- Leroy Provines
- Sharron Smith
- Jeff Whittington
- Ashley Wood

Times are tough, and getting tougher. Let's all join together and make sure that our brethren's needs are being met.

Some might be too embarrassed to ask for help. They shouldn't have to ask- we should know what is going on in the lives of those we love the most.

We serve an awesome God, and He is so good to give us what we ask for so much of the time. Remember that we should praise Him whether he answers our prayers the way we would like or not.

October Birthdays and Anniversaries

Jack Horrocks 3rd

Emily Kluesner 22nd

Building Cleaning This Month:

Horrocks

Communion Prep For September:

Horrocks

WWW.
WSIDECOC
.ORG

Verse of the Month:

Matthew 5:11-12

"Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me. Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you."

For Kids!

The Jews Journey

S T E L B A T N K C Y Y C W
C E N P R O M I S E D E X T
O W N A W A T E R R S N V G
M T L O A C F Z L S F R D K
M N L A T R E S E D E U K H
A A R G N S O N W M K O B T
N N E L N D R N O F M J K N
D E D B I E D M F R W I E B
M V N K D A A F L B N D N J
E O A L K N U H A N L O K N
N C I T N F Z Q C O W L T H
T W R A F J H Z G X A D C F
S M O S E S N V L R N R G B
X V C X K J T N K Q K L N K

Created Just for the great kids at the Westside Church of Christ

Aaron	Covenant	Land	Quail
Ark	desert	Manna	Stone
Calf	Golden	Moses	Tablets
Commandments	Idol	Omer	Water
coriander	Journey	Promised	Wilderness

THE 10 COMMANDMENTS

PART 5

The fifth commandment appears in Exodus 20:12. This commandment is part of what was commonly referred to as the “second table” laws. The last six commandments concern our duty to ourselves, and one another, and are a comment upon the second great commandment, *“Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself.”*

Just as religion towards God is an essential branch of universal righteousness, so righteousness towards men is an essential branch of true religion— that is to say that godliness and honesty must go together.

The fifth commandment concerns the duties we owe to our relations; that of children to their parents is also contained here: “honour thy father and thy mother” it is written. It is essential to understand that this parental honoring is weighed not only in an inward esteem of them,

but also in an outwardly expressed treatment of them in *all* occasions.

“Fear them” says Lev-19:3. *“Give them reverence”* commands Heb-12:9. The contrast to this, of course, would be the mocking of them or despising them.

“Obey their lawful commands” accords Eph -6:1-3. That children should obey their parents is obvious here; come when they call you, go where they send you, do what they bid you, do not what they forbid you etc. And, if that is not enough, do so *cheerfully*, and from a principle of love.

Submit yourselves to their rebukes, instructions and corrections, for through their Godly discipline, proper behavior is learned.

This is not optional. This is a commandment.

For Our Guests:

What to Expect During Today's Worship Service

Singing

We sing “a cappella” (without any instruments). This may be new to you, and if you are wondering why we do it this way, feel free to ask any of us. We encourage you to join in, even if you don't know the songs. But don't feel *obligated*; you are welcome to just sit and listen.

Lord's Supper

Communion is an important part of our worship *each and every week*. This is a celebration of the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus. In this simple memorial, we remember the sacrifice He made for our sins.

Offering

The work here at Westside is supported by the free will offerings of our members, as directed in scripture. You are not expected to make a donation, just pass the basket to the person sitting next to you.

Preaching

The sermon will be 30-35 minutes long, and will be grounded on scripture. Should you have any questions about what is taught here, please ask! We love to talk about our awesome God. After the sermon, an invitation will be given for those who desire to be Baptized. At this time, we will stand and sing a song. Please do not feel uncomfortable; you will not be singled out in any way.

Expected of you:

Nothing! We are honored that you chose to be with us today. Please take a minute after services to let us say hello to you!

Numbers 27:1-11 The Rest of The Story

What is so incredible about this story, and which adds further proof that the Bible is the word FROM God is this: This small incident tucked away deep in a dark corner of the Bible was the legal precedent that allowed Jesus Christ to be the King of the Jews!

If you look at the genealogy of Jesus Christ traced in the gospel of Matthew, you'll see it includes King David. From there, Matthew traces the Kingly line from David to Solomon to Rehoboam, Abijah, Jehoshaphat, and on down to Jesus' Earthly father, Joseph.

The ancestors of Joseph's- the kingly line of Solomon- got progressively worse and more wicked as the generations passed, culminating in King Jeconiah becoming king in 2Kings 24.

2Kgs. 24:9 says this: *“And he did evil in the sight of the LORD, according to all that his father had done.”* Fed up, God pronounced a curse upon this blood line.

Jer. 22:30 follows up: *“Thus says the LORD, Write this man down as childless— a man who will not prosper in his days; For no man of his descendants will prosper Sitting on the throne of David Or ruling again in Judah.”*

This curse presented a major problem: the Messiah was to come from David! He was to be the king of the Jews. But now God had cursed Jeconiah's descendants from *ever* ruling in Judah again!

Jesus could have inherited the land of his legal father Joseph, but because of the blood curse, He could *not* become *King*.

Fortunately, the daughters of Tsel-of-Chawd spoke up in Numbers 27! You see, Luke also traces Jesus' genealogy to David, but instead of following the line of David's son Solomon, Luke traces Jesus' lineage through David's son *Nathan* down to His mother *Mary*.

In this way, because the Law now provided for inheritance to be passed down through a daughter if there were no sons, Jesus was lawfully of the house and lineage of David, legally inheriting the Kingly promises, yet completely avoiding the blood curse on Jeconiah's line.

It is amazing how *all* scripture works together. If the Bible were truly a book of fiction, written over a span of a few hundred years by a handful of men, how could they have gotten so many details right? The answer of course is that they couldn't have. Not in a *million* years.

Welcome to the
Westside Church of Christ!

1301 Enterprise Ln.
Bloomington, Indiana 47403
Neil Tremblett, Preacher

812-360-1399

Sunday Morning Bible Study — 9:30 A.M.
Sunday Morning Worship — 10:30 A.M.
Sunday Evening Worship — 5:00 P.M.

Wednesday Evening Bible Study — 7:00 P.M.

You are most welcome— please join us!