

Numbers 27:7

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

The daughters of Zelophehad speak right: thou shalt surely give them a possession of an inheritance among their father's brethren; and thou shalt cause the inheritance of their father to pass unto them.

Analysis

God declared, 'The daughters of Zelophehad speak right'—divine approval of their petition. Their boldness in seeking justice was vindicated; God rewards those who pursue righteous claims. This case established that God's law serves justice and family preservation, not rigid tradition that harms rather than helps. Divine law has both stability and appropriate flexibility.

Historical Context

The ruling modified inheritance practice to allow daughters to inherit when no sons existed, with stipulation they marry within their tribe (36:6-9) to preserve tribal land allocation. This precedent balanced multiple values: family name, women's rights, and tribal integrity. Wise law serves multiple goods simultaneously.

Related Passages

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Study Questions

1. How do you balance upholding scriptural principles with applying them justly to new situations?
2. What does this teach about God's care for vulnerable people and family continuity?

Interlinear Text

יָמִין	בָּנוֹת	צִלְפָּחָד	דְּבַרְתָּ	תֵּת	תֵּת	לָהֶם
right	The daughters	of Zelophehad	speak	give	give	H0
H3651	H1323	H6765	H1696	H5414	H5414	
אֵלֵיהֶם	וְתִשָּׂא	נַחֲלָת	בֵּת וְ	אֶחָיו		
them a possession	and thou shalt	cause the inheritance	among	brethren		
H272		H5159	H8432	H251		
אֲבִיהֶם	אֶת	נַחֲלָת	אֲבִיהֶם			
of their father	to pass	and thou shalt cause the inheritance	of their father			
H1	H5674	H853	H5159			H1
לָהֶם						
H0						

Additional Cross-References

Jeremiah 49:11 (Parallel theme): Leave thy fatherless children, I will preserve them alive; and let thy widows trust in me.

Galatians 3:28 (Parallel theme): There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus.