

Numbers 36:10

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Even as the LORD commanded Moses, so did the daughters of Zelophehad:

Analysis

Even as the LORD commanded Moses, so did the daughters of Zelophehad

—The Hebrew phrase *ka'asher tzivah YHWH et-Moshe* (כַּאֲשֶׁר צִוָּה יְהוָה אֶת־מֹשֶׁה, 'just as Yahweh commanded Moses') emphasizes complete obedience. These women who boldly approached Moses requesting inheritance rights (Numbers 27:1-4) now humbly submitted to marriage restrictions for the greater good. Their obedience brackets the entire narrative—they trusted God's justice when seeking rights and trusted His wisdom when accepting limitations.

True faith petitions boldly yet submits gladly. The daughters' example refutes the false dichotomy between advocating for justice and submitting to authority—both flow from covenant faithfulness.

Historical Context

The daughters of Zelophehad (Mahlah, Noah, Hoglah, Milcah, Tirzah) became legal precedent-setters in ancient Israel. Their case is referenced three times in Scripture (Numbers 27, 36; Joshua 17:3-6), highlighting its significance. Their willing compliance with refined legislation demonstrated that their original petition sought justice, not mere self-interest.

Related Passages

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

Study Questions

1. How do you balance bold faith that petitions God for change with humble submission to His providence?
2. What does the daughters' example teach about the difference between seeking justice and mere self-assertion?
3. How can Christians advocate for needed change while maintaining a submissive spirit toward legitimate authority?

Interlinear Text

כָּאָשׁ רַ	צִוָּה	יְהוָה	אֶת	מֹשֶׁה	כִּן	עָשׂוּ
H834	commanded	Even as the LORD	H853	Moses	H3651	so did
	H6680	H3068		H4872		H6213
בְּנוֹת	זִלְפִּהָד:					
the daughters	of Zelophehad					
H1323	H6765					

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