

## HE WAS NOT IN THE COMPANY

NUMBERS 27:1 – 28:2

^^^ ^^ ^^

~ Our Spiritual Safari expedition through the entire Word of God is entering the Promised Land with Joshua, Caleb and the new generation of the children of Israel in this report. We're also entering the last section of the book of Numbers; although we don't divide the books of the Bible as a traditional Bible study would. In our last report, we noticed there were no Israelites remaining from the first census that had been taken. Every single one of them over the age of twenty-one at the time of the first census has now died in the wilderness during the previous forty years - except for Joshua and Caleb. Those were rigorous years for the nation Israel, and the desert was relentlessly tough and unforgiving.

The new generation of Israelite's come with a whole new set of problems, too. Until very recently in modern history, there has been a "generation gap;" which has always been a problem for the new generations to communicate with the older generation. Naturally, with technology and information the way it is, it is easier than ever to bridge that gap. We have a lot of parents who want to act like their teenagers, but that does not bridge the gap – it's a pathetic worship of their younger years that have passed them by. Well, each generation has its own new problems; and Israel was no exception. When we are old, we criticize the younger generation; when we were young, we all criticized the older generation. That's human nature - it doesn't change.

In this report, we will examine a woman's Biblical position under the Mosaic System of Levitical Law. This is one remarkable chapter, I must say. We have a new problem arise and Moses, obviously, has no idea what to do about it. Moses has to appeal to the Lord for wisdom because, according to the laws of the nations around them, women simply were not recognized and there was no such thing as woman's rights. In fact, women were treated as chattel....

HE WAS NOT IN THE COMPANY

NUMBERS 27:1 – 28:2

^^^^^^

Page 1 of 7

## XXVII

***1 Then came the daughters of Zelophehad, the son of Hopher, the son of Gilead, the son of Machir, the son of Manasseh, of the families of Manasseh the son of Joseph: and these are the names of his daughters; Mahlah, Noah, and Hoglah, and Milcah, and Tirzah.***

~ If you have a lot of daughters and you run out of names, I would not suggest Hoglah; it doesn't sound attractive! I have never heard of any woman named any of these names. I'm sure I know why these names are not picked today as Biblical names for kids. Well, the name Zelophehad may give us some insight as to how the kids got their names....

***2 And they stood before Moses, and before Eleazar the priest, and before the princes and all the congregation, by the door of the tabernacle of the congregation, saying,***

***3 Our father died in the wilderness, and he was not in the company of them that gathered themselves together against the LORD in the company of Korah; but died in his own sin, and had no sons.***

***4 Why should the name of our father be done away from among his family, because he hath no son? Give unto us therefore a possession among the brethren of our father.***

***5 And Moses brought their cause before the LORD.***

~ The problem is obvious and the Mosaic Law, at face value, seemed to indicate that only a male could inherit the parent's property. It didn't mention the female, so they seemed to have been left out. The laws of the other nations left women out completely. Women had no property rights - or ANY rights - in the surrounding countries at the time in which we are studying. Well, these daughters are aggressive, to be sure; and that aggressiveness certainly got their rights spelled out for them in the Word of God! Many have said the Bible is man's book. The Bible says otherwise....

**6 And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,**

**7 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.**

~ There are many people today who think the Bible is against women's rights. Of course, they want it to be that way, so they have an excuse to deny the Lord Jesus Christ. Women's rights are a huge political issue today. In many countries, even right now, women are traded, sold and given as presents to some disgusting man before she is even ten years old. Many, many countries and religions still treat women worse than animals. Any reasonable, educated woman ought to be thankful for the Word of God; and particularly for this section of it! This is the very first documented women's rights on the face of the earth, and it appears in the Bible. The daughters of Zelophehad spoke right; and on the basis of this, the Lord lays down a principle and gives them a law on which they can operate....

**8 And thou shalt speak unto the children of Israel, saying, If a man die, and have no son, then ye shall cause his inheritance to pass unto his daughter.**

~ I'm not sure God could have made it any clearer; and this happens to be about fifteen hundred years before the Lord Jesus Christ comes into the world. If this isn't a marvelous message, then I do not know what would be. The faith, forward aggressiveness and insistence on a correct decision by these daughters are, actually, amazing to me. They had no law whatsoever to cite to Moses as precedent – but they DID go to Moses and boldly present their case. They asked by faith and BY FAITH God gave them their requests!

Today, we are told that we are blessed with all spiritual blessings in the Heavenlies and in Christ Jesus. I am sure God hears us, not only for the spiritual, but for the material aspect of our lives today; I'm not only sure, I'm positive. My opinion is: most of us are, more or less, just spiritual babies. We don't come to Him as a mature man or woman. God wants to

HE WAS NOT IN THE COMPANY

NUMBERS 27:1 – 28:2

^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^

Page 3 of 7

be good to us, friends - but we have to learn how to request and appropriate blessings for His glory. I used to hesitate to ask God for many things – but – no more! Why don't you ask God for the things you want? God wants you to come to Him and ask for whatever you want in FAITH! These daughters were women of faith! They demanded their dad's stuff because it was the right thing to do! They spoke right – is what God said. Today, God wants us to speak right - and speak up, also....

***9 And if he have no daughter, then ye shall give his inheritance unto his brethren.***

***10 And if he have no brethren, then ye shall give his inheritance unto his father's brethren.***

***11 And if his father have no brethren, then ye shall give his inheritance unto his kinsman that is next to him of his family, and he shall possess it: and it shall be unto the children of Israel a statute of judgment, as the LORD commanded Moses.***

***12 And the LORD said unto Moses, Get thee up into this mount Abarim, and see the land which I have given unto the children of Israel.***

***13 And when thou hast seen it, thou also shalt be gathered unto thy people, as Aaron thy brother was gathered.***

~ Well, that's about as far as the Lord will allow us to go with Moses in Scripture. It's almost time to say good-bye. Moses sinned when he smote the rock the second time, you will recall. God had told Moses only to speak to it. Smiting the rock twice was wrong because Christ died once for our sins and there won't be second time. That single act of disobedience is why Moses can go up and look into, but he cannot enter the Promised Land in this life. Of course, Moses did enter the Promised Land when we see him with Elijah and Jesus at the transfiguration! But Moses didn't enter the land at this time, of course. Disobedience prevents most of us from entering into our own spiritual possessions - or it can easily rob us of them when we already possess them. Doubting God in disbelief ALWAYS leads to

HE WAS NOT IN THE COMPANY

NUMBERS 27:1 – 28:2

^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^

Page 4 of 7

disobedience. That is precisely what happened with Moses. So, we now see a successor appointed to replace him....

***14 For ye rebelled against my commandment in the desert of Zin, in the strife of the congregation, to sanctify me at the water before their eyes: that is the water of Meribah in Kadesh in the wilderness of Zin.***

***15 And Moses spake unto the LORD, saying,***

***16 Let the LORD, the God of the spirits of all flesh, set a man over the congregation,***

***17 Which may go out before them, and which may go in before them, and which may lead them out, and which may bring them in; that the congregation of the LORD be not as sheep which have no shepherd.***

***18 And the LORD said unto Moses, Take thee Joshua the son of Nun, a man in whom is the spirit, and lay thine hand upon him;***

~ The man that would replace Moses would have to be a spirit-filled man. However, let me say that the laying on of hands didn't transfer any power or anything like that. If we touch other people, the only thing that we can communicate to them are disease germs! They are highly communicable – but not spiritual power! It was only symbolic as the church members at Antioch all put their hands on Paul and Barnabus when they sent them out. They only did that because they were the representatives of the church, and they were associated with these two men and their missionary enterprise. That is the only meaning for the laying on of hands. It is purely symbolic. So, Joshua is going to pick up leadership where Moses lays it down.

It seems that Joshua was the most surprised man in the camp when he was chosen to succeed Moses. In one sense, Joshua was the most unlikely to succeed! On the other, Joshua was just an average man. He had given the true survey when the spies reported to Moses. No one was running around spouting off about the great potential of Joshua. They weren't commending

HE WAS NOT IN THE COMPANY

NUMBERS 27:1 – 28:2

^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^

Page 5 of 7

him for his leadership abilities in the camp of the children of Israel. I think Joshua reveals what the Lord can do with an obedient, ordinary man. God taking normal, everyday men who will yield to Him and using them is the wonder of it all, to me. Because He can use the ordinary means He can use ME! It also means He can use you – but maybe you are extraordinary! Either way, Joshua was chosen and appointed at this time and at the end of Deuteronomy we will attend Moses' funeral. Then, Joshua will assume full command....

***19 And set him before Eleazar the priest, and before all the congregation; and give him a charge in their sight.***

***20 And thou shalt put some of thine honour upon him, that all the congregation of the children of Israel may be obedient.***

***21 And he shall stand before Eleazar the priest, who shall ask counsel for him after the judgment of Urim before the LORD: at his word shall they go out, and at his word they shall come in, both he, and all the children of Israel with him, even all the congregation.***

***22 And Moses did as the LORD commanded him: and he took Joshua, and set him before Eleazar the priest, and before all the congregation:***

***23 And he laid his hands upon him, and gave him a charge, as the LORD commanded by the hand of Moses.***

## **XXVIII**

***1 And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,***

***2 Command the children of Israel, and say unto them, My offering, and my bread for my sacrifices made by fire, for a sweet savour unto me, shall ye observe to offer unto me in their due season.***

~ Chapter twenty-eight and twenty-nine are the laws for the offerings. Here we will see the absolute precious characteristics of the Lord Jesus

HE WAS NOT IN THE COMPANY

NUMBERS 27:1 – 28:2

^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ ^

Page 6 of 7

Christ brought to our attention. In fact, this is the ABIDING preciousness of Christ in the order of the offerings. When read in a cursory manner, this seems most uninteresting. The emphasis is on MY offerings. "My, My, My," saith the Lord – it's all His – and it's all done unto Him! Everything is to be done for and offered unto Him. We considered the five offerings at the very beginning of Leviticus, and three were sweet-savor offerings; two were non-sweet-savor offerings. The sweet-savor offerings speak of the Person of Christ - and the non-sweet-savour offerings speak to His work on the cross in redemption for you and me. It's all about Him. What we have here is NOT what Christ has done for us and it is NOT what we think about Him; this is what GOD thinks of His Son, the Lord Jesus Christ ~

\* \* \* \* \*