

Numbers 36:1-13 **Women who Inherit Land**

Concern about transfer of land from tribe to tribe by marriage of women holding the inherited land

¹ Now the chief fathers of the families of the children of Gilead the son of Machir, the son of Manasseh, of the families of the sons of Joseph, came near and spoke before Moses and before the leaders, the chief fathers of the children of Israel; ² and they said: "The LORD commanded my lord Moses to give the land as an inheritance by lot to the children of Israel, and my lord was commanded by the LORD to give the inheritance of our brother Zelophehad to his daughters. ³ Now if they are married to any of the sons of the other tribes of the children of Israel, then their inheritance will be taken from the inheritance of our fathers, and it will be added to the inheritance of the tribe into which they marry; so it will be taken from the lot of our inheritance. ⁴ And when the Jubilee of the children of Israel comes, then their inheritance will be added to the inheritance of the tribe into which they marry; so their inheritance will be taken away from the inheritance of the tribe of our fathers."

Solution, women marry within their own tribe

⁵ Then Moses commanded the children of Israel according to the word of the LORD, saying: "What the tribe of the sons of Joseph speaks is right. ⁶ This is what the LORD commands concerning the daughters of Zelophehad, saying, 'Let them marry whom they think best, but they may marry only within the family of their father's tribe.' ⁷ "So the inheritance of the children of Israel shall not change hands from tribe to tribe, for every one of the children of Israel shall keep the inheritance of the tribe of his fathers. ⁸ And every daughter who possesses an inheritance in any tribe of the children of Israel shall be the wife of one of the family of her father's tribe, so that the children of Israel each may possess the inheritance of his fathers. ⁹ Thus no inheritance shall change hands from one tribe to another, but every tribe of the children of Israel shall keep its own inheritance."

Obedience to command

¹⁰ Just as the LORD commanded Moses, so did the daughters of Zelophehad; ¹¹ for Mahlah, Tirzah, Hoglah, Milcah, and Noah, the daughters of Zelophehad, were married to the sons of their father's brothers. ¹² They were married into the families of the children of Manasseh the son of Joseph, and their inheritance remained in the tribe of their father's family.

Conclusion of book of Numbers

¹³ These are the commandments and the judgments which the LORD commanded the children of Israel by the hand of Moses in the plains of Moab by the Jordan, across from Jericho. NKJV

Facts Revealed:

- ✧ Leaders of the tribe of Manasseh question the transfer of tribal land inherited by women if they marry into another tribe; making reference to the command allowing women to inherit their father's inheritance if he has no sons. [Numbers 27:1-11, 36:1-4]
- ✧ This was a reference to the ruling regarding the daughters of Zelophehad who had daughters but no sons.
- ✧ Answer; Women who hold tribal land of inheritance of their fathers may only marry within their father's tribe in order to prevent the transfer of the land from one tribe to another. [Numbers 36:5-9]
- ✧ The daughters of Zelophehad did as so instructed. [Numbers 36:10-12]

☆ These are the commandments and the judgments Yehowah commanded the Children of Israel by the hand of Moses in the plains of Moab by the Jordan River across from Jericho. [[Numbers 36:13](#)]