

Faith exercised (Numbers 27)

Outline of Numbers:

- 1:1 – 10:10 Israel encamped at Sinai
- 10:11 – 13:25 Journey from Sinai to Kadesh (first postexodus generation of Hebrews)
- 13:26 – 20:21 Israel encamped at Kadesh
- 20:22 – 21:35 Journey from Kadesh to Moab (second generation)
- 22:1 – 36:13 Israel encamped on the plains of Moab before entering the Promised Lands

Introduction:

The Curious case regarding the inheritance of Zelophehad (v.1-11)

The spotlight falls on a particular group of people from the nation of Israel who raised an unprecedented case.

The daughters of Zelophehad showed faith, the assurance and conviction of a hope that is to come, in a God whom they know will deliver what He has promised to His people.

The Changing of command from Moses to Joshua (v.12-23)

The spotlight falls on the current leader of the nation who raised an genuine concern.

Moses showed faith, the assurance and conviction of a hope that is to come, in a God whom he knows will fulfil His promise of leading the people into the Promised land.

Christ our inheritance and king

"We do not have the full enjoyment of it at present. . . . We walk . . . in hope, and we do not see the thing as if it were present, but we see it by faith. . . . Although, then, the world gives itself liberty to trample us under foot, as they say; although our Lord keeps us tried with many temptations; although he humbles us in such a way that it may seem we are as sheep appointed to the slaughter, so that we are continually at death's door, yet we are not destitute of a good remedy. And why seeing that the Holy Spirit reigns in our hearts, we have something for which to give praise even in the midst of all our temptations. . . . [Therefore,] we should rejoice, mourn, grieve, give thanks, be content, wait"
(from John Calvin's Ephesian sermons, delivered in Geneva, 1558–59).

Conclusion:

Big Idea: God is a God who loves His people and makes good of what He promises.

Aim: We seek to exercise faith in Him and obedience to Him.

Reflection:

- How has my faith in God & His Word grown recently?