Class # 36– Parshat Pinchas – Women Power

Advanced Fellowship Parsha Class - Sponsored in memory of Alice Toby Barbanel Z”l

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[*https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=igmY2EXA2HE&t=204s*](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=igmY2EXA2HE&t=204s)

1. *How do you think Golda Meir handled the British journalist?*
2. *Why do you think she was so passionate?*
3. *What made her a great Jewish leader?*

***Golda Meir***[*[nb 1]*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Golda_Meir#cite_note-2) *(May 3, 1898 – December 8, 1978) was an Israeli teacher,* [*kibbutznik*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kibbutznik)*,* [*stateswoman*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Public_figure)*,* [*politician*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Politician) *and the* [*fourth*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_Prime_Ministers_of_Israel) [*Prime Minister*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Prime_Minister_of_Israel) *of* [*Israel*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Israel)*.*

*Meir was elected* [*Prime Minister of Israel*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Prime_Minister_of_Israel) *on March 17, 1969, after serving as Minister of Labour and Foreign Minister.*[*[2]*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Golda_Meir#cite_note-3) *The world's fourth and Israel's first and only woman to hold such an office, she has been described as the "Iron Lady" of* [*Israeli politics*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Politics_of_Israel)*,*[*[3]*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Golda_Meir#cite_note-4) *though her tenure ended before that term was applied to British Prime Minister* [*Margaret Thatcher*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Margaret_Thatcher)*. Former Prime Minister* [*David Ben-Gurion*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/David_Ben-Gurion) *used to call Meir "the best man in the government"; she was often portrayed as the "strong-willed, straight-talking, grey-bunned grandmother of the Jewish people".*[*[4]*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Golda_Meir#cite_note-HA-5)

*Meir resigned as prime minister in 1974, the year following the* [*Yom Kippur War*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Yom_Kippur_War)*. She died in 1978 of* [*lymphoma*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lymphoma)*.*[*[5]*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Golda_Meir#cite_note-6)

*Zelafchad's Daughters*

27:1 A petition was presented by the [daughters of Tzelafchad](http://bible.ort.org/books/pentd2.asp?ACTION=displaypage&BOOK=4&CHAPTER=27#C3446), son of Chefer, son of Gilead, son of Makhir, son of Manasseh, of the family of Joseph's son Manasseh. The names of these daughters were Machlah, No'ah, Chaglah, Milkah and Tirtzah. 27:2 They now stood before Moses, Eleazar the priest, [the princes, and the entire community](http://bible.ort.org/books/pentd2.asp?ACTION=displaypage&BOOK=4&CHAPTER=27#C3447) at the Communion Tent entrance with the following petition: 27:3 'Our father died in the desert. He was not among the members of Korach's party who protested against God, but he died because of his [own sin](http://bible.ort.org/books/pentd2.asp?ACTION=displaypage&BOOK=4&CHAPTER=27#C3448) without leaving any sons. 27:4 Why should our father's name be disadvantaged in his family merely because he did not have a son? Give us a portion of land along with our father's brothers.' 27:5 Moses brought their case before God.

*Inheritance for Daughters*

27:6 God spoke to Moses, saying: 27:7 The daughters of Tzelafchad have a just claim. Give them a hereditary portion of land alongside their father's brothers. Let their father's hereditary property thus pass over to them. 27:8 Speak to the Israelites and tell them that if a man dies and has no son, his hereditary property shall pass over to his daughter. 27:9 If he has no daughter, then his hereditary property shall be given to his brothers. 27:10 If he has no brothers, you shall give his property to his father's brothers. 27:11 If his father had no brothers, then you shall give his property to the closest relative in his family, who shall then be his heir.

This was the decreed law for the Israelites, as God had commanded Moses.

*Intermarriage Between Tribes*

36:1 The paternal leaders of the family of [Gilead](http://bible.ort.org/books/pentd2.asp?ACTION=displaypage&BOOK=4&CHAPTER=36#C3698), son of Makhir, son of Manasseh (which was one of the families from Joseph's sons), came forth and spoke before Moses and the leaders who were the paternal heads of the Israelites. 36:2 They said, 'God has commanded [you](http://bible.ort.org/books/pentd2.asp?ACTION=displaypage&BOOK=4&CHAPTER=36#C3699) to give the land to the Israelites as hereditary property through a [lottery system](http://bible.ort.org/books/pentd2.asp?ACTION=displaypage&BOOK=4&CHAPTER=36#C3700). You have also been commanded by God to give the hereditary property of Tzelafchad our brother [to his daughters](http://bible.ort.org/books/pentd2.asp?ACTION=displaypage&BOOK=4&CHAPTER=36#C3701). 36:3 'But if they marry a member of another Israelite tribe, then the hereditary property coming to us from our fathers will be diminished, since it will be added to the tribe into which they marry. Our hereditary property from the lottery system will thus be diminished. 36:4 Even if the Israelites have the jubilee, their hereditary property will be added to the property of the tribe into which they marry, and it will be subtracted from the property of our fathers' tribe.' 36:5 Moses gave the Israelites instructions at God's command, saying, 'The tribe of Joseph's descendants have a [just claim](http://bible.ort.org/books/pentd2.asp?ACTION=displaypage&BOOK=4&CHAPTER=36#C3702). 36:6 [This is the word](http://bible.ort.org/books/pentd2.asp?ACTION=displaypage&BOOK=4&CHAPTER=36#C3703) that God has commanded regarding Tzelafchad's daughters: You may marry anyone you wish as long as you marry within your father's tribe. 36:7 The hereditary property of the Israelites will thus not be transferred from one tribe to another, and each person among the Israelites will remain attached to the hereditary property of his father's tribe. 36:8 'Thus, every girl who inherits property among the Israelite tribes shall marry a member of her father's tribe. Each Israelite will then inherit his fathers' hereditary property, 36:9 and the hereditary property will not be transferred from one tribe to another. Each of the Israelite tribes will then remain attached to its hereditary property.' 36:10 Tzelafchad's daughters did exactly as God had commanded Moses. 36:11 [Machlah, Tirtzah, Chaglah, Milcah and No'ah](http://bible.ort.org/books/pentd2.asp?ACTION=displaypage&BOOK=4&CHAPTER=36#C3704), the daughters of Tzelafchad, married their [cousins](http://bible.ort.org/books/pentd2.asp?ACTION=displaypage&BOOK=4&CHAPTER=36#C3705). 36:12 They thus married into the families of Manasseh son of Joseph, and their hereditary property remained with their father's family.

Sephorno 36: 11

ממשפחות בני מנשה, seeing that they had realised that it was G’d’s will that the land should not be transferred from one tribe to another, even though He had given permission for them to choose a husband from any family of their tribe in accordance with their wishes, they chose the sons of their uncles over other families of their tribe as these were more closely related to them.

ותהי נחלתן על מטה משפחת אביהן, so that there was no transfer of any land to another tribe by reason of their marriages. In fact, no land was reassigned to another family within the same tribe.