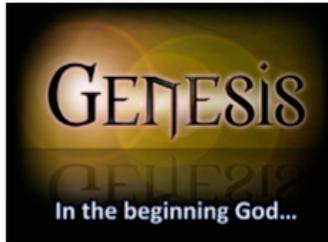


Day 66: Genesis 49:1-32: Jacob Blesses His Sons



Teacher: Connie Stampfl

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- **Tell you what shall happen in days to come:** a prophecy of their time in Canaan and the time of the coming of the Messiah, and a blessing
- **Reuben:** firstborn; unstable in impulses; lost preeminence: Gen. 35:22
- **Simeon and Levi:** similar in violence, anger and self-will; cursed by their anger and wrath; divided and scattered: Gen 34:25-30
- **Judah:** brothers shall praise you and bow down to you and nations submit to you (birthright of leadership); the kingship of David culminating in Christ's eternal rule; under whom shall be the obedience of the peoples (Abraham's blessing will come to the Gentiles) Rev. 5:5; associated with agricultural abundance and prosperity
- **Zebulun:** shall dwell toward the sea, on the Via Maris trade route
- **Issachar:** strong, industrious, agricultural; a donkey working for others
- **Dan:** produced Samson, the last judge; aggressive; chose trickery and instituted idol worship: Judges 18:30; not listed in Rev. 7:4-8
- **I wait for your salvation:** Jacob's prayer to the LORD
- **Gad:** territory in the Transjordan and subject to raiders, learned to attack
- **Asher:** fruitful area along the northern coast
- **Naphtali:** a free mountain people; Barak; disciples except Judas Iscariot: Judges 5:18
- **Joseph:** fruitful; afflicted but sustained by the Mighty One of Jacob; blessings exceeding those of Abraham and Isaac; set apart from his brothers; Joshua, Deborah, Samuel
- **Benjamin:** warlike; aggressive; later known as archers and slingers: Judges 20-21; Ehud; King Saul, Jonathon; Paul
- **Bury me with my fathers:** in the cave of Machpelah

Assignment:

Throughout his life Jacob earnestly desired God's blessings. How is he passing on that faith in his blessings of his sons as he looks forward to their conquest and settlement in Canaan, and then to the Messiah?

In what ways are you experiencing or anticipating God's great blessings?