

THE 12 TRIBES OF ISRAEL

(Genesis 49)

XV. JACOB'S REQUEST TO JOSEPH (Gen. 47:27-31)

XVI. JACOB BLESSES TWO OF HIS GRANDSONS (Gen. 48:1-22)

XVII. JACOB BLESSES HIS TWELVE SONS IN HIS FINAL MOMENTS (Gen. 49:1-33)

A. Israel's blessings to his twelve sons was undeniably prophetic (49:1-27)

1. *Rueben* was _____ as water, and he would _____ enjoy the preeminence over his brothers as the firstborn, nor would he receive the honorary "_____." (vv. 3-4)

2. *Simeon* was considered partners in _____ (with Levi), and because of their wickedness to the people of Shechem, they would have no _____ tribal territory of their own. (vv. 5-7)

3. *Levi* (and his partner Simeon) were considered _____ and _____ men. (vv. 5-7)

4. *Judah* the "_____ " was predicted to be the _____ among all the tribes. (vv. 8-11)
 - a. Judah would be a great _____ (vv. 8-9)

 - b. Judah would produce a royal line of _____ (v. 10)

 - c. Judah would produce the _____, the _____ of the tribe of Judah (vv. 10b-12)

* What time period does this poetic imagery picture? (vv. 11-12)

5. **Zebulun** the _____ would eventually obtain territory between the Sea of Galilee and the Mediterranean Sea. (v. 13)

6. **Issachar** the _____ would chose the agricultural life, and what it produced; lower Galilee and the Valley of Jezreel would become a pleasant _____ area. (vv. 14-15)

7. **Dan** the _____ and _____ would have a mighty descendent named Samson who would judge the Israelites; but unfortunately this tribe would eventually lead Israel into pagan idolatry. (vv. 16-17)

8. **Gad** the _____ whose descendents would also be effective in battle as they were placed between the Moabites and the Amorites on the east side of the Jordan. (v. 19)

9. **Asher** the _____ would possess some of the most fertile soil in the land of Canaan along the Mediterranean coast in the lowlands of Carmel, and so Asher had some of the _____ food. (v. 20)

10. **Naphtali** the _____ suggests that he and his descendants were poetic people, who would make great messengers. (v. 21)

11. **Joseph** the _____ and the _____ as the Lord had prospered Jacob, so he and his sons Ephraim and Manasseh would be _____, Joseph received the double portion as the firstborn. (v. 22-26)

12. **Benjamin** the ravenous _____ produced many warriors in Israel's history, and he demonstrated a warlike character among the tribes. (v. 27)

* What does all of this mean to you?