

Chapter 49

Read and meditate on Genesis Chapter 49 this week
and prayerfully answer the following questions before Tuesday's class



The location of Twelve Tribes of Israel as described in the Book of Joshua.
Map from worldeventsofthebible.com

Genesis 49:1,2 *“1Then Jacob summoned his sons and said, “Assemble yourselves, so that I may tell you what will happen to you in the days to come. 2 Gather together and listen, sons of Jacob; Yes, listen to Israel your father.””*

At the end of his life, Jacob summons his sons so that he may bless them before he dies.

Jacob, by divine inspiration, foretold major characteristics of each of the twelve tribes that would issue from his twelve sons.

Read Verses 3-27

Each blessing contains at least one of these elements.

- 1) a description of the son’s personality
- 2) a hint as to his potential
- 3) a prophesy of his future

1. Write what your blessing might sound like using examples 1,2 and 3.

2. . As you read each son’s blessing, look on the provided map of the twelve tribes and familiarize yourself with each tribe’s location after they entered the Promised Land.

3. The first king of Israel was Saul, a Benjamite. How does his character fit Jacob’s prophesy for Benjamin? Search verses that show Jacob’s prophesy for Benjamin was truthful.

4. Verse 22 Joseph is a “fruitful bough”. Find three verses from the Genesis account of Joseph that are proof of the fruitfulness of Joseph’s life.

5. Read Revelation 7:4-8. Which tribe is missing? _____

Now read Judges 18:28-31 and 1Kings 12:28-33.

How might these verses shed light on this “missing tribe” issue?

In verse 30, isn't it strange that Jacob said, “Bury me at Machpelah”? – where Leah was buried?

Why do you think he made that request?

Perhaps it was just a desire to be buried with his father Isaac and grandfather Abraham. Maybe it seemed odd for him to be buried with Rachel, near Bethlehem, and not in the family tomb.

Could it be that at the end of his life he realized that what he thought was a trick by Laban, to marry Leah unknowingly, was really the biggest blessing in his life?

Because from Leah, not Rachel, came Judah. And we now know that it was through Judah, that the Savior of the world, Jesus Christ, came.

6. Was there an event in your life that you, like Jacob, felt something could NOT have turned out any worse?

But later on you realized what an amazing blessing that situation actually turned out to be?

7. What verses can you find that speak of God's perfect timing, perfect planning and trustworthiness?
