

Scripture Reading: Deut. 33:24-29

Key Verse: V. 25

Introduction:

In this sermon, we will reflect on God's promises and His faithfulness for our journey through life as believers.

God has promised to be with us even unto white hairs (which some of us are already there), and ultimately, even unto death.

Isaiah 46:4 (KJV)

⁴ And *even to your* old age I *am* he; and *even to hoar hairs* will I carry *you*: I have made, and I will bear; even I will carry, and will deliver *you*.

Psalm 48:14 (KJV)

¹⁴ For this God *is* our God for ever and ever: he will be our guide *even unto death*.

Background Observations:

DEUTERONOMY 33-34

Chapter summary. Moses is about to take his last, long journey up Mt. Nebo to glimpse the Promised Land and die...

Key verses. 34:10-12: God's great men deserve honoring.

Deuteronomy 34:10-12 (KJV)

¹⁰ And there arose not a prophet since in Israel like unto Moses, whom the LORD knew face to face,

¹¹ In all the signs and the wonders, which the LORD sent him to do in the land of Egypt to Pharaoh, and to all his servants, and to all his land,

¹² And in all that mighty hand, and in all the great terror which Moses shewed in the sight of all Israel.

Personal application. How will we be remembered at life's end?

Key concept. Blessing

INSIGHT

Blessings for the twelve tribes (33:6-25).

For Reuben: Survival. The census lists in Num. 1 and 26 show a slight decline in numbers, but later the tribe suffered severely from attacks by Ammonites.

For Judah: Succor. Jacob (Gen. 49) singled out Judah as the future bearer of the royal scepter. Moses prayed God will come to Judah's aid.

For Levi: Skill. Levi possesses the priesthood and the mission of serving God. How greatly this people needed every possible skill in carrying out its ministry and encouraging devotion in Israel as a whole.

For Benjamin: Security. The tribe, which with Judah remained faithful to David's house at the time of the

division of the kingdom in 730 B.C., is pictured as especially precious to God, and shielded by Him.

For Joseph: Superabundance. This is the longest of the blessings, and features a five times repetition of the Heb. word *meqed*, which indicates the choicest of gifts, the richest yield of crops, and an overflowing abundance. After the division of Solomon's kingdom, the tribe of Joseph's son Ephraim emerged as the most powerful in the Northern Kingdom.

For Zebulun and Issachar: Success. These tribes later gained wealth and material success, some of which was obtained by trade.

For Gad: Superiority. The Heb. is obscure, but the text suggests military success and leadership.

For Dan: Springing. The text makes a simple but symbolic statement, perhaps suggesting an aggressive character for this tribe that was settled in Galilee.

For Naphtali: Satiation. Naphtali too is destined to abound with plenty.

****For Asher: Strength.** The strength is economic, symbolized by dipping one's feet in (olive) oil. This Eastern idiom simply means "let him be prosperous."

--Bible Reader's Companion.

So with the tribe of Asher in mind, let's consider our topic tonight: "Strength for the Journey!"

- I. **We Are on A Journey—V. 25 “shoes”**
- II. **We Must Be Prepared to Travel Over Some Rough Places—V. 25 “iron and brass”**
- III. **We are to Travel One Day at A Time—V. 25 “...and as thy days, so shall thy strength be.”**
- IV. **We May Be Sure His Strength Will Be Sufficient—V. 25 “...and as thy days, so shall thy strength be.”**

Conclusion:

A dear Christian lady had this horrible fear of death. She shuddered to think about it.

The closer she got to it the more she feared it. Finally, the time came for her to go.

In her dying moments her last words were, “I am standing on the firm foundation!”

Closing:

Do you need help?

Do you need “**Strength**” tonight?

Please come while we wait...

*Bruce Beach—5/6/15—Wed. @ OBC, Dalton

*Bruce Beach—7/10/24—Wed. @ WHBC, Dalton

*My background observation was borrowed from: *Bible Reader's Companion*.