

JOSEPH

THE HIDDEN HAND OF GOD

Part 8: In Preparing His People
for Eternity

June 23rd, 2024

Genesis 48:1-49:28 (p.44)

Author: Moses with some later editors

Date: 1406BC

*Melodic Line of Genesis: Despite the failure of God's covenant people,
God's purposes and plans will come to fulfilment, not through the
faithfulness of others but through the faithfulness of God.*

BIG IDEA:

Be prepared for death by learning from Jacob's two manifestations of faith as He approaches His death:

1. _____
(48:1-22)

2. _____
(49:1-28)

More resources
on Genesis 49:10



REFLECTION QUESTIONS

1. Jacob rested in God's unusual blessing, even when it went against cultural norms. Reflect on a time when God worked in your life in an unexpected way. How did this experience shape your faith? How can we cultivate trust in God's sovereign plan, even when it doesn't align with our expectations? (Consider Isaiah 55:8-9 and Proverbs 3:5-6)

2. The sermon highlights God's choice of Judah despite his past sins. How does this example of grace challenge your view of God's forgiveness and redemption? In what ways can you extend this radical grace to others in your life who have fallen short? (Reflect on Ephesians 2:4-5 and Colossians 3:13)

3. Jacob approached death with confidence, declaring God's unusual will. How does the assurance of God's promises impact your view of mortality? What spiritual practices can we develop to strengthen our faith in the face of life's ultimate questions? (Consider 1 Corinthians 15:54-57 and 2 Corinthians 5:6-8)

4. The sermon presents Jesus as the ultimate fulfillment of Jacob's prophecy about Judah - as warrior, ruler, vine, and wine-washer. Which of these aspects of Christ's identity resonates most deeply with your current spiritual journey, and why? How might meditating on these images deepen your relationship with Jesus? (Explore Revelation 5:5, Matthew 28:18, John 15:5, and Revelation 19:13-15)

DIGGING DEEPER

Resources to help you think deeper about this week's Bible message.

Recommended resources are not an endorsement of all the authors have said or written.

Something to Read:

Dying and Death: Getting Rightly Prepared for the Inevitable - Joel Beeke

A Salve for a Sick Man, or a Treatise on Godliness in Sickness and Dying - William Perkins

Trusting God When Life Hurts - Jerry Bridges

Something to Listen to:

Jacob Blesses Judah (Gen 49:8-12) - Geoff Thomas (available on YouTube)

Four Perspectives of the Plan of God (Genesis 49:1-33) - Jordan Neal Rogers (available on YouTube)

The Future Unveiled (Genesis 49:1-12) - Steven J. Lawson (available on YouTube)

Mixed Blessing (Genesis 49:1-28) - Philip Brentford (available from st-helens.org.uk)

We Can Stake Our Future on God (Gen 47:1-49:33) - William Taylor (available from st-helens.org.uk)

NEXT WEEK

Joseph: The Hidden Hand of God #9 - Genesis 49:29-50:26

What to do right after the service to help “the Word dwell more richly,” within us (Colossians 3:16):

1. Instead of rushing off after the service is over, or talking about the latest news, develop the habit of talking about the sermon with people after church. Start spiritual conversations by asking, “How did the Scripture challenge or speak to you today?” Or “what about God in the message encouraged you?”

2. Encourage someone by sharing things you learned about God from His Word during the sermon. Make note of how your thinking has changed. Don't let biblical teaching be a one-time event that fades from memory as soon as it is over (James 1:22-25). Choose one or two particular applications to share.

[Above from book Nine Marks of a Healthy Church Member by 9Marks]