

Jacob's Prophetic Blessings upon His Sons (Gen 49:1–28)

Grace Chapel June 23, 2010 Dr. John Niemelä

INTRODUCTION

(49:1–2) Jacob Calls His Sons together so He Could Bless them prophetically

(49:3–15) Jacob's Blessings on the Sons of Leah 13 vss
(49:3–4) Jacob's Blessings on Reuben (Leah's first son) 2
Reuben, the beginning of Jacob's strength, disqualified for sin and impetuosity

(49:5–7) Jacob's Blessings on Simeon and Levi (Leah's second and third sons) 3
Simeon and Levi would be dispersed among their brethren for their cruelty

(49:8–12) Jacob's Blessings on Judah (Leah's fourth son) 5 *
Judah's brothers will praise him as the victor over enemies and ruler even until the appropriate heir comes to rule an abundant kingdom

(49:13) Jacob's Blessings on Zebulun (Leah's sixth son) 1
Zebulun will prosper in ocean shipping near Sidon

(49:14–15) Jacob's Blessings on Issachar (Leah's fifth son) 2
Strong-man Issachar's will become a slave in the land that Israel was to rule

(49:16–21) Jacob’s Blessings on the Sons of Bilhah and Zilpah	6
(49:16–18) Jacob’s Blessings on Dan (Bilhah’s first son)	3
Little Dan will be judge and will win battles disproportionate to his smallness	
Reuben 4 Simeon 6 Levi 3 Judah 5	
Issachar 4 Zebulun 3 Gad 7 Asher 5	
Joseph 2 Benjamin 10 Dan 1 Naphtali 4	
(49:19) Jacob’s Blessings on Gad (Zilpah’s first son)	1
Gad will be tramped upon by invaders, but will nip at their heels	
(49:20) Jacob’s Blessings on Asher (Bilhah’s second son)	1
Asher will grow rich supplying specialty crops to royalty	
(49:21) Jacob’s Blessings on Naphtali (Zilpah’s second son)	1
Naphtali will swiftly carry good news	
(49:22–27) Jacob’s Blessings on the Sons of Rachel	6
(49:22–26) Jacob’s Blessings on Joseph (Rachel’s first son)	5 *
Joseph will need to fight to protect his great prosperity	
(Remember that Jacob already blessed Ephraim and Manasseh)	
(49:27) Jacob’s Blessings on Benjamin (Rachel’s second son)	1
Benjamin will be a ravenous wolf that will share his bounty with his brothers	
(49:28) Summary: Thus, Jacob blessed all of his sons	

SUMMARY