

22. Jacob Blesses His Twelve Sons

Jacob called unto his sons ... Gather yourselves together, that I may tell you that which shall befall you in the last days ...

Reuben, thou art my firstborn, my might ... beginning of my strength, the excellency of dignity ... the excellency of power: Unstable as water, thou shalt not excel; because thou wentest up to thy father's bed ... defiledst thou it ...

Simeon and Levi are ... instruments of cruelty are in their habitations. O my soul, come not thou into their secret; unto their assembly, mine honour, be not thou united: for in their anger they slew a man, and in their selfwill they digged down a wall. Cursed be their anger, for it was fierce; and their wrath, for it was cruel: I will divide them in Jacob, and scatter them in Israel.

Judah, thou art he whom thy brethren shall praise: thy hand shall be in the neck of thine enemies; thy father's children shall bow down before thee ... a lion's whelp: from the prey ... thou art gone up: he stooped down, he couched as ... an old lion; who shall rouse him up? The sceptre shall not depart from Judah, nor a lawgiver from between his feet, until Shiloh come; and unto him shall the gathering of the people be ...

Zebulun shall dwell at the haven of the sea; and he shall be for an haven of ships; and his border shall be unto Zidon.

Issachar is a strong ass couching down between two burdens: And he saw that rest was good, and the land that it was pleasant; and bowed his shoulder to bear, and became a servant unto tribute.

Dan shall judge his people, as one of the tribes of Israel ... a serpent by the way, an adder in the path, that biteth the horse heels, so that his rider shall fall backward. I have waited for thy salvation, O LORD.

Gad, a troop shall overcome him: but he shall overcome at the last.

Out of Asher his bread shall be fat, and he shall yield royal dainties.

Naphtali is a hind let loose: he giveth goodly words.

Joseph is a fruitful bough ... by a well; whose branches run over the wall: The archers have sorely grieved him, and shot at him, and hated him: But his bow abode in strength, and the arms of his hands were made strong by the hands of the mighty God of Jacob; (from thence is the shepherd, the stone of Israel:;) Even by the God of thy father, who shall help thee; and by the Almighty, who shall bless thee with blessings of heaven above, blessings of the deep that lieth under, blessings of the breasts, and of the womb ...

Benjamin shall ravin as a wolf: in the morning he shall devour the prey, and at night he shall divide the spoil.

All these are the twelve tribes of Israel ... that their father blessed them; every one according to his blessing he blessed them. And he charged them, and said unto them, I am to be gathered unto my people: bury me with my fathers in the cave that is in the field of Ephron the Hittite ... (Genesis 49:1-29 KJV)



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ADDER	DEVOUR	SCATTER
ARCHERS	DIGGED	SCEPTRE
BRANCHES	ENEMIES	SEFWILL
BURDENS	FIERCE	SHEPHERD
BURY	FIRSTBORN	SLEW
CAVE	HEELS	SPOIL
CRUELTY	LAWGIVER	TRIBUTE
DAINTIES	OVERCOME	UNSTABLE
DEEP	ROUSE	WHELP
DEFILEDST	ROYAL	WOMB