

**ROOTS**  
*A Study in Genesis*



---

**LESSON 24 GENESIS 48- 49:28**

1. What truth, verse or insight from last week's study of **Genesis 46-47** resonated with you and why?
  
2. As you read **Genesis 48- 49:28**, pray and ask God that these final chapters in the life of Jacob, the father of the twelve tribes of Israel, would be a source of great wisdom and blessing to you.
  
3. Read **Genesis 48:1-2**. How do these verses set the scene for the interaction that is about to take place?
  
4. What promise of God that was made to Jacob, and to Abraham and Isaac before him, does Jacob recount to Joseph in **V3-4**?
  
5. a) From **V5-20**, as Jacob transfers the blessings of the promise to another generation, what did you find interesting about the positioning of Joseph's sons, and what did it mean for them? Why do you think that Joseph was displeased?  
  
b) From Jacob's blessing in **V15-16**, how is God portrayed and what is Jacob asking of God?
  
6. Read **1 Corinthians 1:27-29** and write a truth about God's sovereignty in choosing who receives his blessing and overruling the privilege of the firstborn.
  
7. a) What does the psalmist instruct in **Psalms 78:3-7**, and what is the hope if the instructions are followed?

- 
- b) Share if you have learned of “the praiseworthy deeds of the Lord” from someone in another generation of your family. To whom will you tell of the faithfulness and great works of God?
- 

In **Genesis 49**, Jacob gathered his sons - the twelve tribes of Israel - and blessed them, “giving each the blessing appropriate to them” (**V28**) and prophetically telling each what would happen to them “in days to come” (**V1**).

8. What were some of the defining characteristics of Reuben, and what sin changed his fate from **V3-4**? Refer back to **Genesis 35:22** for background.
9. According to **V5-7**, what was notable about the future of Simeon and Levi and the consequences of their past sin? Recall their role in the massacre of the Shechemites in **Genesis 34**.
10. Jacob had a lot to say to Judah in **V8-12** (note: we will revisit this in “Gospel Glimpses”). What words in these verses signify he will have unique lasting authority?
11. Comment on something you find interesting or poetic in the blessings for Zebulun, Issachar, Dan, Gad, Asher, Naphtali or Benjamin?
12. a) The blessing of Joseph in **V22-26** is the longest of all the blessings. In your own words, give some of the ways Joseph is described, and how does **1 Chronicles 5:1-2** shed more light on this?
- b) List the names of God from **V24-25**, who is credited with Joseph’s fruitfulness. Which one resonates most with you right now and why?

13. Take stock on how has past sin influenced or directed the course of your life; what have been some of the blessings you have experienced?
14. What have you learned in these last chapters of Jacob's life that you hope will take **ROOT** and produce fruit in the next chapters of your life and/or in the lives of your descendants?
- 

**"GOSPEL GLIMPSES"**: Jacob prophesied that Israel's kings would come from Judah's descendants. It is also a Messianic prophecy that the King of Kings would come from the tribe of Judah.

1. Read the genealogy of Jesus in **Matthew 1:1-16**. Which of the names are familiar to you?
2. Read the angel's message to Mary in **Luke 1:30-33**. What did he tell her about the son she would bear?
3. The Lord spoke to Nathan the prophet about David. What did He say about David's reign in **2 Samuel 7:12-16**, and how does this connect to Judah (and ultimately to Jesus) in **Genesis 49:10**?
4. a) What more do you learn about Messiah that was prophesied in Judah's blessing from these verses?
  - **Micah 5:2?**
  - **Revelation 5:5**b) As you ponder all of these amazing "Gospel Glimpses" that find their **ROOT** in Jacob's blessing of Judah, how is your heart amazed or moved in response to the Promised One?
5. a) Write out the Suggested Memory Verse: **Genesis 49:10**  
  
b) Pray for the generations to come after you, that they may know the Lion of Judah.

**NAME**

**PRAYER REQUEST**