

Series: Genesis
 Message: “Jacob’s Last Words”

June 5, 2005
 Genesis 49:1-12

Big Idea: The choices and decisions we make can be far reaching in their impact. Choose wisely, your family will be blessed if you do.

I. AN OVERVIEW OF THE CHAPTER

- A. It is **PROPHETIC** in nature.
- B. It is **DIFFICULT** to interpret.
- C. It reminds us of God’s **SOVEREIGNTY** over the nations.

SONS OF JACOB

Reuben	Behold a son	Reckless	1
Simeon	Hearing	Violence	2
Levi	Attachment	Violence	3
Judah	Praise	Lion	4
Dan	Judgment	Serpent	7
Naphtali	Wrestle	Doe	10
Gad	Good fortune	Raider	8
Asher	Happy	Rich food	9
Issachar	Reward	Donkey	6
Zebulun	Abode	Ships	5
Joseph	May He add	Fruitful	11
Benjamin	Son of right hand	Wolf	12

II. A FATHER’S BLESSING

A. The CALL vs. 1,2

- 1. It was very **DIFFERENT** from what his father had done.
- 2. It was very **IMPORTANT**; the call goes out twice.

B. The PREDICTIONS and pronouncements

1. Reuben vs. 3,4

- a. A look back – he had a place of **PRIVILEGE**
- b. A look forward – he lived out a **NONDESCRIPT** life
- c. A principle - Uncontrolled passions **DISQUALIFY** from spiritual leadership.

2. Simeon & Levi

- a. A look back – words of **SEPARATION**
- b. A look forward – they will be **SCATTERED**
 - 1. Levi - **BLESSING**
 - 2. Simeon - **JUDGMENT**
- c. A principle - Uncontrolled anger leads to **RUIN**

3. Judah

- a. A look back – the past is **FORGIVEN**
- b. A look ahead – a three word **DESCRIPTION**
 - 1. **PRAISE**
 - 2. **PREEMINENCE**
 - 3. **PROSPERITY**

III. LESSONS FROM THIS CHAPTER

- A. SIN** always has its **CONSEQUENCES**.
- B. POTENTIAL** is not always **REALIZED**.
- C. GRACE** always has its **SURPRISES**.

****Please be prayerful and quiet as we come to the end of our study.
Ask the Holy Spirit to bring life change in response to the Word. ****