

Prophetic Parenting

Genesis 49:1-28

Introduction

I Jacob Prepared For is Death

- A. He gathered his sons around him
- B. He told them the **future** - Am 3:7; Jonah 3; Col 3:1-4; 2:17

II Jacob Spoke Prophetically To Each Son

- A. Reuben
 1. He was Jacob's **firstborn** son
 2. He **forfeited** his rights as firstborn son - 1 Chron 5:1-2
- B. Simeon and Levi
 1. Their swords are weapons of violence - Gen 34:25-29
 2. They were not to be **imitated** Ps 1:1-2; Prov 22:24-25
 3. They would be scattered and dispersed - Joshua 19:1
- C. Judah
 1. He would be **preeminent** among his brothers - Jer 15:19
 2. He was like a lion - Rev 5:5
 3. He would be the line of the **Messiah** - Zech 10:4; Mic 5:2
 4. He would prosper in every way - Ps 16:11
- D. Zebulun would live by the seashore - Matt 4:15-16
- E. Issachar
 1. He was a lazy, rawboned donkey
 2. He would **submit** to forced labor - 2 Pet 2:19
- F. Dan would provide **justice** for his people - Judges 13:2
- G. Gad
 1. He would be **attacked** by a band of raiders - Jer 49:1
 2. But he would attack them at their heels
- H. Asher
 1. His food would be **rich** -- fit for a king - Dt 33:24-25
- I. Naphtali would be a **doe** set free – Judg 5:1-31; Matt 4:15-16
- J. Joseph
 1. He was a **fruitful** vine near a spring - Ps 1:2-3
 2. He was attacked by bitter archers - Gen 37:28
 3. But his bow remained **steady**
 - a. Because of the hand of the Mighty One - Is 60:16

- b. Because of the **Shepherd**, the Rock - Ps 28:8-9
- c. Because of Jacob's God who blessed him - Eph 1:3-4
4. He was a **prince** among his brothers
- K. Benjamin was a ravenous **wolf** - Judg 3; 1 Sam 9; Acts 8

III Jacob's Blessings Summarized

- A. These were the **twelve** tribes of Israel
- B. These were the blessings Jacob gave to his sons
- C. These were the **appropriate** blessings for each - Heb 11:13-16

PERSONAL APPLICATION

Take some time this week to consider the following:

1. If you could know just one thing about your future, what would you want to know? Why?
2. How would you characterize your past (character, actions, words). What do you see in the future if you persevere in your current direction and priorities?
3. Knowing the power of a parent's blessing (or curse), what will you do to ensure that your child(ren) are helped by your words rather than hindered? [Hint: Read Eph 4:29]
4. Read Gal 6:7-8 and Jeremiah 29:11. How can these two verses be reconciled? Can God bless a believer in spite of poor past performance? If so, how? Support your answer with the Bible.
5. Take time to become a "Prophetic Parent".
 - a. Ask God for insight into your child's life - Jer 33:3
 - b. Journal the things that God reveals to you - Is 30:8
 - c. Share them with your child in the form of a blessing
6. Take a few minutes to thank God for the people in your life who have spoken prophetically into your life. Then ask the Holy Spirit for opportunities to speak words of life, encouragement strength and power into the lives of those around you.

BOB HALLMAN - THE EPIC LIFE

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