

SERMON NOTES

May 18, 2014

Scripture: Genesis 49:1-22 (NAS)

Topic: "Passing On A Godly Heritage"

Rev. Bruce Gardner

- 1 Then Jacob summoned his sons and said, "Assemble yourselves that I may tell you what will befall you in the days to come.
- 2 "Gather together and hear, O sons of Jacob; And listen to Israel your father.
- 3 "Reuben, you are my firstborn; My might and the beginning of my strength, Preeminent in dignity and preeminent in power.
- 4 "Uncontrolled as water, you shall not have preeminence, Because you went up to your father's bed; Then you defiled it--he went up to my couch.
- 5 "Simeon and Levi are brothers; Their swords are implements of violence.
- 6 "Let my soul not enter into their council; Let not my glory be united with their assembly; Because in their anger they slew men, And in their self-will they lamed oxen.
- 7 "Cursed be their anger, for it is fierce; And their wrath, for it is cruel. I will disperse them in Jacob, And scatter them in Israel.
- 8 "Judah, your brothers shall praise you; Your hand shall be on the neck of your enemies; Your father's sons shall bow down to you.
- 9 "Judah is a lion's whelp; From the prey, my son, you have gone up. He couches, he lies down as a lion, And as a lion, who dares rouse him up?
- 10 "The scepter shall not depart from Judah, Nor the ruler's staff from between his feet, Until Shiloh comes, And to him shall be the obedience of the peoples.
- 11 "He ties his foal to the vine, And his donkey's colt to the choice vine; He washes his garments in wine, And his robes in the blood of grapes.
- 12 "His eyes are dull from wine, And his teeth white from milk.
- 13 "Zebulun will dwell at the seashore; And he shall be a haven for ships, And his flank shall be toward Sidon.
- 14 "Issachar is a strong donkey, Lying down between the sheepfolds.
- 15 "When he saw that a resting place was good And that the land was pleasant, He bowed his shoulder to bear burdens, And became a slave at forced labor.
- 16 "Dan shall judge his people, As one of the tribes of Israel.
- 17 "Dan shall be a serpent in the way, A horned snake in the path, That bites the horse's heels, So that his rider falls backward.
- 18 "For Your salvation I wait, O LORD.
- 19 "As for Gad, raiders shall raid him, But he will raid at their heels.
- 20 "As for Asher, his food shall be rich, And he will yield royal dainties.
- 21 "Naphtali is a doe let loose, He gives beautiful words.
- 22 "Joseph is a fruitful bough, A fruitful bough by a spring; Its branches run over a wall.
- 23 "The archers bitterly attacked him, And shot at him and harassed him;
- 24 But his bow remained firm, And his arms were agile, From the hands of the Mighty One of Jacob (From there is the Shepherd, the Stone of Israel),
- 25 From the God of your father who helps you, And by the Almighty who blesses you With blessings of heaven above, Blessings of the deep that lies beneath, Blessings of the breasts and of the womb.
- 26 "The blessings of your father Have surpassed the blessings of my ancestors Up to the utmost bound of the everlasting hills; May they be on the head of Joseph, And on the crown of the head of the one distinguished among his brothers.
- 27 "Benjamin is a ravenous wolf; In the morning he devours the prey, And in the evening he divides the spoil."
- 28 All these are the twelve tribes of Israel, and this is what their father said to them when he blessed them. He blessed them, every one with the blessing appropriate to him.
- 29 Then he charged them and said to them, "I am about to be gathered to my people; bury me with my fathers in the cave that is in the field of Ephron the Hittite,
- 30 in the cave that is in the field of Machpelah, which is before Mamre, in the land of Canaan, which Abraham bought along with the field from Ephron the Hittite for a burial site.
- 31 "There they buried Abraham and his wife Sarah, there they buried Isaac and his wife Rebekah, and there I buried Leah--
- 32 the field and the cave that is in it, purchased from the sons of Heth."
- 33 When Jacob finished charging his sons, he drew his feet into the bed and breathed his last, and was gathered to his people.

I. JOSEPH'S INHERITANCE IN THE LAND

- A. Given To His Two Sons
- B. He Was Given A Double Portion
- C. An Evidence Of Jacob's Faith *Hebrews 11:21*

II. PARENTING

- A. Too Strict
- B. Too Lenient
- C. By Grace Teach God's Standards With Tender Affection

III. SHARE OUR EXPERIENCES OF GOD'S CARE AND BLESSINGS

- A. We Must Have A Real And Vital Relationship With The Lord
- B. Jacob Shared God's Promises To Him

IV. THINGS WE NEED TO PASS ON TO THE GENERATIONS TO FOLLOW

- A. A Testimony Of God's Faithfulness
- B. We Need To Proclaim God's Salvation
- C. We Need To Declare God's Grace *1 Corinthians 1:23-31; Romans 9:20*
- D. We Need To Share Our Hopes Of The Future