

*The Blessings & Prophecies of*  
**THE SONS  
OF JACOB**

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“Then Jacob called together all his sons and said, “Gather around me, and I will tell you what will happen to each of you in the days to come.” Genesis 49:1

Jacob (Israel) had 12 sons and each son’s story is full of intrigue, blessings, and prophecy. While the actual sons were blessed by their father Jacob just before he died, Moses also blessed their descendants before they entered the promised land. As spiritual descendants of Abraham, we also have access to their blessings and can glean wisdom from the prophecies concerning them.

This series we are exploring the twelve sons of Jacob and the blessings and prophecy associated with each one.



## Day 1

### The family of Jacob

“So Jacob went over and kissed him. And when Isaac caught the smell of his clothes, he was finally convinced, and he blessed his son. He said, “Ah! The smell of my son is like the smell of the outdoors, which the Lord has blessed! “From the dew of heaven and the richness of the earth, may God always give you abundant harvests of grain and bountiful new wine. May many nations become your servants, and may they bow down to you. May you be the master over your brothers, and may your mother’s sons bow down to you. All who curse you will be cursed, and all who bless you will be blessed.” Genesis 27:27-29

“Isaac said to Esau, “I have made Jacob your master and have declared that all his brothers will be his servants. I have guaranteed him an abundance of grain and wine—what is left for me to give you, my son?” Genesis 27:37

After leaving his parents, Jacob went to work for Laban his mother’s brother. While working for Laban Jacob fell in love with Rachel Laban’s daughter and offered to work for 7 years to marry her. However, Laban tricked Jacob and gave him Leah, Rachel’s older sister on the wedding night and extracted another 7 year commitment from Jacob for Rachel. Both Leah and Rachel had maids called Bilhah and Zilpah and all 4 women gave birth to children for Jacob.

“The sons of Leah were Reuben (Jacob’s oldest son), Simeon, Levi, Judah, Issachar, and Zebulun. The sons of Rachel were Joseph and Benjamin. The sons of Bilhah, Rachel’s servant, were Dan and Naphtali. The sons of Zilpah, Leah’s servant, were Gad and Asher. These are the names of the sons who were born to Jacob at Paddan-aram.” Genesis 35:23-26

“Then Jacob traveled on and camped beyond Migdal-eder. While he was living there, Reuben had intercourse with Bilhah, his father’s concubine, and Jacob soon heard about it...” Genesis 35:21-22

During his lifetime, Jacob’s family experienced a number of ups and downs. His firstborn Reuben had sexual relations with Bilhah and though Jacob heard about it he didn’t address it at the time. Jacob’s daughter Dinah was assaulted and his sons Simeon and Levi slaughtered the men in the town where she was assaulted. Rachel, the wife he loved died as Benjamin his last born was born and out of jealousy, Joseph’s brothers sold him into slavery, pretending to their father that he had died.

“How old are you?” Pharaoh asked him. Jacob replied, “I have traveled this earth for 130 hard years. But my life has been short compared to the lives of my ancestors.” Genesis 47:8-9

At the time he prophesied into the lives of his sons, Jacob had lived a long hard life by his own account. But he understood the power of the father’s blessing so the words he spoke to his sons weren’t mere words, but prophecies that would define their futures. We will see as we go through this study just how accurate his prophecies were and how it applies to us today.

**Prayer:** Lord open my eyes to see the power of prophecy and the promises in Your word concerning me because the Bible is the sure word of prophecy



## Day 2

### Reuben – Man Replaced, Mercy Reversed

“Reuben, you are my firstborn, my strength, the child of my vigorous youth. You are first in rank and first in power. But you are as unruly as a flood, and you will be first no longer. For you went to bed with my wife; you defiled my marriage couch.” Genesis 49:3-4

“The oldest son of Israel was Reuben. But since he dishonored his father by sleeping with one of his father’s concubines, his birthright was given to the sons of his brother Joseph. For this reason, Reuben is not listed in the genealogical records as the firstborn son.” 1 Chronicles 5:1

Jacob’s oldest son Reuben slept with his father’s concubine and because of this at the time of his passing Israel took the birthright from him. The Bible doesn’t tell us that Reuben ever apologised to his father for what he did but probably did not. Jacob called Reuben unruly as a flood which means there was probably a pattern of behaviour in operation in his life. We don’t know why Reuben did this, but the consequences travelled through his descendants for over 400 years.

“Moses said this about the tribe of Reuben: “Let the tribe of Reuben live and not die out, though they are few in number.”” Deuteronomy 33:6

“The tribes of Reuben and Gad owned vast numbers of livestock...” Numbers 32:1

At the time Moses was praying for the tribes as they were to enter the promised land, his prayer for the tribe of Reuben was for mercy and restoration. Though they were not a poor tribe, they were still replaced as Israel’s firstborn and they had diminished in numbers, so much so that their restoration was a prayer focus. We don’t know why Reuben didn’t ask God for mercy for himself and his descendants, but his story is a learning point for us. Whenever we do wrong, we should be quick to apologise and where necessary ask God for mercy. Reuben should have been the leading tribe, but one man’s actions affected his descendants. We need God to help us remember that the results of our actions - good or bad - will outlive us.

**Prayer:** Lord wherever I have been replaced I ask for mercy and restoration of my position in rank and power. Show me the things I am doing and saying that’s bringing grief to the heart of others. I ask for long life to fulfil my purpose, I pray neither my life or that of my descendants be cut short

## Day 2

### Simeon – Consequence of Unchecked Anger

“Simeon and Levi are two of a kind; their weapons are instruments of violence. May I never join in their meetings; may I never be a party to their plans. For in their anger they murdered men, and they crippled oxen just for sport. A curse on their anger, for it is fierce; a curse on their wrath, for it is cruel. I will scatter them among the descendants of Jacob; I will disperse them throughout Israel.” Genesis 49:5-7

“But three days later, when their wounds were still sore, two of Jacob’s sons, Simeon and Levi, who were Dinah’s full brothers, took their swords and entered the town without opposition. Then they slaughtered every male there” Genesis 34:25

When their sister Dinah was assaulted Simeon and Levi went beyond defending their sister’s honour and murdered all the men of the town where she had been assaulted. Simeon’s anger went beyond seeking justice for what happened to his sister to getting revenge even against those that weren’t involved. His actions show the lasting impact of unchecked anger as Jacob prophetically dispersed them throughout Israel.

“...Simeon’s tribe never grew as large as the tribe of Judah.” 1 Chronicles 4:27

“... So the tribe of Simeon received an allocation within the territory of Judah.” Joshua 19:9

Apart from being dispersed, the tribe of Simeon was conspicuously absent from the blessing Moses gave the tribes when they were about to enter the promised land. This didn’t stop them from being allotted their portion of land (albeit within Judah’s territory), but we can just picture how the members may have felt at the time.

The result of Jacob’s curse was that Simeon’s descendants became the least in number by men 20 years or older able to go to war and even the land allotted to them was a portion of Judah’s excess land.

“Understand this, my dear brothers and sisters: You must all be quick to listen, slow to speak, and slow to get angry. Human anger does not produce the righteousness God desires.” James 1:19-20

“And “don’t sin by letting anger control you.” Don’t let the sun go down while you are still angry, for anger gives a foothold to the devil.” Ephesians 4:26-27

We’re all human and bound to get angry at some point. However, the Bible cautions us not to be controlled by anger because it opens the door to the devil. There are times we can get so blinded by anger that we react in ways that can’t be taken back. It may not lead to murder as with Simeon, but it can break relationships, trust and lead to unexpected and undesired outcomes. Perhaps we’re the ones on the receiving end of someone’s anger and need grace to forgive their outbursts. Either way, grace is available through the Holy Spirit to either rein in our anger or receive release from emotional trauma.

**Prayer:** Lord forgive me for the hurtful things I’ve said or done or thought towards others. Help me stabilise my emotions and be slow to anger and slow to speak. Help me respond rather than react to situations.



### Day 3

#### Levi – Redeemed and Restored

“Simeon and Levi are two of a kind; their weapons are instruments of violence. May I never join in their meetings; may I never be a party to their plans. For in their anger they murdered men, and they crippled oxen just for sport. A curse on their anger, for it is fierce; a curse on their wrath, for it is cruel. I will scatter them among the descendants of Jacob; I will disperse them throughout Israel.” Genesis 49:5-7

“So he stood at the entrance to the camp and shouted, “All of you who are on the Lord’s side, come here and join me.” And all the Levites gathered around him. Then Moses told the Levites, “Today you have ordained yourselves for the service of the Lord... Today you have earned a blessing.” Exodus 32:26, 29

Levi and his elder brother Simeon were both cursed by their father on his deathbed. But when the Israelites were in the wilderness, there came a point where Moses called for those who wanted to take a stand for God and the Levites responded. Moses noted by so doing the Levites earned a blessing and beyond that, ordained themselves for service to God (Num 3:6-13).

“In this way, you will set the Levites apart from the rest of the people of Israel, and the Levites will belong to me.” Numbers 8:14

The tribe of Levi signifies to us God’s redemption plan for mankind where we receive not just mercy but also grace. Levi’s biological father may have cursed him but the Father in heaven redeemed the tribe and consecrated them to His service. No matter what we may have said or done, whatever we have gone through or what was said about us, God doesn’t reject anyone who truly turns to Him. And as we set ourselves apart for Him we become He prepares us for the good work He already prepared for us.

“But in a great house there are not only vessels of gold and silver, but also of wood and clay, some for honor and some for dishonor. Therefore if anyone cleanses himself from the latter, he will be a vessel for honor, sanctified and useful for the Master, prepared for every good work.” 2 Timothy 2:20-21

As God’s priests there were several things the Levites could and couldn’t do in order to fulfil their divine assignment. Likewise there are specific things God speaks to us about specifically to either pick up or drop (also called consecrations) in order to fulfil our divine assignment. God has a personal program for each of us so our consecrations may not be the same as someone else’s. Which helps us keep our focus on God and frees us from comparison or competition with others. The more aligned we are with our consecration the more we aligned we are with God’s plan for our lives.

**Prayer:** Lord thank You for redeeming me from every negative thing in my past. Lord reveal my consecrations to me and the help me live according to Your blueprint for me.



## Day 4

### Judah – The Sceptre of Rulership

“Judah, you are he whom your brothers shall praise; Your hand shall be on the neck of your enemies; Your father’s children shall bow down before you. Judah is a lion’s whelp... The scepter shall not depart from Judah...” Genesis 49:8-10

Judah received a powerful blessing from Jacob prophetically placing him in a rulership position not just over his brothers but also over his enemies. Judah was likened to a lion: bold and powerful. Prophetically he would always be in a place of honour and excel in every area. Jacob also prophetically tied the lineage of Jesus to Judah (Matt 1, Lk 3). As always Jacob’s blessings extended beyond the individual and shaped the lives of their descendants for generations.

“He ties his foal to a grapevine, the colt of his donkey to a choice vine. He washes his clothes in wine, his robes in the blood of grapes. His eyes are darker than wine, and his teeth are whiter than milk.” Genesis 49:11-12

Jacob also prophetically empowered Judah with significant prosperity and choice opportunities, securing him socially, economically and even politically. Judah’s blessing shows us the possibilities we have to shape not just our destinies, but also those of our descendants. Not for selfish reasons, but so that Jesus will be glorified in our lives.

“Moses said this about the tribe of Judah: “O Lord, hear the cry of Judah and bring them together as a people. Give them strength to defend their cause; help them against their enemies!” Deuteronomy 33:7

“Timothy, my son, here are my instructions for you, based on the prophetic words spoken about you earlier. May they help you fight well in the Lord’s battles.” 1 Timothy 1:18

The prayer of Moses shows us something we must be mindful of: every blessing will attract contention. Enemies will arise within and without to try and disrupt the manifestation of what’s been spoken. But as Paul advised Timothy, we’re to war with the prophecy we have by standing in faith, declaring God’s word as we live in a manner that gives glory to God. We war not to win, but because we’ve already won.

**Prayer:** I speak into my life and that of my descendants and decree that I and all that concerns me will prosper according to God’s plan for our lives. My generation will make Jesus proud. We are bound together by cords of love. The sceptre of rulership and influence will never depart from my children. My seed shall be mighty financially, intellectually, spiritually, the enemy will not override us. I will never be defeated in any battle. Everything about my life is glorious and worthy of praise



## Day 5

### Zebulun – Exalted and Rewarded

“Zebulun will settle by the seashore and will be a harbor for ships; his borders will extend to Sidon.”  
Genesis 49:13

“Moses said this about the tribes of Zebulun and Issachar: “May the people of Zebulun prosper in their travels...They benefit from the riches of the sea and the hidden treasures in the sand.”  
Deuteronomy 33:18-19

Zebulun was the 6th child of Leah and Jacob’s 10th son, but we see that Jacob didn’t necessarily follow this pattern in blessing his sons. Which shows us that the prophetic isn’t constrained to follow the natural order of things. The seashore represented a place of commerce as ships from other nations would berth there to drop their merchandise and traders would conduct their business there.

“She named him Zebulun, for she said, “God has given me a good reward. Now my husband will treat me with respect, for I have given him six sons.”” Genesis 30:20

“One day she sent for Barak son of Abinoam, who lived in Kedesh in the land of Naphtali. She said to him, “This is what the Lord, the God of Israel, commands you: Call out 10,000 warriors from the tribes of Naphtali and Zebulun at Mount Tabor.”  
Judges 4:6

By prophetically placing Zebulun by the seashore (remember they were still in Egypt when Joseph spoke this about him), Jacob was establishing him to succeed in commerce both locally and intentionally. Zebulun was prophetically positioned to benefit from whatever enterprise he engaged in and his descendants remained by the seashore, even being mentioned as a key location for Jesus’s earthly ministry. The tribe of Zebulun also played a role in fighting Israel’s battles, being specifically mentioned by the Lord. Showing us that even with the material possessions available, Zebulun was always available to God. Sometimes our focus is on the Lord prospering us materially, but when He does the very things we prayed for take us away from a relationship with Him.

**Prayer:** Lord I ask that You open doors for me and help me benefit from the opportunities You make available to me. But above this Lord, let my greatest reward be a thriving personal relationship with You.



## Day 6

### Issachar – Wisdom, Leadership and Productivity

“Issachar is a sturdy donkey, resting between two saddlepacks. When he sees how good the countryside is and how pleasant the land, he will bend his shoulder to the load and submit himself to hard labor.” Genesis 49:14-15

In biblical times donkeys were used for transportation of people and products thus in likening Issachar to a donkey Jacob was speaking into his son's productivity and willingness to accept hard work and responsibility. Jacob opened his son's eyes to see opportunities in the land which also acted as motivation for being industrious and diligent. Let's not take it for granted that everyone will always see opportunities, remember the Bible speaks of hidden treasures.

“Moses said this about the tribes of Zebulun and Issachar: “May the people of Zebulun prosper in their travels. May the people of Issachar prosper at home in their tents. They summon the people to the mountain to offer proper sacrifices there. They benefit from the riches of the sea and the hidden treasures in the sand.” Deuteronomy 33:18-19

“From the tribe of Issachar, there were 200 leaders of the tribe with their relatives. All these men understood the signs of the times and knew the best course for Israel to take.” 1 Chronicles 12:32

Issachar was assigned to the affairs of Israel. So much so that the Lord gave this particular tribe divine insight into what Israel ought to do per time. We get some insight into why God gave them this unique advantage in Moses's blessing. The Issacharites led people to live in a manner that pleased God, “offering proper sacrifices”. They didn't compete with Zebulun who was assigned to international areas, but within their remit they were diligent, industrious and committed to aligning Israel to God's ways. Thus, even within their territory the Lord opened their eyes to see hidden treasures.

The Issacharites show us how key divine alignment is to fulfilling purpose and seeing beyond the natural. The ability to understand signs of the times divinely positions us to discern and take advantage of what God is going to do and protects us from what the enemy is planning.

**Prayer:** Lord bring me into divine alignment with Your plan for my life. Open my eyes as you did for Issachar to see the good in the land. Strengthen me on the inside and give me the willingness to work hard, accept responsibility and face challenges. Lord give me the wisdom to lead others. Let me be the voice of direction, clarity, wisdom of guidance in my generation



## Day 7

### Dan – Cautionary Tale of Replacement

“Dan will govern his people, like any other tribe in Israel. Dan will be a snake beside the road, a poisonous viper along the path that bites the horse’s hooves so its rider is thrown off.” Genesis 49:16-17

“Moses said this about the tribe of Dan: “Dan is a lion’s cub, leaping out from Bashan.”” Deuteronomy 33:22

Jacob’s prophecy about Dan’s positioned him in influence with the wisdom of a serpent and the ability to know the strategic cation to take. Moses also spoke strength into the tribe as lions are known for their strength while leaping speaks of acceleration. Very powerful prophecies that should have ensured Dan would always prosper. However Dan is a cautionary reference as in Revelation 7:4-8 we see that Dan is no longer listed as one of the tribes of Israel but was replaced by Manasseh. What caused this?

“But the tribe of Dan had trouble taking possession of their land, so they attacked the town of Laish. They captured it, slaughtered its people, and settled there. They renamed the town Dan after their ancestor.” Joshua 19:47

“Then, with Micah’s idols and his priest, the men of Dan came to the town of Laish, whose people were peaceful and secure. They attacked with swords and burned the town to the ground... Then they set up the carved image, and they appointed Jonathan son of Gershom, son of Moses, as their priest. This family continued as priests for the tribe of Dan until the Exile. So Micah’s carved image was worshiped by the tribe of Dan as long as the Tabernacle of God remained at Shiloh.” Judges 18:27, 30-31

“And those who swear by the shameful idols of Samaria— who take oaths in the name of the god of Dan and make vows in the name of the god of Beersheba— they will all fall down, never to rise again.” Amos 8:14

Dan wasn’t able to take possession of the land allotted to them so they found another land for themselves by annihilating a peaceful community. They settled there and intentionally appointed priests to help them worship idols stolen from Micah. First they stepped out of alignment with God by creating an alternative inheritance for themselves. Sometimes we know what God has asked us to do but for whatever reason we choose to seek an alternative.

Secondly Dan put other things ahead of their worship of God. For Dan there was a physical idol, but for us the idols may be in our hearts. By replacing God with an idol the tribe was also replaced. God takes idolatry very seriously and the consequences can be grave because the first thing idolatry robs us of is the presence of God in our lives. Without His presence we’ll lack direction, and the grace needed to be all we were designed to be.

**Prayer:** Lord help me to fulfil all You’ve designed me to be and do. Keep my eyes fixed on You and help me stay committed to serving You alone. May I not be removed at the critical moment and may nobody take my place as Manasseh took Dan’s place.



## Day 8

### Gad – Mighty Warrior, Divine Productivity and Acceleration

“Gad will be attacked by marauding bands, but he will attack them when they retreat.” Genesis 49:19

“Moses said this about the tribe of Gad: “Blessed is the one who enlarges Gad’s territory! Gad is poised there like a lion to tear off an arm or a head. The people of Gad took the best land for themselves; a leader’s share was assigned to them. When the leaders of the people were assembled, they carried out the Lord’s justice and obeyed his regulations for Israel.” Deuteronomy 33:20-21

Gad (meaning fortunate) was blessed with a spirit of might that equipped the tribe to be skilled, fierce warriors, equipped with all the tools needed to win in battle. They were obedient to the Lord and often assigned leadership positions in the army.

“...[Gad was] skilled in combat and armed with shields, swords, and bows.” 1 Chronicles 5:18

“...brave and experienced warriors from the tribe of Gad... were expert with both shield and spear, as fierce as lions and as swift as deer on the mountains.” 1 Chronicles 12:8

“These warriors from Gad were army commanders. The weakest among them could take on a hundred regular troops, and the strongest could take on a thousand! ...” 1 Chronicles 12:14

Gad was a mighty warrior tribe skilled in combat with unusual speed on the mountains. No battle could scare Gad and no obstacle could impede their acceleration. Today we may not need to fight physical battles, but the spirit of might at work in us equips us to produce supernormal results. The fierceness of the lion equips us not to back down regardless of whatever challenge we may face. And the swiftness of the deer means we can experience divine acceleration even in difficult circumstances that were designed to try and hinder us. While it’s important to stand our ground when it comes to battle, we also need wisdom to know what battles need not be fought in the first place.

“...Gad owned vast numbers of livestock... We simply want to build pens for our livestock and fortified towns for our wives and children. Then we will arm ourselves and lead our fellow Israelites into battle until we have brought them safely to their land.” Numbers 32:1, 16-17

Gad was also quite industrious with vast numbers of livestock and equipped with the capacity to build fortified cities. They were also responsible as though they chose not to claim any of their promised land, they still led Israel in battle to get to their land.

**Prayer:** Lord grant me the boldness to face challenges head on and the wisdom to identify the right strategy. Preserve me from unnecessary battles. Grant me acceleration even in unfavourable situations. Give me the skill and process me to grow in the capacity needed to have multiple avenues of impact.

## Day 9

### Asher – Prominence, Prosperity and Security

“Asher will dine on rich foods and produce food fit for kings.” Genesis 49:20

“Moses said this about the tribe of Asher: “May Asher be blessed above other sons; may he be esteemed by his brothers; may he bathe his feet in olive oil. May the bolts of your gates be of iron and bronze; may you be secure all your days.”” Deuteronomy 33:24-25

Asher was blessed by Jacob for prominence and prosperity. Moses placed a similar blessing, adding elevation, acceleration and security. With these powerful blessings we would expect Asher to be the most prominent tribe in Israel. However, Asher’s story shows us that while prophecy is powerful, it doesn’t automatically become a reality.

“The tribe of Asher failed to drive out the residents of Acco, Sidon, Ahlab, Aczib, Helbah, Aphik, and Rehob. Instead, the people of Asher moved in among the Canaanites, who controlled the land, for they failed to drive them out.” Judges 1:31-32

“Gilead remained east of the Jordan. And why did Dan stay home? Asher sat unmoved at the seashore, remaining in his harbors.” Judges 5:17

Though they were guaranteed supernatural security, Asher didn’t drive out the opposition and cohabited with them against the Lord’s command. The danger of this was that the culture and worship practices of the Canaanites would eventually erode Asher’s focus on the Lord and their assignment. To the point where when it came to fight as a nation, Asher was one of the tribes that chose to remain at home, unmoved by what was going on and focusing on enterprise.

“Seek the Kingdom of God above all else, and live righteously, and he will give you everything you need.” Matthew 6:33

Asher was financially prosperous, but had lost sight of the leadership role they were to play in Israel. Similarly today many are seeking financial prosperity at the expense of divine assignment. In God’s economy, the blessing and benefit we seek are tied to the fulfilment of our assignment. The fulfilment of our assignment is tied to our obedience. Our obedience is tied to how much we know of God and desire to please Him above our own desires.

The enemy has a crafty way of making what we want seem bigger than what God has in mind for us. Like Asher we too can over time become unmoved by the things that matter to God, focusing instead on other areas.

**Prayer:** Lord let me not tolerate anything that will rob me of what You’ve planned for me. As You increase me financially let my spiritual strength also increase. I choose to be an active participant in what You’re doing. Let my work be noticed by kings. Let my life overflow with abundance and prosperity not for me but for the kingdom. Let me be a significant channel to advance Your kingdom. I walk in divine protection and security.



## Day 10

### Naphtali – Strategically Positioned, Richly Favoured and Enlarged

“Naphtali is a hind let loose: He giveth goodly words.” Genesis 49:21 KJV

“Moses said this about the tribe of Naphtali: “O Naphtali, you are rich in favor and full of the Lord’s blessings; may you possess the west and the south.”” Deuteronomy 33:23

Naphtali means wrestling or overcoming. Prophetically Naphtali was blessed to be a gifted orator, highly favoured and able to quickly possess many territories. Naphtali was a willing and capable warrior tribe, playing prominent roles in the battles of Barak and Gideon (Judges 5,6). They also featured in Isaiah’s prophecy about the headquarters of Jesus’s earthly ministry (Isaiah 9:1-7).

“Likewise, the tribe of Naphtali failed to drive out the residents of Beth-shemesh and Beth-anath. Instead, they moved in among the Canaanites, who controlled the land. Nevertheless, the people of Beth-shemesh and Beth-anath were forced to work as slaves for the people of Naphtali.” Judges 1:33

Although backed by such powerful prophecies and military prowess, Naphtali still didn’t drive out all the Canaanites but instead chose to make them slaves. We don’t know why Naphtali chose this option, perhaps they felt they were still in a superior position by enslaving the Canaanites. Nevertheless, this still fell short of God’s ideal for them which was that they would fully possess the land.

**Prayer:** Lord let my choices align with Your agenda so I don’t depend on my own understanding. Let me be strategically positioned spiritually and physically as Naphtali was and grant me the favour You gave them. Anoint my speech so my words are blessed. Make my tongue like the pen of a ready writer. Let every limitation, stagnation and delay be broken over my life. I decree in the name of Jesus that I will fully possess the land that God has given me. Let me not settle for anything less than all You’ve planned for me. Grant me acceleration in critical areas. Let me be rich in favour.

## Day 11

### Joseph – Preparation For A Prince

“Joseph is the foal of a wild donkey, the foal of a wild donkey at a spring— one of the wild donkeys on the ridge. Archers attacked him savagely; they shot at him and harassed him. But his bow remained taut, and his arms were strengthened by the hands of the Mighty One of Jacob, by the Shepherd, the Rock of Israel. May the God of your father help you; may the Almighty bless you with the blessings of the heavens above, and blessings of the watery depths below, and blessings of the breasts and womb. May my fatherly blessings on you surpass the blessings of my ancestors, reaching to the heights of the eternal hills. May these blessings rest on the head of Joseph, who is a prince among his brothers.” Genesis 49:22-26

Joseph's journey to prominence was unique in that though he was anointed for leadership, prominence, supernatural insight and favour, he had to go through rejection from his brothers, be sold into slavery, falsely accused and imprisoned, forgotten by those he helped before rising to the place of prominence. And all this was part of God's plan.

“Jacob loved Joseph more than any of his other children because Joseph had been born to him in his old age. So one day Jacob had a special gift made for Joseph—a beautiful robe. But his brothers hated Joseph because their father loved him more than the rest of them. They couldn't say a kind word to him.” Genesis 37:3-4

“Then he sent someone to Egypt ahead of them— Joseph, who was sold as a slave. They bruised his feet with fetters and placed his neck in an iron collar. Until the time came to fulfil his dreams, the Lord tested Joseph's character.” Psalms 105:17-19

Joseph was clearly his father's favourite which caused him to be rejected by his brothers. So two conflicting external experiences were going on at the same time he was at home. All the while God had a plan for Joseph not just to take him to the pinnacle of Egypt, but to be the channel that would preserve Israel in famine and position them to move to the promised land. Joseph very likely couldn't have conceived of the weight of his destiny, or the path he'd have to walk to fulfil it.

The Bible tells us that God Himself tested Joseph's character to prepare him to carry the weight of his destiny. Sometimes the challenges we face are part of the preparation process to fulfil destiny. As the Lord sees us align with His processes, He's able to trust us with more- revelation, responsibility, influence, etc.

**Prayer:** Lord help me discern when challenges are part of my maturity process and give me the grace to pass Your tests so I can be trusted to fulfil all You've designed for me.



## Day 12

### Ephraim & Manasseh – Promotion, Multiplication and Abundance

“Now I am claiming as my own sons these two boys of yours, Ephraim and Manasseh, who were born here in the land of Egypt before I arrived. They will be my sons, just as Reuben and Simeon are.” Genesis 48:5

“...May the God before whom my grandfather Abraham and my father, Isaac, walked—the God who has been my shepherd all my life, to this very day, the Angel who has redeemed me from all harm—may he bless these boys. May they preserve my name and the names of Abraham and Isaac. And may their descendants multiply greatly throughout the earth...The people of Israel will use your names when they give a blessing. They will say, ‘May God make you as prosperous as Ephraim and Manasseh.’” In this way, Jacob put Ephraim ahead of Manasseh.” Genesis 48:15-16, 20

Before Jacob blessed his sons, he had called Joseph earlier and taken ownership of Ephraim and Manasseh, blessing them ahead of his biological sons. This way Joseph was blessed twice, first privately with his sons and then with his brothers. Effectively Jacob multiplied Joseph making him two tribes. May we receive private blessing from the people that matter.

“Moses said this about the tribes of Joseph: “May their land be blessed by the Lord with the precious gift of dew from the heavens and water from beneath the earth; with the rich fruit that grows in the sun, and the rich harvest produced each month; with the finest crops of the ancient mountains, and the abundance from the everlasting hills; with the best gifts of the earth and its bounty, and the favor of the one who appeared in the burning bush. May these blessings rest on Joseph’s head, crowning the brow of the prince among his brothers. Joseph has the majesty of a young bull; he has the horns of a wild ox. He will gore distant nations, even to the ends of the earth. This is my blessing for the multitudes of Ephraim and the thousands of Manasseh.” Deuteronomy 33:13-17

“...And beyond what I have given your brothers, I am giving you an extra portion of the land that I took from the Amorites with my sword and bow.” Genesis 48:21-22

The prophecies on Joseph’s sons were to secure them with wealth far beyond material possessions. Jacob also showed Joseph the prophetic destiny of his sons in placing Ephraim first. This tells us again that the biological order of birth is not an indication of destiny.

**Prayer:** Lord help me prioritise my relationship with You as Joseph did. Make me as prosperous as Ephraim and Manasseh, make me a positive point of reference. Help me to prioritise my secret place and personal encounters with You above public recognition. Grant me the grace for fruitfulness and multiplication. Open my eyes to know the prophetic destiny of my children.



## Day 13

### Benjamin – Skilled Warrior, Strong and Favoured

“Benjamin is a ravenous wolf, devouring his enemies in the morning and dividing his plunder in the evening.” Genesis 49:27

“Moses said this about the tribe of Benjamin: “The people of Benjamin are loved by the Lord and live in safety beside him. He surrounds them continuously and preserves them from every harm.” Deuteronomy 33:12

Jacob's last born son Benjamin was the patriarch of a tribe of skilled warriors, fulfilling his father's prophecy. Moses also spoke to the Lord's protection and preservation of the tribe. Both prophecies recognised that Benjamin would be involved in a lot of battles. Though the land allotted to Benjamin was relatively small, it included significant cities such as Jericho and Jerusalem. Saul, Ehud, Mordecai, and Paul were some of the Benjamites that played significant roles in the history of Israel.

“All of them were expert archers, and they could shoot arrows or sling stones with their left hand as well as their right. They were all relatives of Saul from the tribe of Benjamin.” 1 Chronicles 12:2

“Among Benjamin's elite troops, 700 were left-handed, and each of them could sling a rock and hit a target within a hairsbreadth without missing.” Judges 20:16

The warriors of Benjamin were known for their ability to use both hands expertly and with precision in battle. This level of precision wasn't common and stood them out as skilled warriors. There came a point where Israel was split into two with Judah and Benjamin representing one kingdom and the rest of Israel another. Thus Benjamin was involved in many battles (especially with Israel when the kingdom divided into two) but preserved even to the point where Israel sought to help preserve Benjamin after defeating them in battle (Jdg 21:6).

“But the Lord stands beside me like a great warrior. Before him my persecutors will stumble. They cannot defeat me. They will fail and be thoroughly humiliated. Their dishonor will never be forgotten.” Jeremiah 20:11

Today we may not be fighting physical battles like Benjamin, but we certainly fight battles daily. Applying wisdom protects us from getting into certain battles in the first place as not every battle is worth fighting. The Lord also preserves us in the battles we have to fight as He gives us the strategy for overcoming.

**Prayer:** Lord let the blessing of Benjamin rest on me. Help me live my life according to precision, so I don't miss any target. Help me run with purpose in every step. Let me be a person of the secret place and let Your presence be with me so even my enemies seek to do me well. Lord teach me to pray and how to pray, give me the skill to war in the place of prayer. Let me always be selected for good by Your own divine appointment.

## Day 14

### Lessons From The Patriarchs – Unlocking The Manifestation of Prophecy

'Timothy, my son, here are my instructions for you, based on the prophetic words spoken about you earlier. May they help you fight well in the Lord's battles.' 1 Timothy 1:18

We see from the lives of the sons of Jacob that the fulfilment of prophecy is not automatic. Powerful words may have been spoken that heaven is ready to honour, but the words will remain just words in the absence of the appropriate response on our part. Four critical things that unlock manifestation include knowledge, obedience, commitment and prayer.

'My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge...' Hosea 4:6

Knowledge is the foundation of taking any step towards fulfilling prophecy. We may not know what has been spoken by others concerning us, but we have access to God's mind in His word. This is why we are admonished to study God's word for ourselves (2 Tim 2:15) so ignorance doesn't become a hindrance.

'I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you [who are willing to learn] with My eye upon you.' Psalms 32:8 AMP

'If you are willing and obedient, You shall eat the best of the land;' Isaiah 1:19

The Holy Spirit is ever willing and able to guide us along the best pathway to fulfilling purpose, but there's a willingness required on our part and we can choose whether or not to align with His ways and processes.

'Therefore, put on the complete armor of God, so that you will be able to [successfully] resist and stand your ground in the evil day [of danger], and having done everything [that the crisis demands], to stand firm [in your place, fully prepared, immovable, victorious]. ' Ephesians 6:13

The obedience required isn't sporadic but a consistent commitment to partnering with God to see the fulfilment of His plans for our lives come to pass in its entirety regardless of the challenges and obstacles that will certainly come our way.

**Prayer:** Lord fill me with the complete knowledge of Your will for my life. Work in me so my heart is open to obeying You and being committed to You and Your process. Help me to stand and keep standing until what You have said about me becomes my consistent reality. Let all Your prophecies about me come to pass

Thanks for completing the study. We'll love to hear from you, so please connect with us on:

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