

## EXPOSITION OF GENESIS

### Message #101

### Genesis 49:13-28

Most people go to church and realize that someday they will be judged. They have fleeting thoughts about judgment every once and a while, but, for the most part, it does not revolutionize their behavior .

**A CHILD OF GOD'S FUTURE INHERITANCE AND REWARDS IN ETERNITY WILL BE DETERMINED BY HIS FAITHFUL OR UNFAITHFUL CHARACTER ON EARTH .**

As we have seen, Reuben lost his inheritance because of instability and immorality (49:3-4). Simeon and Levi lost their inheritance because of cruelty and uncontrollability (49:5-7). On the other hand, Judah earned a great inheritance because of his honesty and self-sacrifice (49:8-12).

#### **JUDGMENT #4** - The judgment of Zebulun. 49:13

Zebulun was the tenth son of Jacob, the sixth son born to Leah (Genesis 30:19-20). Scripture does not give us a great deal of information about him or his work. We know he had three sons (46:14), who were the founders of key Israeli families destined to enter the Promised Land (Numbers 26:26). We also know that during the Tribulation, there will be 12,000 from this tribe singled out by God to accomplish His program (Revelation 7:8). The judgment of Zebulun is very positive. He will have a full inheritance along the coast of the Mediterranean Sea. There is nothing spectacular about Zebulun; he was a quiet, faithful, common, ordinary son who ended up with a great inheritance. You do not have to be an impressive preacher or evangelist or foreign missionary to earn great rewards. Zebulun-types end up highly rewarded because they were quiet, stable, faithful family members.

#### **JUDGMENT #5** - The judgment of Issachar . 49:14-15

Issachar represents the lazy son, who loses his rewards because he is too lazy to do his work. He is pictured as a “strong donkey” that is lying down between two sheepfolds. He saw the burdens and needs, but was too lethargic and unambitious to do anything about it. As a result, he will not be a manager, but a servant. In eternity there will be many Issachar-types who were in the church but didn't do much of anything to help it move forward. There were all kinds of needs and opportunities, but Issachar-types just take it easy and they will lose rewards.

#### **JUDGMENT #6** - The judgment of Dan. 49:16-18

**(Fact #1)** Dan is like a serpent. 49:17a - a very crafty, behind scenes type person.

**(Fact #2)** Dan can stop a large opponent. 49:17b - able to face and stop an intimidating enemy.

**(Fact #3)** Dan waits on the Lord . 49:18 - Dan-types depend on God, not themselves.

A Dan-type is a son who is faithful behind the scenes and quietly goes about his business, but when faced with intimidating enemies, he does not back down and depends on God to stop them. Some view this as a negative judgment and go so far as to say the Antichrist will come from Dan's line, however, the language of this judgment is positive - He is judge and waits on the Lord.

### **JUDGMENT #7** - The judgment of Gad. 49:19

The language describes one who gets overcome by enemies, but eventually overcomes them. Gad-types eventually finish winners, but they have their share of setbacks. For a while, enemies seem to get the upper hand of a Gad-type, but eventually they get their life together and finish a winner.

### **JUDGMENT #8** - The judgment of Asher. 49:20

The words “royal dainties” seem to suggest that Asher used his fruitful prosperity to serve and minister for and to the king. Asher-types will have used their prosperity on earth to lay up for themselves treasures in heaven. Asher-types were prosperous believers and they use their prosperity for the king.

### **JUDGMENT #9** - The judgment of Naphtali. 49:21

Naphtali-types really have a good control of their speech. They are known for communicating the beautiful and good words of God. They are as graceful as a doe in their ability to communicate.

### **JUDGMENT #10** - The judgment of Joseph . 49:22-26

Joseph is described as having an extremely fruitful life. Verse 26 describes the fact that Joseph had been given blessings by God that were way above and beyond that of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. As you look down through these verses you see that Joseph was:  
1) Abundantly fruitful (v.22); 2) Severely attacked (v.23); 3) Divinely empowered (v. 24);  
4) Divinely helped (v.25a); 5) Divinely blessed (v.25b-26a); and 6) Divinely honored (v.26b).

Joseph represents the godly, faithful son who stands for what is right and suffers for it. He continues to stay close to God and faithful to God and eventually ends up highly honored.

### **JUDGMENT #11** - The judgment of Benjamin. 49:27

Benjamin is a son who is diligent to provide for his own and then shares the rest with others. Benjamin-types are not stingy, they are generous. In eternity they are honored as those who were very giving.

**Verse 28** informs us that each blessing was appropriate for each one for what they had or had not done. Each received or lost an inheritance based upon what had been done.

Someday each of us will be called to face judgment. Each of our names will be called and we will give our own individual account of ourselves to God. We will receive exactly what is appropriate, which will mean we either win rewards or lose them. What we do here and now on earth has far-reaching future ramifications in eternity. That clearly is the lesson of Genesis 49.