

**Into the Promised Land - Joshua's Story**  
**Lesson #43 - "A Blessing for Each Tribe" Part 2 - Deuteronomy 33:20-29**  
**•HANDOUT•**

► This lesson begins with the Tribes of Zebulun & Issachar. Jacob treated them as individual sons as well as a combined unit. Moses does the same.

THE TRIBES OF ZEBULUN & ISSACHAR

► Deuteronomy 33:18-19 • About Zebulun he said: "Rejoice, Zebulun, in your going out, and you, Issachar, in your tents. They will summon peoples to the mountain and there offer sacrifices of righteousness; they will feast on the abundance of the seas, on the treasures hidden in the sand."

Q: What is the lineage of Zebulun and Issachar?

Q: What is significant about Zebulun and Issachar being grouped together for this blessing?

Q: How did Jacob prophetically bless these two sons?

To Zebulun Jacob said,

To Issachar Jacob said,

Q: How does the blessing of Jacob compare to what Moses said?

Zebulun's allotment:

Issachar's allotment:

Q: What is the essence of Moses' prophecy of Blessing concerning these two tribes?

Q: What was the mountain to which the people were to summon the people?

## THE TRIBE OF GAD

► Deuteronomy 33:20-21 • 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."

Q: What was the lineage of the tribe of Gad?

Q: Since these prophetic blessings from Moses are based on Jacob's blessings of his 12 sons, what did Jacob say about Gad, and how does what Moses say give us understanding?

Q: The choice Gad makes renders them a very special Tribe. What was unique about their choice?

But Gad and the others made promises to assure Moses of their righteous intentions ...

► Numbers 32:16-19 • "We would like to build pens here for our livestock and cities for our women and children. But we will arm ourselves for battle and go ahead of the Israelites until we have brought them to their place. Meanwhile our women and children will live in fortified cities, for protection from the inhabitants of the land. We will not return to our homes until each of the Israelites has received their inheritance. We will not receive any inheritance with them on the other side of the Jordan, because our inheritance has come to us on the east side of the Jordan"

Q: Does this promise fulfill what both Jacob and Moses prophetically blessed Gad for?

Q: How did Moses answer their request?

► Numbers 32:20-23 • "Then Moses said to them, 'If you will do this — if you will arm yourselves before the LORD for battle and if all of you who are armed cross over the Jordan before the LORD until He has driven His enemies out before Him—then when the land is subdued before the LORD, you may return and be free from your obligation to the LORD and to Israel. And this land will be your possession before the LORD. But if you fail to do this, you will be sinning against the LORD; and you may be sure that your sin will find you out. Go ahead and build towns for your families and pens for your flocks, but do everything you have promised."

Q: How did it end for Gad, Reuben and the half-tribe of Manasseh?

### THE TRIBE OF DAN

► Deuteronomy 33:22 • About Dan he said: "Dan is a lion's cub, leaping out of Bashan."

Q: What is the lineage of Dan?

Q: Since all of these blessings to the individual tribes are based on Jacob's individual blessings to his sons, what did Jacob say about Dan?

Q: How does this compare to what Moses says?

Q: How can we reconcile the difference between how Jacob referred to Dan with the way Moses referred to Dan?

Q: What was the ultimate outcome of the tribe of Dan?

### THE TRIBE OF NAPHTALI

► Deuteronomy 33:23 • About Naphtali he said: "Naphtali is abounding with the favor of the LORD and is full of his blessing; he will inherit southward to the lake."

Q: What is the lineage of Naphtali?

Q: What did Jacob say about Naphtali and how does that compare to what Moses has to say?

Q: How does Naphtali's tribe compare to his older brother, Dan's tribe?

## THE TRIBE OF ASHER

► Deuteronomy 33:24-25 • About Asher he said: "Most blessed of sons is Asher; let him be favored by his brothers, and let him bathe his feet in oil. The bolts of your gates will be iron and bronze, and your strength will equal your days.

Q: What is the lineage of Asher?

Q: What did Jacob say about Asher?

Q: What was the outcome for the Tribe of Asher?

**Finally, Moses is about to write his conclusion – his final task before he dies. He has now completed everything, including leaving behind, the individual blessings to each of the 12 tribes for Joshua to insert into the record. But wait ... even though we count 12 names, Ephraim & Manasseh were half-tribes, so there is a tribe missing!**

**► We will pick up our study with the missing tribe and why Moses chose to leave it out. This will be followed by Moses' final blessing on the Nation of Israel. Then we will journey once more with Moses to the top of the mountain.**



Next Time • Lesson #44  
"The Conclusion"

