

1. Choices have consequences

Even more important is that our repentance will also influence our family life for good for generations.

2. The incredible power of God's grace

Genesis 49:1-4 (ESV) ¹Then Jacob called his sons and said, "Gather yourselves together, that I may tell you what shall happen to you in days to come." ²"Assemble and listen, O sons of Jacob, listen to Israel your father." ³"Reuben, you are my firstborn, my might, and the firstfruits of my strength, preeminent in dignity and preeminent in power. ⁴Unstable 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!

12 Tribes of Israel:

- Rueben – "behold a son"
- Simeon – ("God hears") and Levi ("joined")

Genesis 49:5-7 (ESV) ⁵"Simeon and Levi are brothers; weapons of violence are their swords. ⁶Let my soul come not into their council; O my glory, be not joined to their company. For in their anger they killed men, and in their willfulness they hamstrung oxen. ⁷Cursed be their anger, for it is fierce, and their wrath, for it is cruel! I will divide them in Jacob and scatter them in Israel.

- Zebulun – "dwelling"

Genesis 49:13 (ESV) "Zebulun shall dwell at the shore of the sea; he shall become a haven for ships, and his border shall be at Sidon.

- Issachar – "man of hire"

Genesis 49:14-15 (ESV) ¹⁴"Issachar is a strong donkey, crouching between the sheepfolds. ¹⁵He saw that a resting place was good, and that the land was pleasant, so he bowed his shoulder to bear, and became a servant at forced labor.

- Dan – "judge"

Genesis 49:16-18 (ESV) ¹⁶"Dan shall judge his people as one of the tribes of Israel. ¹⁷Dan shall be a serpent in the way, a viper by the path, that bites the horse's heels so that his rider falls backward. ¹⁸I wait for your salvation, O LORD.

- Gad – "good fortune"

Genesis 49:19 (ESV) "Raiders shall raid Gad, but he shall raid at their heels.

- Asher – “happy”

Genesis 49:20 (ESV) “Asher's food shall be rich, and he shall yield royal delicacies.

- Naphtali – “my wrestling”

Genesis 49:21 (ESV) “Naphtali is a doe let loose that bears beautiful fawns.

- Benjamin – “son of the right hand”

Genesis 49:27 (ESV) “Benjamin is a ravenous wolf, in the morning devouring the prey and at evening dividing the spoil.”

- Joseph – “may God add”

Genesis 49:22-26 (ESV) ²²“Joseph is a fruitful bough, a fruitful bough by a spring; his branches run over the wall.²³ The archers bitterly attacked him, shot at him, and harassed him severely,²⁴ yet his bow remained unmoved; his arms were made agile by the hands of the Mighty One of Jacob (from there is the Shepherd, the Stone of Israel),²⁵ by the God of your father who will help you, by the Almighty who will bless you with blessings of heaven above, blessings of the deep that crouches beneath, blessings of the breasts and of the womb.²⁶ The blessings of your father are mighty beyond the blessings of my parents, up to the bounties of the everlasting hills. May they be on the head of Joseph, and on the brow of him who was set apart from his brothers.

- Judah – “let Him (God) be praised”

Genesis 49:8-12 (ESV) ⁸“Judah, your brothers shall praise you; your hand shall be on the neck of your enemies; your father's sons shall bow down before you.⁹ Judah is a lion's cub; from the prey, my son, you have gone up. He stooped down; he crouched as a lion and as a lioness; who dares rouse him?¹⁰ The scepter shall not depart from Judah, nor the ruler's staff from between his feet, until tribute comes to him; and to him shall be the obedience of the peoples.¹¹ Binding his foal to the vine and his donkey's colt to the choice vine, he has washed his garments in wine and his vesture in the blood of grapes.¹² His eyes are darker than wine, and his teeth whiter than milk.

Genesis 49:10 (ESV) The scepter shall not depart from Judah, nor the ruler's staff from between his feet, until tribute comes to him (until Shiloh comes); and to him shall be the obedience of the peoples.

Isaiah 9:6 (ESV) For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

Revelation 5:5 (ESV) And one of the elders said to me, “Weep no more; behold, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has conquered, so that he can open the scroll and its seven seals.”

Applications :

1. Our actions influence our children for good or for bad for generations to come.
2. God loves to redeem our sin and use it for good.
3. The lion of the tribe of Judah has come.