



GLORY of CHRIST FELLOWSHIP

SUMMARY OF THE TWELVE TRIBES OF ISRAEL By Pastor Charlie

Mother's Name	Child's Name	Meaning of Name
Leah	Rueben	See, a Son
Leah	Simeon	Heard
Leah	Levi	Attached
Leah	Judah	Praise
Bilhah	Dan	Judge
Bilhah	Naphtali	Wrestles
Zilpah	Gad	Good Fortune
Zilpah	Asher	Happy
Leah	Issachar	Wages
Leah	Zebulun	Honor
Rachel	Joseph	May He Add/Taken Away
Rachel	Benjamin	Son of My Right Hand
Asenath (with Joseph)	Manasseh	Made Me Forget
Asenath (with Joseph)	Ephraim	Made Me Fruitful

Jacob's children (29:31-30:24)

- I. Leah: the Lord opened her womb and closed Rachel's.
 - a. Rueben—"see, a son," she hopes for love
 - b. Simeon—"heard" for God had heard
 - c. Levi—"attached" for perhaps Jacob would now be attached to her
 - d. Judah—"praise," for this time she would praise the Lord, after this she stopped bearing
 - e. After Bilhah and Zilpah bear, Leah bears Issachar—"wages/hire" for God had paid her in return for giving her servant
 - f. Zebulun—"honor" for she hoped Jacob would honor her for bearing six sons
- II. Bilhah: Rachel in desperation gives her servant and she bears.
 - a. Dan—"judged" for God had judged and granted Rachel a son
 - b. Naphtali—"wrestling," Rachel wrestled with Leah and overcame
- III. Zilpah: Leah then gave her servant to Jacob
 - a. Gad—"good fortune" for God had given him
 - b. Asher—"happy" for God made Leah happy
- IV. Rachel
 - a. Joseph—"may he add," that is, another son, and also sounds like "taken away" for her reproach was taken away
 - b. Benjamin—"son of my right hand"

Issues with Jacob's Children

1. Reuben sinned by sleeping with his father's servant and thus lost the right of the firstborn.
2. Simeon and Levi sinned by slaughtering the Shechemites over the defiling of their sister and thus lost the right of firstborn as well. The Lord determined to scatter these tribes among Israel. The Tribe of Levi later redeemed itself when it stood with Moses to execute the justice of the Lord upon the people of Israel when they sinned with the golden calf.
3. Therefore, though he was fourth born, Judah received the right of the firstborn and his descendants became the leading tribe of Israel from which came the Lord Jesus Christ.
4. Because Simeon and Levi were scattered among Israel, Joseph was granted two tribes, named after his sons, Ephraim the younger and Manasseh the older.