

Jacob Blesses His Sons

1. Carefully read through Genesis 48-50. Highlight with different colors all of the words spoken by different people. Mark in yellow everywhere the name of God is used. Mark in green everywhere a place is named. Mark in blue everywhere a person is named. Circle, underline, or color any repeated phrases. What patterns do you notice?
2. Memorize Genesis 49:10, "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."
3. Create your own detailed outline of Genesis 48-50.
4. Why does Jacob bless Joseph's two sons (1 Chronicles 5:1-2)? Why do we read about the tribes of Ephraim and Manasseh later in the Old Testament rather than the tribe of Joseph? How does this blessing relate to Isaac's blessing of Jacob and Esau?
5. Which of the blessings of Jacob's sons stand out to you? Why? How do these blessings look forward to later Bible events?

6. How do Joseph and his brothers bury Jacob? What are the brothers concerned about after Jacob dies? How is Joseph's response a fitting summary of the book of Genesis?

7. What happens to Joseph's body after he dies?

8. What are the major themes in the book of Genesis? What do each of these themes teach us about God? What do each of these themes teach us about ourselves? How can each of these themes help us to be better Christians?

9. In no more than two short sentences, write what you think the book of Genesis is about. After you write your answer, compare it with your answer to question 2 in the lesson titled, "Overview of Genesis." How has your overall impression of the book changed?

10. What have you learned in this study of Genesis? How will the book of Genesis help you as you study the Bible in the future?