

The eleven sons of Jacob in Genesis 29-30 and 49 and beyond

GENESIS 29.31-30.24; 35.18

When YHWH saw that Leah was unloved, he opened her womb; but Rachel was barren.

Leah conceived and bore a son, and she named him **Reuben**; for she said, "Because YHWH has looked on my affliction; surely now my husband will love me."

She conceived again and bore a son, and said, "Because YHWH has heard that I am hated, he has given me this son also"; and she named him **Simeon**.

Again she conceived and bore a son, and said, "Now this time my husband will be joined to me, because I have borne him three sons"; therefore he was named **Levi**.

She conceived again and bore a son, and said, "This time I will praise YHWH"; therefore she named him **Judah**; then she ceased bearing.

When **Rachel** saw that she bore Jacob no children, ... she said, "Here is my maid-servant-servant **Bilhah**; go in to her, that she may bear upon my knees and that I too may have children through her."

So she gave him her maid-servant Bilhah as a woman; and Jacob went in to her.

And Bilhah conceived and bore Jacob a son. Then Rachel said, "God has judged me, and has also heard my voice and given me a son"; therefore she named him **Dan**.

Rachel's maid-servant Bilhah conceived again and bore Jacob a second son.

Then Rachel said, "With mighty wrestlings I have wrestled with my sister, and have prevailed"; so she named him **Naphtali**.

When **Leah** saw that she had ceased bearing children, she took her maid-servant **Zilpah** and gave her to Jacob as a woman.

Then Leah's maid-servant Zilpah bore Jacob a son.

And Leah said, "Good fortune!" so she named him **Gad**.

Leah's maid-servant Zilpah bore Jacob a second son.

And Leah said, "Happy am I! For the women will call me happy"; so she named him **Asher**.

...And God heeded Leah, and she conceived and bore Jacob a fifth son.

Leah said, "God has given me my hire because I gave my maid-servant to my husband"; so she named him **Issachar**.

And Leah conceived again, and she bore Jacob a sixth son.

Then Leah said, "God has endowed me with a good dowry; now my husband will honor me, because I have borne him six sons"; so she named him **Zebulun**.

Afterwards she bore a daughter, and named her **Dinah**.

Then God remembered **Rachel**, and God heeded her and opened her womb.

She conceived and bore a son, and said, "God has taken away my reproach"; and she named him **Joseph**, saying, "May YHWH add to me another son!"

...

As her life was departing (for she died), she named him **Ben-oni**; but his father called him **Benjamin**.

GENESIS 49.1-28

Then Jacob called his sons, and said: "Gather around, that I may tell you what will happen to you in days to come.

Assemble and hear, O sons of Jacob; listen to Israel your father.

Reuben...

Simeon and **Levi** are brothers...

Judah...

Zebulun...

Issachar...

Dan...

Gad...

Asher...

Naphtali...

Joseph...

Benjamin...

All these are the twelve tribes of Israel, and this is what their father said to them when he blessed them, blessing each one of them with a suitable blessing.

DEUTERONOMY 27.12-13

When you have crossed over the Jordan, these shall stand on Mount Gerizim for the blessing of the people: Simeon, Levi, Judah, Issachar, Joseph, and Benjamin. And these shall stand on Mount Ebal for the curse: Reuben, Gad, Asher, Zebulun, Dan, and Naphtali.

JOSHUA 21

So by command of YHWH the Israelites gave to the **Levites** the following towns and pasture lands out of their inheritance....

Out of the tribe of **Judah** and the tribe of **Simeon** they gave the following towns mentioned by name...

Out of the tribe of **Benjamin**...

Out of the tribe of **Dan**...

Out of the half-tribe of **Manasseh**...

Out of the tribe of **Issachar**...

Out of the tribe of **Asher**...

Out of the tribe of **Naphtali**...

Out of the tribe of **Reuben**...

Out of the tribe of **Gad**...

Thus YHWH gave to Israel all the land that he swore to their ancestors that he would give them; and having taken possession of it, they settled there.

NUMBERS 1.4-16

A man from each tribe shall be with you, each man the head of his ancestral house.

These are the names of the men who shall assist you:

From **Reuben**...

From **Simeon**...

From **Judah**...

From **Issachar**...

From **Zebulun**...

From the sons of **Joseph**: from **Ephraim**...

From **Benjamin**...

From **Dan**...

From **Asher**...

From **Gad**...

From **Naphtali**...

These were the ones chosen from the congregation, the leaders of their ancestral tribes, the heads of the divisions of Israel.

NUMBERS 10.13-28

They set out for the first time at the command of YHWH by Moses.

The standard of the camp of **Judah** set out first, company by company,

Over the company of the tribe of **Issachar** ... and over the company of the tribe of **Zebulun**

...

Next the standard of the camp of **Reuben** set out...

Over the company of the tribe of **Simeon**...

and over the company of the tribe of **Gad**...

Next the standard of the **Ephraimite** camp set out, company by company, and over the whole company ...

Over the company of the tribe of **Manasseh**... and over the company of the tribe of **Benjamin**

...

Then the standard of the camp of **Dan**, acting as the rear guard of all the camps, set out, company by company,

Over the company of the tribe of **Asher** ...

and over the company of the tribe of **Naphtali**

...

This was the order of march of the Israelites, company by company, when they set out.

NUMBERS 13.1-16

YHWH said to Moses,

"Send men to spy out the land of Canaan, which I am giving to the Israelites; from each of their ancestral tribes you shall send a man, every one a leader among them."

So Moses sent them from the wilderness of Paran, according to the command of YHWH, all of them leading men among the Israelites.

These were their names: From the tribe of **Reuben**...

from the tribe of **Simeon**...

from the tribe of **Judah**...

from the tribe of **Issachar**...

from the tribe of **Ephraim**...

from the tribe of **Benjamin**...

from the tribe of **Zebulun**...

from the tribe of **Joseph** (**that is**... from the tribe of **Manasseh**)...

from the tribe of **Dan**...

from the tribe of **Asher**...

from the tribe of **Naphtali**...

from the tribe of **Gad**...

These were the names of the men whom Moses sent to spy out the land. And Moses changed the name of Hoshea son of Nun to Joshua.

NUMBERS 26.4-51

"Take a census of the people, from twenty years old and upward," as YHWH commanded Moses. The Israelites, who came out of the land of Egypt, were:

Reuben, the firstborn of Israel.

The descendants of **Simeon** by their clans...

The children of **Gad** by their clans...

The sons of **Judah**...

The descendants of **Issachar** by their clans...

The descendants of **Zebulun** by their clans...

The sons of **Joseph** by their clans... **Manasseh and Ephraim**.

These are the clans of **Manasseh**...

These are the descendants of **Ephraim** according to their clans...

The descendants of **Benjamin** by their clans...

These are the descendants of **Dan** by their clans...

The descendants of **Asher** by their families...

The descendants of **Naphtali** by their clans...

This was the number of the Israelites enrolled: six hundred and one thousand seven hundred thirty.

GENESIS 29-30	GENESIS 49	DEUTERONOMY 27.12-13	JOSHUA 21	NUMBERS 1.4-16	NUMBERS 10.13-28	NUMBERS 13.1-16	NUMBERS 26.4-51
Reuben	Reuben	Simeon	Levi	Reuben	Judah	Reuben	Reuben
Simeon	Simeon	Levi	Judah	Simeon	Issachar	Simeon	Simeon
Levi	Levi	Judah	Simeon	Judah	Zebulun	Judah	Gad
Judah	Judah	Issachar	Benjamin	Issachar	Reuben	Issachar	Judah
Dan	Zebulun	Joseph	Dan	Zebulun	Simeon	Ephraim	Issachar
Naphtali	Issachar	Benjamin	Manasseh	Joseph/Ephraim	Gad	Benjamin	Zebulun
Gad	Dan	Reuben	Issachar	Benjamin	Ephraim	Zebulun	Manasseh
Asher	Gad	Gad	Asher	Dan	Manasseh	Joseph-Manasseh	Ephraim
Issachar	Asher	Asher	Naphtali	Asher	Benjamin	Dan	Benjamin
Zebulun	Naphtali	Zebulun	Zebulun	Gad	Dan	Asher	Dan
Joseph	Joseph	Dan	Reuben	Naphtali	Asher	Naphtali	Asher
Benjamin	Benjamin	Naphtali	Gad	[not Levi]	Naphtali	Gad	Naphtali