



“Looking Ahead”

What You Can Expect
Genesis 49:1-21

Our past :

I. Prevents - “thou shall not excel” (vs. 1-7)

Infecting with:

- A. **Vileness** - “father’s bed...defiledst thou it ”
- B. **Vandalism** - “in their selfwill they digged down a wall”
- C. **Violence** - “their anger...was fierce...their wrath...cruel”

II. Predicts - “the sceptre shall not depart from Judah” (vs. 8-12)

Influencing our:

- A. **Family** – “whom thy brethren shall praise”
- B. **Foes** - “thy hand shall be in the neck of thine enemies”
- C. **Fulfillment** – “His teeth white with milk”

III. Prepares - “I have waited for thy salvation” (vs. 13-21)

Informing our view of:

- A. **Pleasure** – “he saw...rest was good, and the land...pleasant ”
- B. **Problems** – “but he shall overcome at last”
- C. **Preparation** – “a hind let loose: he gives goodly words”

Sentence Sermon:

Forgetting those things which are behind and reaching toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus .” Phil. 3:13-14

Additional Verses

- Galatians 2:20
- Revelation 3:8
- Proverbs 24:16; 26:11
- I Chronicles 5:1
- Judges 5:15-16
- Genesis 43:9; 44:33
- Isaiah 23:12
- Jeremiah 8:4
- Leviticus 18:6
- Psalm 16:8; 40:2-3; 119:71
- I Corinthians 10:13
- Genesis 34:5
- Ephesians 4:25
- Joshua 19:9
- Psalm 33:20

Questions to Ponder:

1. What are the key words in this passage?
2. Who is the central character of the passage?
3. Was Jacob “blessing” his sons? Why or why not?
4. Why did Jacob start out with his first four sons and then deviate?
5. What examples can you give of Reuben’s instability?
6. How would you describe the shortcomings of Simeon and Levi?
7. What do you think is their greatest character flaw? Why?
8. Why did Jacob give such a positive description of Judah?
9. What can we learn from Issachar about the danger of pleasure?
10. Why is Dan listed as “one of the tribes of Israel?”
11. Why does verse 18 talk about waiting for salvation?
12. What qualities can we learn from Gad?
13. How has your past prepared you for your life today?