

“The Lion of the tribe of Judah”

Genesis 29-30

“The Lion of the tribe of Judah”

Revelation 5:5

5 Then one of the elders said to me, “Do not weep! See, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has triumphed. He is able to open the scroll and its seven seals.”

“The Lion of the tribe of Judah”

Genesis 29:14-28

14 Then Laban said to him, “You are my own flesh and blood.” After Jacob had stayed with him for a whole month, **15** Laban said to him, “Just because you are a relative of mine, should you work for me for nothing? Tell me what your wages should be.”

16 Now Laban had two daughters; the name of the older was Leah, and the name of the younger was Rachel. **17** Leah had weak eyes, but Rachel had a lovely figure and was beautiful. **18** Jacob was in love with Rachel and said, “I’ll work for you seven years in return for your younger daughter Rachel.”

19 Laban said, “It’s better that I give her to you than to some other man. Stay here with me.” **20** So Jacob served seven years to get Rachel, but they seemed like only a few days to him because of his love for her. **21** Then Jacob said to Laban, “Give me my wife. My time is completed, and I want to make love to her.” **22** So Laban brought together all the people of the place and gave a feast.

23 But when evening came, he took his daughter Leah and brought her to Jacob, and Jacob made love to her. **24** And Laban gave his servant Zilpah to his daughter as her attendant. **25** When morning came, there was Leah! So Jacob said to Laban, “What is this you have done to me? I served you for Rachel, didn’t I? Why have you deceived me?”

26 Laban replied, “It is not our custom here to give the younger daughter in marriage before the older one. **27** Finish this daughter’s bridal week; then we will give you the younger one also, in return for another seven years of work.” **28** And Jacob did so. He finished the week with Leah, and then Laban gave him his daughter Rachel to be his wife.

“The Lion of the tribe of Judah”

“Jacob, the deceiver in name as well as in behavior, had himself been deceived. The one who had tried everything to obtain the benefits of the firstborn had now, against his will received the firstborn.”

NIV 2011 Study Bible

“The Lion of the tribe of Judah”

Genesis 29:31-35

31 When the LORD saw that Leah was not loved, he enabled her to conceive, but Rachel remained childless. **32** Leah became pregnant and gave birth to a son. She named him Reuben, for she said, “It is because the LORD has seen my misery. Surely my husband will love me now.” **33** She conceived again, and when she gave birth to a son she said, “Because the LORD heard that I am not loved, he gave me this one too.” So she named him Simeon.

34 Again she conceived, and when she gave birth to a son she said, “Now at last my husband will become attached to me, because I have borne him three sons.” So he was named Levi. **35** She conceived again, and when she gave birth to a son she said, “This time I will praise the LORD.” So she named him Judah. Then she stopped having children.

“The Lion of the tribe of Judah”

“Leah, though unloved, nevertheless became the mother of Jacob’s first four sons, including Levi (ancestor of the Aaronic priestly line) and Judah (ancestor of David and his royal line, and ultimately of Jesus).

NIV 2011 Study Bible

“The Lion of the tribe of Judah”

Genesis 30:1-8

1 When Rachel saw that she was not bearing Jacob any children, she became jealous of her sister. So she said to Jacob, “Give me children, or I’ll die!” **2** Jacob became angry with her and said, “Am I in the place of God, who has kept you from having children?”

3 Then she said, “Here is Bilhah, my servant. Sleep with her so that she can bear children for me and I too can build a family through her.” **4** So she gave him her servant Bilhah as a wife. Jacob slept with her, **5** and she became pregnant and bore him a son.

6 Then Rachel said, “God has vindicated me; he has listened to my plea and given me a son.” Because of this she named him Dan. **7** Rachel’s servant Bilhah conceived again and bore Jacob a second son. **8** Then Rachel said, “I have had a great struggle with my sister, and I have won.” So she named him Naphtali.

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Genesis 30:9-13

9 When Leah saw that she had stopped having children, she took her servant Zilpah and gave her to Jacob as a wife. **10** Leah’s servant Zilpah bore Jacob a son. **11** Then Leah said, “What good fortune!” So she named him Gad. **12** Leah’s servant Zilpah bore Jacob a second son. **13** Then Leah said, “How happy I am! The women will call me happy.” So she named him Asher.

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Genesis 30:14-21

14 During wheat harvest, Reuben went out into the fields and found some mandrake plants, which he brought to his mother Leah. Rachel said to Leah, “Please give me some of your son’s mandrakes.” **15** But she said to her, “Wasn’t it enough that you took away my husband? Will you take my son’s mandrakes too?” “Very well,” Rachel said, “he can sleep with you tonight in return for your son’s mandrakes.”

16 So when Jacob came in from the fields that evening, Leah went out to meet him. “You must sleep with me,” she said. “I have hired you with my son’s mandrakes.” So he slept with her that night. **17** God listened to Leah, and she became pregnant and bore Jacob a fifth son. **18** Then Leah said, “God has rewarded me for giving my servant to my husband.” So she named him Issachar. **19** Leah conceived again and bore Jacob a sixth son.

20 Then Leah said, “God has presented me with a precious gift. This time my husband will treat me with honor, because I have borne him six sons.” So she named him Zebulun. **21** Some time later she gave birth to a daughter and named her Dinah.

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Genesis 30:22-24

22 Then God remembered Rachel; he listened to her and enabled her to conceive. **23** She became pregnant and gave birth to a son and said, “God has taken away my disgrace.” **24** She named him Joseph, and said, “May the **LORD** add to me another son.”

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Names of Jacob’s sons:

- **Reuben: see, a son**
- **Simeon: one who hears**
- **Levi: attached**
- **Judah: praise**
- **Dan: he has vindicated**
- **Naphtali: my struggle**

Names of Jacob's sons: (Continued)

- **Gad: good fortune, a troop**
- **Asher: happy**
- **Issachar: reward**
- **Zebulun: honor**
- **Joseph: may he add**
- **Benjamin: son of my right hand**

Life Applications

“God is in control, far beyond the immediate situation.”

Final Thoughts

Genesis 49:8-12

8 “Judah, your brothers will praise you; your hand will be on the neck of your enemies; your father’s sons will bow down to you. **9** You are a lion’s cub, Judah; you return from the prey, my son. Like a lion he crouches and lies down, like a lioness — who dares to rouse him?

10 The scepter will not depart from Judah, nor the ruler's staff from between his feet, until he to whom it belongs shall come and the obedience of the nations shall be his. **11** He will tether his donkey to a vine, his colt to the choicest branch; he will wash his garments in wine, his robes in the blood of grapes. **12** His eyes will be darker than wine, his teeth whiter than milk.

Final Thoughts

Zechariah 10:4

4 From Judah will come the
cornerstone, from him the
tent peg, from him the battle
bow, from him every ruler.

Final Thoughts

Hebrews 7:14

14 For it is clear that our Lord descended from Judah, and in regard to that tribe Moses said nothing about priests.

Final Thoughts

Revelation 5:1-5

1 Then I saw in the right hand of him who sat on the throne a scroll with writing on both sides and sealed with seven seals. **2** And I saw a mighty angel proclaiming in a loud voice, “Who is worthy to break the seals and open the scroll?”

3 But no one in heaven or on earth or under the earth could open the scroll or even look inside it. **4** I wept and wept because no one was found who was worthy to open the scroll or look inside. **5** Then one of the elders said to me, “Do not weep! See, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has triumphed. He is able to open the scroll and its seven seals.”