

Study Guide for October 8<sup>th</sup>, 2006: A Final Blessing. Deuteronomy 33.

Introduction: Describe a time you've observed an older person speaking words of blessing to someone younger. What effect did observing that interchange have on you?

I. The God who led his people to freedom: (Deut. 33:1-5)

A. What tone is communicated by the poetry of vs. 2? (also Jdgs. 5:4-5 & Hab. 3:3-7)

B. What significant event happened at Sinai? How did Israel respond? (see vs. 3)

C. What would it mean for Israel to have the Lord as their KING? What about us?

II. The God who knows his people individually: (Deut. 33:6-25)

A. What does Moses predict or petition for the following tribes . . .

- 1) Reuban (vs. 6) (see also Gen. 49:3-4):
- 2) Judah (vs. 7) (see also Gen. 49:8-12):
- 3) Levi (vs. 8-11) (see also Gen. 49:5-7):
- 4) Benjamin (vs. 12) (see also Gen. 49:27):
- 5) Joseph (vs. 13-17) (see also Gen. 49:22-26):
- 6) Zebulun & Issachar (vs. 18-19) (see also Gen. 49:13-14):
- 7) Gad (vs. 20-21) (see Gen. 49:19):
- 8) Dan (vs. 22) (see also Gen. 49:16-17):
- 9) Naphtali (vs. 23) (see also Gen. 49:21)
- 10) Asher (vs. 24) (see also Gen. 49:20)

B. What themes seem to run throughout all these blessings on the tribes?

C. How is God described in vs. 16? Why is that phrase significant here?

D. Read Is. 44:6-8 in light of these predictions. How does it effect your faith?

III. The God who leads his people victoriously: (Deut. 33:26-29)

A. What is proclaimed about God in these verses?

B. What should Israel expect in light of this revelation of God's character?

C. Reflect on the significance of vs. 27, "The eternal God is your refuge and underneath are the everlasting arms."

D. God promises to defeat Israel's enemies (vs. 27b-29). How will this happen?

Conclusion: What will be required of us as we face spiritual battles in the days to come?