

Deuteronomy 33 - Moses Blessed The Sons of Israel

vs. 1-5 - The Blessing

- Moses the man of God - (common name for a prophet) even though Moses was not allowed to enter the land, he was still considered the man of God.
- blessing - Moses requesting these from God.
- Moses starts with a brief overview of how God had blessed and loved the Israelites.

vs. 6 - Reuben (and Simeon?)

- Their was little to say to Reuben, who should have been preeminent as the first born
- Some manuscripts ascribe the “nor his men be few” to Simeon. This has some validity as only 11 tribes are mentioned in this list.

vs. 7 - Judah

- voice of Judah - Judah means praise.
- the tribe which Christ will come from.

vs. 8-11 - Levi

- Thummim and Urim - placed in Aaron’s breastpiece of judgement (Exodus 28:30).
- Meribah and Massah - references to Aaron. It would seem that the blessing was keeping the priesthood with Aaron.
- They shall teach your ordinances/laws.
- They shall put incense/burnt offerings on your altar.
- Shatter the loins - those who oppose this tribe were to be destroyed.

vs. 12 - Benjamin

- the additions of the he, him, and the capital letters by the translators confuse this meaning.
- key words of beloved, security, shields, shoulders.

vs. 13-17 - Joseph

- blessings on the land.
- distinguished among his brothers..
- Ephraim and Manasseh - is two sons (Ephraim was the younger but was put ahead of Manasseh when Israel blessed them).

vs. 18-19 - Zebulun/Issachar

- they will be linked and work the seas with Zebulun going to sea and Issachar staying home.

vs. 20-21 - Gad

- a lion, unlike his brother Dan who is a lions cub.

vs. 22 - Dan

- whelp (cub) - they will get a tiny piece of land.
- Bashan - East of the Jordan the land of the half tribe of Manasseh.

vs. 23 - Naphtali

- full of the blessing of the Lord.
- possession of the southern sea.

vs. 24-25 - Asher

- favored by his brothers.
- leisurely walk (Genesis 49 - royal dainties).

vs. 26-29 - So Israel dwells in security

- vs. 28 - so Israel dwells in security.
- vs. 29 - who is like you a people saved by the Lord.

Deuteronomy 34 - Moses the Servant of the Lord Died

vs. 1-8 - The Lord showed him all the land.

- the Lord showed him all the land.
- even at his death Moses was known as the servant of the Lord.
- HE buried him!
 - this seems to be because of a struggle between Satan and Michael over his body (Jude 9) God would need it later (Matthew 17:1-8, and possibly Revelation 11:1-13 - the two witnesses).
- Moses did not die because he was old, but because it was God’s time.

vs. 9-12 - Now Joshua

- Joshua was filled with the spirit of wisdom.
- Moses the prophet - was like no other because he saw God face to face.

The End (of the Pentateuch/Torah/books of Moses)!