



## Genesis Lesson 30 Chapter 38

*God has made it clear that He is passing the covenant promise to Jacob. He has renewed the promises to him by accompanying him back into the land of his forefathers, protecting him from the vengeance of his brother, Esau, and meeting with him at Bethel and changing his name to Israel. The fact that God doesn't require perfection in the people He uses to fulfill His purposes is clearly seen in the dysfunction of Jacob's family. Pride, jealousy, selfishness, anger, and violence are ruling factors in the behavior*

*of Jacob's sons. Though the battle with the flesh will continue, it will never deter or hinder God from fulfilling His perfect plan for mankind. His intention is to bring, through the generations of His chosen people, a redeemer who will satisfy the righteous requirement of God's justice and holiness. The huge gap that sin has created can only be filled by a perfect substitute; the seed of the woman that will crush the head of Satan. Jacob's son Joseph will play a key role in that process despite the evil plans of his brothers to take his life.*

### READ CHAPTER 38



*The events of chapter 38 take place in the twenty plus years that pass between chapter 37 and chapter 42. After the selling of Joseph, Judah leaves the family unit and goes out into the land of the Canaanites and starts a family. This separation further illustrates the breakdown of Jacob's family, and also reveals the negative impact of the pagan nations on God's people.*

1. *List the first 4 sons of Jacob. What events in the first 3 sons' lives would have eliminated them from the firstborn privilege? See Genesis 35:22 and 34:25-31. Who would now inherit the firstborn position and privilege?*





***Prayer requests:***

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***Group time notes:***

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