

**God's Provisions and Blessings for His People**  
**Deuteronomy 33-34**  
**October 2, 2024**

Death-Bed Blessings

Also done by Isaac and Jacob to their children.

Death-bed blessings had an important role in that time period and culture. The bestowal of death-bed blessings could be upheld in a court of law. Isaac told Esau that his blessing to Jacob was irreversible.

Similarities to Jacob's Blessings in Genesis 49

The blessings, for the most part, follow the blessings given by Jacob in Genesis 49, though in a different order.

One glaring difference is that Simeon is left out entirely.

- They seem to have been the tribe most associated with the Baal worship that broke out at Beth-peor, which Phineas had to put an end to.

**Reuben :: 33:6** - Moses prays that the tribe might continue to exist but reduced in number.

**Judah :: 33:7** - Judah becomes the greatest of all the tribes.

**Levi :: 33:8-11** - Levi had the same curse as Simeon, but while the Simeonites led others away in Baal worship, the Levites led people to Yahweh.

**Benjamin :: 33:12** - Benjamin was beloved by Jacob as the youngest son and brother of Joseph.

Both Jacob and Moses speak of his strength, in particular, the military might.

- Saul, Johnathan, Esther, Paul

**Joseph :: 33:13-17** - The common blessing from Jacob and Moses was richness, abundance, and provisions.

This is both Ephraim and Manasseh.

**Zebulun and Issachar :: 33:18-19** - They both will be successful, but in different ways: Zebulun in trade and Issachar in agriculture.

The last two sons of Leah

**Gad :: 33:20-21** - Gad would be leaders in battle.

Son of Zilpah - Servant of Leah

**Dan :: 33:22** - This is the shortest blessing, but Dan is compared in strength and energy to a lion's cub.  
Son of Bilhah - Servant of Rachel

Samson comes from this tribe.

**Naphtali :: 33:23** - Naphtali was favored and full of blessing, being placed beside the sea of Galilee.  
Son of Bilhah - Servant of Rachel

**Asher :: 33:24-25** - Asher is also to be favored and blessed. He will share in the abundance of agricultural wealth as he is given the most fertile ground.

Son of Zilpah - Servant of Leah

The prophetess Anna comes from this tribe.

### **1. God is Their Blessing :: 33:26-27a; 34:1-8**

Though they are about to get the land as their dwelling, they must remember that God is their eternal dwelling.

As for Moses, he didn't get Canaan, but he got something better: the Lord.

### **2. God is the Provider of their Blessings :: 33:27b**

There's a temptation to think that they have been the ones to accrue all these good things and these blessings.

No. He thrust the enemy out before you. It was the Lord.

Psalm 50:12 - The world and its fullness are mine

James 1:17 - Every good and perfect gift comes from the Father

### **3. God is the Sustainer of Their Blessings :: 33:28; 34: 9-12**

Psalm 4:8

The understanding of this keeps them dependent on the Lord. The Lord gives and the Lord takes away.

34:9-12 - The Lord sustained Israel in many ways by providing them a new leader. He sustained them through Joshua.