

**Scripture reading: Genesis 29:35; 49:8-12****Judah –I will Praise the Lord**

When Leah was despised by her husband Jacob, she looked unto the Lord with tears. God heard her prayers and blessed her with children. When the first three children were born, she was mindful of herself and gave them names that consoled her. But when the fourth child was born, Leah wholeheartedly named him Judah (Praise God). Now Jacob, being led by the Holy Spirit prophesies, "Judah, you are he whom your brothers shall praise; your hand shall be on the neck of your enemies; your father's children shall bow down before you". He blessed Judah in that manner and went on to say a very important prophecy. Jacob said, "The scepter shall not depart from Judah, nor a lawgiver from between his feet, until the Lord of Peace comes".

**Question:**

Didn't Jacob love Joseph the most, but here we see him bless Judah the most?

**Answer:**

Though Jacob loved Joseph the most in the flesh, he is speaking all of these blessings over Judah being inspired by the Spirit of God. When Leah gave birth to Reuben, Simeon and Levi, she said things concerning herself, about what had happened to her and named them accordingly. But when Judah was born, she said 'I will praise my God' and then named him. Though prayer can be considered as the most important aspect of a believer's life, praise is a very important part of prayer. A person who truly praises God will be victorious in everything he does and will be exalted by God. That's the reason we have to learn to worship God in spirit and in truth.

"I will call upon the Lord, who is worthy to be praised; so shall I be saved from my enemies". Psalms 18:3

**Prayer**

Lord, give me the spirit of praise. Let my lips continually praise You. Amen