

Date: August 9, 2026

Pastor: Asa Hart

Title: “Sin and Salvation in Prophetic Poetry”

Series: Genesis – Beginnings

Text: Genesis 49:1-28

Main point: *Look to the Lord’s King for salvation.*

I. God’s **Flawed** and **Frail** people, vv. 1-28 (*see also Gen. 3:15; 16:2-4; 27:36; 35:22; 38:26; Josh. 18:7; 19:1; Jdg 13-16; 18-19; 1 Chron. 5:1-2; Heb. 11:39-40*)

II. Hope and **Wait** for the Lord’s **Salvation**, vs. 18 (*see also Jdg. 21:25; Ps. 25:5; 136; Is. 25:6-9; Mic. 7:7; Matt. 1:21; Luke 2:25-35; Heb. 11:13; Rev. 19:1-7*)

III. Accomplished by God’s **Appointed King**, vv. 8-12; 22-26 (*see also Gen. 17:6; Ps. 2; 110; Is. 66; Joel 3:18; Amos 9; Rom. 1:1-6; 16:25-27; Col. 1:15-23; Rev. 5:5; 19:15*)

Questions for Reflection

1. Read Genesis 49:1-28. Are there two particular sons/tribes that get special attention? Who are they and why do they get special attention? Is there a hinge or center to the text? Look at vs. 18. How is vs. 18 different than the rest of the verses? What is this telling us about Jacob's hope as he is dying? How much longer does he have to "wait"? Why even say this or write this if he is about to die? How is this instructive to us? How does this hope for salvation move forward in the sons?

2. Verse 28 looks back on all that Jacob has said to his sons here and calls this speech "a blessing." Is all of Jacob's speech full of happiness and puppies for his sons? How do you define blessing? How is the Bible defining blessing? What is the greatest good one could find according to God? How does this grate against the way we want to define what is "good and evil"? How does Jacob's own life show us that he must look outside himself for blessing? Why do we need God's blessing? What does that look like in your life?

3. How do we see God working good in the lives of a wicked people in these pronouncements from Jacob? How does Jesus fulfill the hope of these blessings? Why is it surprising that Judah gets the King while Joseph gets a blessing of "fruitfulness"? How does this connect to Jacob crossing his arms as he blesses Joseph's two sons in the previous chapter? How do both Joseph and Judah point us forward to Christ? How are we prone to expect salvation from the usual channels of man's strength, man's economy, and man's wisdom? How do we repent of this misplaced trust?

4. Christ is speaking so that you might hear and in hearing you might turn to him, and in turning to him, he might heal you. What do you need to bring before him today?

NEXT WEEK: Genesis 49:28-50:14, Andy McClellan

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