



Leah and Jacob's Sons Compared to the Lord's Feasts

When looking at the names of Jacob's children, especially the ones he had with Leah, it follows an interesting sequence which mirrors the same sequence of the Lord's Feasts outlined in Leviticus Chapter 23. I will include a matrix later in this document which will map the connection and sequence.

Application: Once you understand the names, what they mean, and the sequence, you can easily apply the principles in the same sequence to move in closer relationship with God and follow a clear process designed for restoration and recovery.

Let's go to Genesis Chapter 29:31-35.

³¹ When the Lord saw that Leah was unloved, He opened her womb; but Rachel was barren. ³² So Leah conceived and bore a son, and she called his name Reuben; for she said, "The Lord has surely looked on my affliction. Now therefore, my husband will love me." ³³ Then she conceived again and bore a son, and said, "Because the Lord has heard that I am ^lunloved, He has therefore given me this son also." And she called his name Simeon. ³⁴ She conceived again and bore a son, and said, "Now this time my husband will become attached to me, because I have borne him three sons." Therefore his name was called Levi. ³⁵ And she conceived again and bore a son, and said, "Now I will praise the Lord." Therefore she called his name Judah. Then she stopped bearing.

Verse 31 – God saw that Leah was hated so He blessed her. God saw she was being done wrong so He blessed her. Before things were not working right, but when God found out she was being done wrong, He opened up some things for her.....and closed it for others (her sister Rachel was barren). God sees when folks talk about you. He sees when people don't want to hang around you. He sees when people prefer other places than your place...so don't worry....He will turn things around in your favor...He sees your situation. You might have to wait a while...but when you are treated badly and your situation looks barren and hopeless, God sees it. He will open doors for you. Just cause it looks ugly doesn't mean God can't bless it.

Verse 32 – Leah conceived. God allowed something to get started on the inside....she still looked the same on the outside....but on the inside....a change was taking place. God works from the inside out and what God blessed her with on the inside started to come out...it started to show. So what was inside had to come out so everyone else could see she was blessed.

Application for today: Somebody gonna see on the outside what He allowed to happen to you on the inside. That is the plan of God for your life. When you turn to Him, there is a change coming that will need to show and be manifested on the outside so your experience, your breakthrough, and your results become a story and testimony for other to know Him.

- Leah names the first son Reuben. His name means -- behold a son. Now as we go through these names keep track of the meaning of these sons.



- She names him that because he is relief or God's answer to her affliction and misery. Because of this first born son, she concludes that things will turn in her favor.

Verse 33 – Right after that, she gives birth again. Her rationale is God wasn't finished. The first son was just the beginning, which means God was just getting started. He has more and greater to come.

- Simeon means -- heard or hearing with acceptance.
- Because God heard that she was still hated, He blessed her again.

Verse 34 – She is just being very fruitful now. Now this time she believes she will be joined to her husband Jacob because she is so fruitful.

- Levi means -- joined to.

Verse 35 – The name of the last son is Judah. Judah means – praise. So because of this fourth son, she declares she will praise the Lord. For each blessing and result, she names her son as a remembrance and maybe a message to us. What's the message? There's a message in her testimony.

Reuben (see a son), Simeon (God has heard), and joined me to Him (Levi), Judah (I will praise).

So when you put the meaning of the names together, the sentence sounds something like this:

Behold a son, so God will hear me and I will be joined to him so I will praise the Lord.

After Judah she took a break. After four sons, there's a gap or break. After the praise there might be a period or break...but don't worry...Leah has more kids...which means between your broken hearted and ugly season and getting God's best....in the middle is praise.

- Praise because what He starts, He finishes. We worship Him until He comes back again, with anticipation.

Now let's turn to Genesis Chapter 30.

¹⁷ And God listened to Leah, and she conceived and bore Jacob a fifth son. ¹⁸ Leah said, "God has given me my wages, because I have given my maid to my husband." So she called his name Issachar. ¹⁹ Then Leah conceived again and bore Jacob a sixth son. ²⁰ And Leah said, "God has endowed me with a good endowment; now my husband will dwell with me, because I have borne him six sons." So she called his name Zebulun. ²¹ Afterward she bore a daughter, and called her name Dinah.

After the gap in time between the first four children, Leah gets blessed again.

Her 5th Son – Issachar means -- there is recompense; we will get a reward for this. This reminds me of the scripture which states God is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him (Hebrews 11:6).



Her 6th Son – Zebulun means -- exalted. Her last son ends in exaltation.....its part of God’s plan for Leah, and it can be your plan too if you follow the steps and behold the Son.

Dinah’s name means – judgment.

Now when I compare the seven feasts to the children’s names (particularly the sons), I see a divine sequence and connection. Observe the matrix below:

Feast	When Fulfilled	Israel	Leah’s Children	Connection
Passover	Jesus dies	Kill Passover Lamb	Reuben – the Son	Her affliction, suffered, in need
Unleavened Bread	Jesus is buried	Leave Egypt	Simeon – He hears	God hears the cry; Israel cries out
First Fruits	Jesus is resurrected	Cross Red Sea	Levi – will be joined	Israel baptized, born again, new hope
Pentecost	Outpouring of the Holy Spirit	Law given at Mt. Sinai	Judah - praise	Praise for His glory, covenant relationship
The Gap				
Trumpets	The Rapture	Jewish New Year	Issachar – reward or hire	Believer’s reward given after rapture
Day of Atonement	Jesus comes again	High Priest enters Holy of Holies	Zebulun - exalted	Exalted, Christ defeats enemy
Tabernacles	Millennium reign of Christ	Temple dedicated by Solomon		

So what does all this mean and how can I apply it? The names follow the conditions and process for how God delivers Israel and this is the same process Jesus follows in his ministry. Notice how the first four feasts are fulfilled partially through the Exodus and completely fulfilled by Jesus. Notice also there is a gap between the first four feasts (Spring Feasts) and the final three feasts (Fall Feasts). I don’t think it is a coincidence that Leah also has a gap between her deliveries. It is by design.

So Leah, similar to the Children of Israel when they were in bondage in Egypt, was suffering. She is later comforted by understanding God hears her cry for relief. This could be similar to the cries of Israel after they left Egypt and Pharaoh pursues after them in the wilderness. She sees Levi as being later joined to Jacob. Likewise, when we are born again (step #3) we are adopted and joined into the family of God.



Judah means praise. I found it interesting that while Exodus 14 describes the crossing of the Red Sea, Exodus 15 follows it with praise in the Song of Moses.

Application for Today:

- If we find ourselves in need and suffering affliction or hard times, I believe the feasts outline step-by-step how we are to follow God's plan for recovery and victory over these problems. Just follow the plan, first by recognizing the need and humbly submit to God by accepting Jesus Christ. This is applying Passover.
- Leah's story gives us another clear example of how to follow and apply these feasts steps. We may need to simply speak by faith the sentence she has created:

"Behold the Son, who hears our cry, and we will be joined to Him, so I will praise Him now."

- I have used this sentence on many occasions to remind me of His promises so I am able to praise Him in advance before the outward manifestation. It defeats the enemy when I can praise Him through my struggles know that my deliverance is on the way and I shall be joined to the King of Kings.
- There is a second sentence which follows after the praise:

"God shall reward me and I will be exalted"

Now you may be asking about Dinah. Her name could point to the future judgment to come after Christ's reign on the earth. Jacob also had other children and their names also have meaning which can be used to encourage us today. They also follow a sequence.

5th Son – Dan, name means – a judge

6th Son – Naphtali – wrestling

7th Son – Gad – a troop

8th Son – Asher – happy

9th Son – Issachar – there is recompense

10th Son – Zebulun – exalted; also related to dwelling or habitation

11th Son – Joseph – God has added

12th Son – Benjamin – son of his right hand

These names point to end time prophesy but the first four serve as the foundation and approach we must follow and renew daily to step fully into His best which awaits us.

Try saying and believing this:



"Behold the Son, who hears our cry, and ~~we will be~~ I am joined to Him, so I ~~will~~ praise Him now. He will judge me and in my struggles His army is coming, so I am happy because there is compensation after this and I will be exalted and dwell with God. He has added to me so I will serve Him."