



— LINEAGE OF THE KING —

**Jacob was the Father of Judah,
Judah was the Father of Perez and Zerah by Tamar
Matthew 1:2**

Lesson 4

FIRST DAY: Review and Overview

1. What stands out to you most from Jacob's life?
2. In 1 Corinthians 1:26 the Apostle Paul declared, *For you see your calling, that not many wise according to the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble, are called.* Certainly this same declaration is true of Judah, the fourth son of Jacob. Judah was not always wise in his decisions, mighty in his deeds, or noble in his actions. He definitely lacked the godliness and integrity of his brother Joseph. However, a profound change took place in Judah as he aged. By God's magnificent grace, Judah was the chosen son who would be placed in the lineage of Christ.

The grace of God should give each one of us great consolation! None of us have been qualified by our wisdom, strength, or nobility. Rather, we have been brought into the promise of God by faith in Jesus Christ. As you study Judah's life, take special note of the grace of God demonstrated toward him. Use the following Scriptures to note and comment on what you see in Judah's character:

- a. Genesis 29:35 and 37:11,18, 26-27
 - b. Genesis 38:24-26
 - c. Genesis 43:9 and 44:32-34
 - d. Genesis 49:8-12
3. Take a moment to praise the Lord for His grace in choosing you.

"Now I will praise the Lord." Therefore she called his name Judah.
Genesis 29:35

SECOND DAY: Read Genesis 29:16–35

1. According to Genesis 29:16–20, Laban had two daughters, Leah and Rachel. *Leah's eyes were delicate, but Rachel was beautiful.* Jacob loved Rachel and agreed to serve Laban *seven years* for her. However, what happened when the time came for them to be married? Genesis 29:21–25

2. After Laban's deception, Rachel was also given to Jacob in exchange for seven more years of service (Genesis 29:26–30). Describe the resulting situation from Genesis 29:30a.
 - a. How do you think Leah felt about this arrangement?

3. How did the Lord compensate Leah? Genesis 29:31a
 - a. How does this speak to you?

4. Use the chart below to note and comment on Leah's declarations about her sons:

Name	Meaning	Leah's Declaration
Reuben	<i>Behold, a son</i>	Genesis 29:32
Simeon	<i>Heard</i>	Genesis 29:33
Levi	<i>Attached</i>	Genesis 29:34
Judah	<i>Praise</i>	Genesis 29:35

- a. Observe the change in Leah's perspective. What do you find noteworthy?
 - (1) How does this minister to you personally? See also Psalm 13:6.

FOURTH DAY: Read Genesis 43:1-10 and 44:14-34

1. According to Genesis 37, Judah was complicit with his brothers in selling Joseph, their younger brother, into slavery because of jealousy. However, God was with Joseph through many trials and exalted him to second in command over the Egyptian Empire (Genesis 39-41). During a time of severe famine, Jacob sent his sons to buy grain in Egypt. There they encountered their brother Joseph. Although they did not recognize him, Joseph knew them. He told them that if they ever wanted more grain, they must bring back Benjamin, their youngest brother (Genesis 42). What happened after this? Genesis 43:1-2

2. What advice did Judah give his father? Genesis 43:3-5

3. When Israel (Jacob) blamed his sons for telling *the man* about Benjamin, what was their response? Genesis 43:7

4. Note and comment on Judah's solution to their dilemma from Genesis 43:8-10.
 - a. Describe Judah's attitude in the following events:
 - (1) Genesis 37:23-28

 - (2) Genesis 43:8-10
 - (a) What differences do you see?

5. In order to find out if his brothers were still heartless and jealous, Joseph arranged a test in which Benjamin appeared to be a thief (Genesis 43-44). Read Judah's response in Genesis 44:14-34 and share what stands out to you.
 - a. What changes do you see in Judah's character?
 - (1) How does this encourage you?

 - b. How do you see Judah's behavior becoming more Christ-like? See John 15:13.

