

JACOB: HIS SONS & WIVES — GENESIS 30:1-24

1	REUBEN	<i>"Behold a son"</i>	Leah is making a statement to Jacob that he should love her because she brought the firstborn son	Ge.30:32
2	SIMEON	<i>"Hearing"</i>	Leah prayed about her husband's rejection and hopes all will notice the LORD has heard her	Ge.29:33
3	LEVI	<i>"Attached"</i>	Leah still lives in the hope Jacob will love her and become "attached" to her through the birth of this son	Ge.29:34
4	JUDAH	<i>"Praise"</i>	Leah has allowed the LORD to meet her need, and she can now praise God! She was driven to Him by the neglect of her husband.	Ge.29:35
5	DAN	<i>"Judgment"</i>	Because of Rachel's envy, she viewed this child as a victory and vindication for her	Ge.30:5-6
6	NAPHTALI	<i>"Wrestle"</i>	Rachel openly acknowledges this 'baby competition' between her and her sister	Ge.30:7-8
7	GAD	<i>"Good fortune"</i>	Leah has lost the peace she had from her fourth son (Judah, 'praise')	Ge.30:9-11
8	ASHER	<i>"Happy"</i>	Leah is more concerned about the status the child will bring her than about the child himself	Ge.30:12-13
9	ISSACHAR	<i>"Reward"</i>	Leah saw this son as a reward from God because she was 'generous' enough to offer her maid to Jacob	Ge.30:14-18
10	ZEBULUN	<i>"Dwelling"</i>	In the pain of her heart, Leah still waits for her husband to truly love her and live with her	Ge.30:19-20
10a	Dinah	<i>"Justice"</i>	This seems to be some kind of poetic justice that Leah also provided a daughter	Ge.30:21
11	JOSEPH	<i>"May he add"</i>	Rachel feels she has been "vindicated" by the birth of one son. Yet, she longs for more children to continue the competition with her sister Leah.	Ge.30:23-24
12	BENJAMIN	<i>"Son of my right hand"</i>	Jacob prized Benjamin because he was the final link between him and the woman he most loved. Rachel dies in child birth.	Ge.35:16-18

