

Men & Women of the Bible: *Reuban*

Lesson Twenty-four: *Reuban, Unstable As Water*

Lesson Aim: Learn important lessons for life from the experiences of Reuban.

Lesson Text: Genesis 37:18-35

Memory Verse: Genesis 49:3,4

Lesson Readings

Genesis 29:32; 30:14-21; 35:21-23; 37:18-35; 42:1-38; 48:1-5; 49:3,4; 1 Chronicles 5:1

Fact Questions

1. Who was Reuban? What does his name mean? (Genesis 29:32)
2. How was his birth viewed by his mother? (Genesis 29:32) What does this indicate about the marital relationship of Jacob and Leah?
3. What did Reuban do after Jacob came back to Canaan? (Genesis 35:22)
4. As a result of this act of Reuban's what did Jacob do? (1 Chronicles 5:1)
5. When Joseph's brother's want to kill him, what did Reuban suggest? (Genesis 37:22)
6. What is Reuban's plan? (Genesis 37:22)
7. Years later in Egypt how does Reuban describe his actions in the matter of Joseph?
8. Does Reuban accurately represent the matter? (Genesis 42:21,22; cf. 37:26-28)
9. After Simeon is captured, what does Reuban offer as security for Benjamin's safety?
10. How does Jacob describe Reuban's character in Genesis 49:3-5?

Thought Questions

1. Do you see any transformation of character in Reuban during his lifetime?
2. What expectations did Jacob have of Reuban as his firstborn?
3. What circumstances in his home life may have contributed to his instability?
4. What were the fortunes and successes of the descendants of Reuban in Israel?
5. What is the one great lesson from Reuban's life for you?