



# Our Responses to Blessings

## Interpersonal Setup

**Jacob:** Tricked into marrying Leah, has to work another 7 years for Rachel. Probably resents Laban/Leah

**Leah:** Either forced or complicit in conning Jacob, has advantage of tradition but spurned for younger sister

**Rachel:** More beautiful than sister, loved by Jacob, used by Laban to get more work out of Jacob

## Leah's first Four

**Reuben:** “The Lord has surely looked on my affliction. Now my husband will love me”

**Simeon:** “Because the Lord has heard I am unloved, He has therefore given me this son also”

**Levi:** “Now this time my husband will become joined to me, because I have borne him three sons”

**Judah:** “Now I will praise the Lord”

## Concubines

**Dan (by Bilhah):** “God has judged my case; and He has also heard my and given me a son”

**Naphtali (by Bilhah):** “With great wrestlings I have wrestled with my sister, and indeed I have prevailed”

**Gad (by Zilpah):** “A troop comes” or “How fortunate”

**Asher (by Zilpah):** “I am happy, for the daughters will call me blessed”

## Final Four

**Issachar (by Leah):** “God has given me my wages, because I have given my maid to my husband”

**Zebulon (by Leah):** “God has endowed me with a good endowment; now my husband will dwell with me, because I have borne him six sons”

**Joseph (by Rachel):** “The Lord shall add to me another son”

**Ben-oni or Benjamin (by Rachel):** “Do not fear, you will have this son also”