



GENESIS

IN THE BEGINNING ...

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POINTS: In the end...

1. In the end...respect for parents and sexual purity matters.
2. In the end...innocent lives matter.
3. In the end...Jesus will rule!
4. In the end...we need to forgive.
5. In the end...God is faithful and we need to trust Him.



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1. In the end...respect for parents and sexual purity matters.

Then Jacob called for his sons and said: “Gather around so I can tell you what will happen to you in days to come.

² “Assemble and listen, sons of Jacob; listen to your father Israel.



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IN THE BEGINNING ...

1. In the end...respect for parents and sexual purity matters.

³ “Reuben, you are my firstborn,
my might, the first sign of my strength,
excelling in honor, excelling in power.

⁴ Turbulent as the waters, you will no longer excel,
for you went up onto your father’s bed,
onto my couch and defiled it.



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Gen. 35:22, While Israel was living in that region, Reuben went in and slept with his father's concubine Bilhah, and Israel heard of it.



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2. In the end...innocent lives matter.

Genesis 49:5-7, ⁵ “Simeon and Levi are brothers—their swords are weapons of violence.
⁶ Let me not enter their council, let me not join their assembly, for they have killed men in their anger and hamstringed oxen as they pleased.



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2. In the end...innocent lives matter.

⁷ Cursed be their anger, so fierce,
and their fury, so cruel!

I will scatter them in Jacob
and disperse them in Israel.



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James 1:27, Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world.



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3. In the end...Jesus will rule!

⁸ “Judah, your brothers will praise you; your hand will be on the neck of your enemies; your father’s sons will bow down to you.

⁹ You are a lion’s cub, Judah; you return from the prey, my son. Like a lion he crouches and lies down, like a lioness—who dares to rouse him?



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3. In the end...Jesus will rule!

¹⁰ The scepter will not depart from Judah,
nor the ruler's staff from between his feet,
until he to whom it belongs shall come
and the obedience of the nations shall be his.



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3. In the end...Jesus will rule!

¹¹ He will tether his donkey to a vine,
his colt to the choicest branch;
he will wash his garments in wine,
his robes in the blood of grapes.

¹² His eyes will be darker than wine,
his teeth whiter than milk.



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4. In the end...we need to forgive.

Gen. 50:17-21, When their message came to him, Joseph wept. ¹⁸ His brothers then came and threw themselves down before him. “We are your slaves,” they said. ¹⁹ But Joseph said to them, “Don’t be afraid. Am I in the place of God?”



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4. In the end...we need to forgive.

Gen. 50:17-21, ²⁰ You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives. ²¹ So then, don't be afraid. I will provide for you and your children." And he reassured them and spoke kindly to them.



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5. In the end...God is faithful and we need to trust in Him.



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Gen. 50:24-25,²⁴ Then Joseph said to his brothers, “I am about to die. But God will surely come to your aid and take you up out of this land to the land he promised on oath to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.”

²⁵ And Joseph made the Israelites swear an oath and said, “God will surely come to your aid, and then you must carry my bones up from this place.”



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