

Youth Worship Service
Saturday, 27 June 2026
Title: They shall offer sacrifices of righteousness
Text: Deuteronomy 33:18-19

INTRODUCTION

1. Moses offered a combined prayer of blessing for two tribes, Zebulun and Issachar
 - a) The patriarchs of these tribes were the 6th and 5th sons of Leah respectively
 - b) Both tribes would be greatly blessed by God with wealth and prosperity
2. Our title for today's message: They shall offer sacrifices of righteousness
 - a) One thing which stood out about the tribes of Zebulun and Issachar was righteousness
 - b) Today we will learn
 - i. About how righteousness is related to the blessings of God
 - ii. How both tribes learned to respond to their success

ZEBULUN AND ISSACHAR SHALL RECEIVE THE BLESSINGS OF GOD

1. Jacob caught a glimpse of the possible futures for his sons

¹³ "Zebulun shall dwell by the haven of the sea;

He shall become a haven for ships,

And his border shall adjoin Sidon.

¹⁴ "Issachar is a strong donkey,

Lying down between two burdens;

¹⁵ He saw that rest was good,

And that the land was pleasant;

He bowed his shoulder to bear a burden,

And became a band of slaves. (Genesis 49:13-15)

- a) Jacob caught a glimpse of the future for Zebulun which was associated with the sea
 - i. Zebulun shall dwell by the haven of the sea... his border shall adjoin Sidon

- (1) Jacob saw that the tribe of Zebulun shall reside by the coast
- (2) Jacob understood that their border shall be next to Sidon
- (3) This was revealed knowledge from God because they were in Egypt then
- (4) It was revealed to Jacob that he shall engage in maritime-related matters

ii. Zebulun's way of making a living

- (1) He shall become a haven for ships
- (2) Zebulun shall become a harbour for shipping vessels

b) Jacob caught a glimpse of the future for Issachar which was associated with the land

i. Jacob's understanding of Issachar

- (1) Likened to a strong donkey, he had the capacity and readiness for work
- (2) To have rest from enemies and to dwell in safety were considered good
- (3) His focus would be on cultivating the land

ii. Issachar's chosen way of making a living was to labour

- (1) Their tribe was willing to set their hands to do burdensome work
- (2) They worked as hard and diligently as slaves did

2. Moses' prayer was that both tribes would be blessed with success as they worked together

For they shall partake of the abundance of the seas

And of treasures hidden in the sand." (Deuteronomy 33:19b)

- a) Moses saw that the nature of Issachar's work would involve more of the coast
- b) Moses prayed that these tribes would experience prosperity as they worked together
 - i. They shall partake of the abundance of the seas
 - ii. And potential treasure hidden in the sand when they work the land well

THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS AND BEING BLESSED BY GOD

*19 They shall call the peoples to the mountain;
There they shall offer sacrifices of righteousness;
For they shall partake of the abundance of the seas
And of treasures hidden in the sand." (Deuteronomy 33:19)*

1. Moses' prayer provides an insight into how righteousness helped them succeed
2. Moses noted that they shall offer sacrifices of righteousness
 - a) This tells us that both tribes learned to be righteous before God in life and work
 - b) Only then would their sacrifices be accepted by the LORD their God
3. The blessings of God were conditional on their righteousness (Deuteronomy 28:1-2, 9)
 - a) If they diligently obeyed the voice of the LORD their God
 - b) If they carefully observed and kept all His commandments which He commanded
 - c) If they walked in His ways
 - d) Only then shall the blessings of God come upon them
 - e) Zebulun's and Issachar's wealth and prosperity
 - i. Not just because of skill, resources, connections, and diligence alone
 - ii. It was because God set them on high and His blessings overtook them

THE APPROPRIATE RESPONSES TO BEING BLESSED BY GOD

1. They were to rejoice (Deuteronomy 33:18)
 - a) Rejoicing was a natural and obvious choice they needed to make
 - b) They were to rejoice that one was blessed in their going out and another in their tents
2. They shall call the peoples to the mountain as an expression of joy (Deuteronomy 33:19)
 - a) The mountain is a symbol of God's presence, holiness, and glory

- b) They shall draw others to come before the presence of their God to know Him
 - c) They will invite their brethren and Gentiles to worship the God who blesses
3. They shall offer sacrifices of righteousness as expressions of their joy (Deuteronomy 33:19)
- a) The work that they did was done in righteousness
 - b) The work done would then lead to fruits of righteousness
 - c) These fruits (their profits) would be offered to God as sacrifices of righteousness
 - d) In giving back to God, they remembered Him as their source of blessings

LESSONS WE CAN LEARN

1. Let us seek to be righteous if we want to be blessed by God
- a) If we diligently obey God
 - b) If we carefully observe and keep His word
 - c) If we walk in His ways
2. When we are blessed by God, let us seek to respond appropriately
- a) Rejoice
 - b) In worship
 - c) With gratitude and thanksgiving as they remembered their God