

Text: Deuteronomy 33:24-27

Title: "Underneath are the everlasting arms"

INTRODUCTION

1. Two prayers were made for Asher

- a) By Jacob
- b) By Moses

2. This is an uplifting prayer

- a) To study
- b) To apply

THE PRAYER FOR ASHER BY JACOB

"Bread from Asher *shall be* rich,
And he shall yield royal dainties." Genesis 49:20

1. Jacob's Focus: The material

- a) He was happy that Asher would have wealth
- b) His many needs would be met!

2. Limitations of this prayer

- a) The spiritual was not included
- b) God's power was not considered

THE PRAYER FOR ASHER BY MOSES

²⁴ And of Asher he said:

"Asher *is* most blessed of sons;
Let him be favoured by his brothers,
And let him dip his foot in oil.

²⁵ Your sandals *shall be* iron and bronze;
As your days, *so shall* your strength *be*.

²⁶ *"There is no one like the God of Jeshurun,
Who rides the heavens to help you,
And in His excellency on the clouds.*

²⁷ *The eternal God is your refuge,
And underneath are the everlasting arms;
He will thrust out the enemy from before you,
And will say, 'Destroy!'*

Deuteronomy 33:24-27

1. Moses agreed that Asher would be blessed with material things
2. But he added a profound dimension
3. Asher will be spiritually blessed

THE GREAT BLESSINGS OF GOD DESCRIBED

1. Asher will enjoy many material blessings

- | | |
|---|--------------------|
| a) Favour from his brothers | Deuteronomy 33:24a |
| b) Luxury to have his foot dipped in oil (modern day spa) | Deuteronomy 33:24b |

2. Asher will also have many profound spiritual blessings

- a) But these blessings will come only when he walks with the Lord
- b) His life would not be a bed of roses

3. The challenge to wear sandals of iron and bronze **Deuteronomy 33:25a**

- a) These types of sandals are associated with war (shoes)
- b) There will be enemies who will rise up against the nation
- c) Asher must not be afraid to go to war to defend his brethren and nation
- d) His heroism will result in special blessings

4. The Promise of Strength **Deuteronomy 33:25b**

- a) Strength from the Lord is promised
- b) As the days come with their challenges, so will there be ensuing strength
- c) This is a glorious promise from God

5. The Promise of Divine Help

Deuteronomy 33:26

- a) The God of Jeshurun
- b) He will come from heaven to give the needed help
- c) The help of God is “excellence” in quality

6. Help from the Eternal God

Deuteronomy 33:27

- a) The help given is from God who is eternal
- b) He has everlasting arms
- c) He is our Refuge
- d) He will thrust out the enemy
- e) The enemies would be destroyed!

THESE BLESSINGS WOULD COME ONLY IF

1. Asher wore the sandals of iron and bronze
2. He focused on defending the nation and not the physical blessings
3. He walks closely to the Lord
4. He determines to actively trust the Lord
 - a) As his Refuge
 - b) As his God who upholds him

OUR CHALLENGE

1. To focus on the spiritual rather than the material
2. To walk with God faithfully
3. To endure hard times well when they come
4. To walk with sandals of iron and bronze