

## ***The Royal Promise***

### ***Genesis 49:1, 8–12***

**O**ne day when he was old, Jacob gathered all his sons around him to tell them God's plans for their future. For some he warned that their descendants would have a difficult future. But he told Judah that his descendants would become kings over the tribes of Israel.



He said a great descendant would be a mighty warrior that could defeat all of Israel's enemies, and he would then be a powerful king. He would even reign over other nations besides Israel. Indeed, King David did come from the tribe of Judah. And more importantly, Jesus the Son of David was from that tribe.

Today, when we think of Jesus' rule over all the nations, we can remember that God promised that ages ago, when Jacob was describing the future of all his sons. The branch of Jesse was to come from the tribe of Judah. We will hang a picture of a king's scepter on today's ornament to remind us of God's promise.

#### ***Questions:***

1. What did Jacob tell Judah about his descendants?
2. What tribe was Jesus descended from?