

FINAL STUDY NOTES - *GENESIS CHAPTERS 46-48* 9/16-17/2024

CLASSROOM LOCATION AND ZOOM – SIGN IN INFORMATION:

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PLEASE NOTE WE WILL CONTINUE TO NEED A PASSCODE TO JOIN THE ONLINE (ZOOM) STUDY!

MONDAY 7 PM Bible Study - Time: 07:00 PM DAYLIGHT SAVING Time (US and Canada)
THE MONDAY NIGHT STUDY WILL BE MEETING ON ZOOM ONLY UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE!

MEETING ID# - 87858644763 Passcode: 087484

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TUESDAY 7 AM Bible Study - Time: 07:00 AM DAYLIGHT SAVING Time (US and Canada).

- Beginning Tuesday, June 4, 2024, TUES MORNING MTG PLACE:
- 1201 KEY WEST, CORONA DEL MAR (shown as 1201 KW, Corona del Mar, CA 92625) on Global Positioning System (GPS) in automobiles. For driving directions from your starting point, Suggest using *WAZE* ([waze.com/live map](http://waze.com/live-map)) or *MapQuest* (mapquest.com),
- AS WELL AS CONTINUING IN ZOOM!

MEETING ID# - 85309150746 - Passcode: 715340

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OPENING PRAYER

Genesis Chapter 46 – Jacob’s Journey to Egypt - (vs. 1-27); Jacob Settles in Goshen – (vs. 28-34)!

Genesis Chapter 47 – Jacob Settles in Goshen Continuing - (vs. 1-12); Joseph Deals With the Famine – (vs. 13-26); Joseph’s Vow to Jacob – (vs. 27-31)!

Genesis Chapter 48 – Jacob Blesses Joseph’s Sons - (vs. 1-22)!

REVIEW:

- **(Gen 45:26-28)** *And they told him, saying, "Joseph is still alive, and he is governor over all the land of Egypt." And Jacob's heart stood still, because he did not believe them. [27] But when they told him all the words which Joseph had said to them, and when he saw the carts which Joseph had sent to carry him, the spirit of Jacob their father revived. [28] Then Israel said, "It is enough. Joseph my son is still alive. I will go and see him before I die."*

Joseph Brings His Family to Egypt

Gen 46:1 So Israel took his journey with all that he had, and came to Beersheba, and offered sacrifices to the God of his father Isaac.

- **They lived in tents, so they rolled up their tents, got together all their goods** and put them in the carts that had been sent from Egypt. They left the area of Hebron and began their journey toward Egypt coming to Beersheba, which is on the edge of the desert. Jacob had a lot of memories of Beersheba. He lived there when he was a child with his grandfather Abraham, and his father, Isaac. They had built an altar there in Beersheba. Jacob offered sacrifices on that altar.
- **Jacob was about one hundred and thirty years old.** His decision to go to Egypt was one of emotion, hearing that Joseph is alive and so anxious to see his son, he just says, "I'll go down and see him," but he did not inquire of the Lord. He must have remembered how God had spoken to Abraham and to Isaac, the Lord said to them, "Do not go down to Egypt."
- **So, he probably began to wonder if God was in this whole move.** "Maybe I should inquire of God, whether or not I should go. I do not want to go against God's will even though my heart is drawing me there." So, there he offered sacrifices to the God of his father Isaac.
- **There were three basic sacrifices of the Old Testament.** The sin offering, whereby a person would offer an animal unto God. So that is the first thing that must be dealt with if a man is going to come back to God, the first thing that must be dealt with is the sin in your life.
- **Jesus is our sin sacrifice.** He has borne our sins, making fellowship with God a reality for you and for me. *(1Jn 1:7) But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin.* Fellowship with God through the sin offering of Jesus Christ.
- **The second sacrifice was the burnt offering**, which was the sacrifice of consecration. I want to consecrate my life to God, to submit myself to the will and the plan of God.
- **The third sacrifice was the peace offering**, where you would burn the fat of the lamb, and then sit down and eat the rest of it. The burned fat was God's portion. It was the communion offering where I just sit and commune with God.
- **Whenever I am confronted with a significant decision, such as Jacob's going to Egypt, how completely do I seek and continue to seek the LORD's perfect will regarding my response to the decision?**

Gen 46:2 Then God spoke to Israel in the visions of the night (for the seventh time), and said, "Jacob, Jacob!" And he said, "Here I am."

- **Jacob, Jacob!** In those days God dealt more directly with people. What would you think if in the middle of the night you would hear your name being called by God? Man, that would be something!
- **God now speaks to us through Jesus Christ, through the Word of God.** It does not preclude God speaking to us through visions and dreams, and such a thing is a possibility. In fact, we are told in the scriptures that in the last days as God pours out His Spirit upon all flesh, our young men will see visions and the old men will dream dreams.
- **God can speak to us through visions or through dreams, but surely that is not the general method** by which God speaks to us today. But in those days He did. They did not have the full revelation of scripture as we have. So, in a night vision he heard his name being called, *Jacob, Jacob*. But that was his old name, God had given him a new name. Notice it says, "Israel took his journey and came to Beersheba and God spoke to Israel."
- **Israel is his new name. It means governed by God, the prince of God.** But God when He calls him does not call him by the new name. Why? Because he is acting after his old nature. God calls him by the old name, Jacob, and He repeats it, Jacob. Probably to put emphasis upon the fact that he was not acting in accordance with the new nature. But he was still acting in accordance with the old nature.

- **Jacob had been given this new name thirty-five years ago, but here he is still acting as before.** Unfortunately, many times with us, even though we have been born again and have been walking after the Spirit or living a new life in Christ, sometimes we revert to the old nature.

Gen 46:3 So He said, "I am God, the God of your father; do not fear to go down to Egypt, for I will make of you a great nation there.

- **Do not fear to go down to Egypt.** That very command indicates that is why he stopped. He became fearful. God said do not fear. Do not be afraid to go down to Egypt.
- **For I will there make of you a great nation there.** Now God had promised to Abraham that He was going to make his descendants so many you could not count them. God had promised to make a great nation. That promise was then given to Isaac and now to Jacob, and God is repeating it. "I will make of you a great nation there."

Gen 46:4 I will go down with you to Egypt, and I will also surely bring you up again; and Joseph will put his hand on your eyes (a reference to death)."

- **The promise of God's presence with him, being reiterated again!** It is not a one-way ticket. It is going to be a round trip.
- **Joseph will put his hand on your eyes.** Jacob would be with his beloved Joseph at his death, and Joseph then would lovingly close his father's eyes as he died.

Gen 46:5 Then Jacob arose from Beersheba; and the sons of Israel carried their father Jacob, their little ones, and their wives, in the carts which Pharaoh had sent to carry him.

- **Beersheba was the southern boundary of Jacob's homeland,** so he passed by to sacrifice and pray there before his permanent departure for Egypt. God appeared to him one last time, assuring him this move was in the will of God!

Gen 46:6 So they took their livestock and their goods, which they had acquired in the land of Canaan, and went to Egypt, Jacob and all his descendants with him.

Gen 46:7 His sons and his sons' sons, his daughters and his sons' daughters, and all his descendants he brought with him to Egypt.

Gen 46:8 Now these were the names of the children of Israel, Jacob and his sons, who went to Egypt:

- **The names of Jacob's sons:** First of all, those that were born by Leah and the names of their children, in some cases, grandchildren. Then the sons of Zilpah who was Leah's handmaid and their children, and then the sons of Rachel, Joseph and Benjamin and their children. Benjamin was a pretty prolific guy. He had ten sons. For the most part the girls are not mentioned.

Reuben was Jacob's firstborn.

Gen 46:9 The sons of Reuben were Hanoah, Pallu, Hezron, and Carmi.

Gen 46:10 The sons of Simeon were Jemuel, Jamin, Ohad, Jachin, Zohar, and Shaul, the son of a Canaanite woman.

Gen 46:11 The sons of Levi were Gershon, Kohath, and Merari.

Gen 46:12 The sons of Judah were Er, Onan, Shelah, Perez, and Zerah (but Er and Onan died in the land of Canaan). The sons of Perez were Hezron and Hamul.

Gen 46:13 The sons of Issachar were Tola, Puvah, Job, and Shimron.

Gen 46:14 The sons of Zebulun were Sered, Elon, and Jahleel.

Gen 46:15 These were the sons of Leah, whom she bore to Jacob in Padan Aram, with his daughter Dinah. All the persons, his sons and his daughters, were thirty-three.

- **And his daughters.** Jacob apparently had three or more daughters in addition to his twelve sons, even though only Dinah is specifically mentioned. Dinah seems never to have married.

Gen 46:16 The sons of Gad were Ziphion, Haggi, Shuni, Ezbon, Eri, Arodi, and Areli.

Gen 46:17 The sons of Asher were Jimnah, Ishuah, Isui, Beriah, and Serah, their sister. And the sons of Beriah were Heber and Malchiel.

Gen 46:18 These were the sons of Zilpah, whom Laban gave to Leah his daughter; and these she bore to Jacob: sixteen persons.

Gen 46:19 The sons of Rachel, Jacob's wife, were Joseph and Benjamin.

Gen 46:20 And to Joseph in the land of Egypt were born Manasseh and Ephraim, whom Asenath, the daughter of Poti-Pherah priest of On, bore to him.

Gen 46:21 *The sons of Benjamin were Belah, Becher, Ashbel, Gera, Naaman, Ehi, Rosh, Muppim, Huppim, and Ard.*

Gen 46:22 *These were the sons of Rachel, who were born to Jacob: fourteen persons in all.*

Gen 46:23 *The son of Dan was Hushim (others).*

Gen 46:24 *The sons of Naphtali were Jahzeel, Guni, Jezer, and Shillem.*

Gen 46:25 *These were the sons of Bilhah, whom Laban gave to Rachel his daughter, and she bore these to Jacob: seven persons in all.*

Gen 46:26 *All the persons who went with Jacob to Egypt, who came from his body, besides Jacob's sons' wives, were sixty-six persons in all.*

- That is, all his descendants, not counting the girls.

Gen 46:27 *And the sons of Joseph who were born to him in Egypt were two persons. All the persons of the house of Jacob who went to Egypt were seventy.*

- **Seventy.** The totals as given for his four wives (*Gen 46:15, 8, 22, 25*) add to seventy. These, however, include Joseph and his two sons, accounting for sixty-nine. Since Jacob himself is included in the seventy of this verse, there was probably an unnamed daughter of Leah (*Gen 46:15*) mentions "daughters," but only Dinah is named, who died on the trek into Egypt, or soon after. Thus the total stands at seventy, as indicated in (*Gen 46:27*). (Morris)
- **God said that He would make of him a great nation there.** When four hundred years later they came out of Egypt, there were six hundred thousand adult males over the age of twenty.
- **There were probably two million or so people making the exodus with Moses.** God made of him a great nation in the four hundred years.

Gen 46:28 *Then he (Jacob) sent Judah before him to Joseph, to point out before him the way to Goshen. And they came to the land of Goshen.*

- **Judah was the one who volunteered to take Benjamin's place earlier.** Judah is beginning to assume a position of authority within the family, within the other brothers. He seems to show more responsibility than the others. Reuben is unstable as water, Simeon and Levi have hot tempers, so he sends Judah down ahead of them to let Joseph know that they are on the way and to direct him to the area of Goshen, in the Nile delta.

Gen 46:29 *So Joseph made ready his chariot and went up to Goshen to meet his father Israel; and he presented himself to him, and fell on his neck and wept on his neck a good while.*

- **Here is a most emotional, dramatic scene!** Joseph, whom Jacob loved so dearly, and thought he was dead! At one time he cried, "All things are against me." He did not know the plans that God had. As they are there weeping on each other's shoulders, just hugging; almost more than Jacob could believe! The son that I thought was dead is not only alive, but here I am seeing him! It is just a beautiful, beautiful picture!

Gen 46:30 *And Israel said to Joseph, "Now let me die, since I have seen your face, because you are still alive."*

Gen 46:31 *Then Joseph said to his brothers and to his father's household, "I will go up and tell Pharaoh, and say to him, 'My brothers and those of my father's house, who were in the land of Canaan, have come to me.*

Gen 46:32 *And the men are shepherds (an occupation despised by Egyptians), for their occupation has been to feed livestock; and they have brought their flocks, their herds, and all that they have."*

Gen 46:33 *So it shall be, when Pharaoh calls you and says, 'What is your occupation?'*

Gen 46:34 *that you shall say, 'Your servants' occupation has been with livestock from our youth even till now, both we and also our fathers,' that you may dwell in the land of Goshen; for every shepherd is an abomination to the Egyptians."*

- It is true that in the Egyptian art that has been uncovered by archaeologists, shepherds are always very dirty looking and usually crippled. They were looked upon with scorn by the Egyptians.
- **No doubt in God's plan to keep His people separate from the Egyptians, He allowed, in the process of time, this feeling in the hearts of the Egyptians towards shepherds, so that there would be no intermarrying or intermixing.** God could keep a pure and a separate race, though living in the land of Egypt. But it kept a separation. Otherwise, Pharaoh could have said, "Come on, move on in," and

there would have been a mixing of the races. Surely the family of Israel would have been swallowed up into the Egyptians and that would have been the end of the story.

- **As we notice the importance of being set apart, how important is it to me that my life be free from worldly compromise? That I truly be sanctified, set apart from the world?**

Jacob's Family Settles in Goshen

Gen 47:1 Then Joseph went and told Pharaoh, and said, "My father and my brothers, their flocks and their herds and all that they possess, have come from the land of Canaan; and indeed they are in the land of Goshen."

Gen 47:2 And he took five men from among his brothers and presented them to Pharaoh.

Gen 47:3 Then Pharaoh said to his brothers, "What is your occupation?" And they said to Pharaoh, "Your servants are shepherds, both we and also our fathers."

Gen 47:4 And they said to Pharaoh, "We have come to dwell (sojourn, as a guest; to live here for a while) in the land, because your servants have no pasture for their flocks, for the famine is severe in the land of Canaan. Now therefore, please let your servants dwell in the land of Goshen."

- **We have come to dwell** (sojourn) in the land, because your servants have no pasture for their flocks. The Bible tells us concerning the fathers, Abraham, and all, that they dwelled as strangers and pilgrims. For they were looking for a city, which had foundation whose maker and builder is God. I do not belong to this earth; I am just passing through. I am a stranger. I am a pilgrim here. One of these days I am going to pass on, finding that city that I am looking for whose maker and builder is God. I am going to dwell in the house of the Lord forever!

Gen 47:5 Then Pharaoh spoke to Joseph, saying, "Your father and your brothers have come to you."

Gen 47:6 The land of Egypt is before you. Have your father and brothers dwell in the best of the land; let them dwell in the land of Goshen. And if you know any competent men among them, then make them chief herdsmen over my livestock."

- **Pharaoh said that you can have any place you want**, and if they want Goshen, fine!
- **If you know of any competent men among them then make them the chief herdsmen over my livestock.**

Gen 47:7 Then Joseph brought in his father Jacob and set him before Pharaoh; and Jacob blessed Pharaoh.

- **Now that is something! Here is the man who is king of the greatest nation of the world** and here comes in this old man, who is just a shepherd, and Jacob blesses Pharaoh!
- **Melchizedek blessed Abraham and, surely, the lesser is blessed by the greater.** This old shepherd that God had chosen to be the father of the race that would bring the Messiah into the world is greater in the eyes of God than the king over the greatest empire of the world! Jacob blesses Pharaoh!

Gen 47:8 Pharaoh said to Jacob, "How old are you?"

- **Jacob is obviously an old man** at that point.

Gen 47:9 And Jacob said to Pharaoh, "The days of the years of my pilgrimage are one hundred and thirty years; few and evil (break in pieces; hard) have been the days of the years of my life, and they have not attained to the days of the years of the life of my fathers in the days of their pilgrimage."

- **The days of the years of my pilgrimage.** Notice, I am just a pilgrim. The days of my pilgrimage. Jacob says there are just a few years. Yes, when compared with eternity! We need to keep a light touch with the world!
- **Few and evil have been the days of the years of my life.** I haven't had a good life! I have had a lot of hardships, a lot of problems. It was not easy!"
- **Again, seeing that life is just a pilgrimage; I do not belong here, I am just passing through.** There is an eternity that I am living and looking for. The person who lives for the now is a fool. The wise man lives for eternity. Jesus said, "Don't lay up for yourselves treasures here on earth, they can be ripped off; lay up your treasures in heaven," the eternal treasures, the eternal kingdom.
- **His grandfather Abraham lived to be 175;** and his father Isaac lived to be 180; and Terah to 205. Their distant ancestor Shem lived to age 600. Life-spans were still declining after the traumatic changes of the great Flood and would continue to do so until about the time of Moses. Jacob went on living for another seventeen years, being 147 when he died.

Gen 47:10 *So Jacob blessed Pharaoh, and went out from before Pharaoh.*

- Again, the second time he blesses him. It must have been quite a meeting. The old patriarch that God has chosen to bring forth the nation that will bring the Messiah into the world is meeting Pharaoh, the chief potentate of the world, and **Jacob blesses him!**

Gen 47:11 *And Joseph situated his father and his brothers, and gave them a possession in the land of Egypt, in the best of the land, in the land of Rameses, as Pharaoh had commanded.*

Gen 47:12 *Then Joseph provided his father, his brothers, and all his father's household with bread, according to the number in their families.*

- So, Joseph apportioned them the grain according to the number of children that they had.

Joseph and the Famine

Gen 47:13 *Now there was no bread in all the land; for the famine was very severe, so that the land of Egypt and the land of Canaan languished because of the famine.*

- We are into the third year of the famine,

Gen 47:14 *And Joseph gathered up all the money that was found in the land of Egypt and in the land of Canaan, for the grain which they bought; and Joseph brought the money into Pharaoh's house.*

- The people were spending all their savings to purchase the grain.

Gen 47:15 *So when the money failed in the land of Egypt and in the land of Canaan, all the Egyptians came to Joseph and said, "Give us bread, for why should we die in your presence? For the money has failed."*

Gen 47:16 *Then Joseph said, "Give your livestock, and I will give you bread for your livestock, if the money is gone."*

Gen 47:17 *So they brought their livestock to Joseph, and Joseph gave them bread in exchange for the horses, the flocks, the cattle of the herds, and for the donkeys. Thus he fed them with bread in exchange for all their livestock that year.*

Gen 47:18 *When that year had ended, they came to him the next year and said to him, "We will not hide from my lord that our money is gone; my lord also has our herds of livestock. There is nothing left in the sight of my lord but our bodies and our lands.*

Gen 47:19 *Why should we die before your eyes, both we and our land? Buy us and our land for bread, and we and our land will be servants of Pharaoh; give us seed, that we may live and not die, that the land may not be desolate.*

- So, the next year they came back and said, "Look, we'll trade you our land now for bread and our own bodies."

Gen 47:20 *Then Joseph bought all the land of Egypt for Pharaoh; for every man of the Egyptians sold his field, because the famine was severe upon them. So the land became Pharaoh's.*

- It was a really a brilliant God-given way to extend those resources through the seven years. It could not have been done any other way, and have people escape the seven years with their life.

Gen 47:21 *And as for the people, he moved them into the cities, from one end of the borders of Egypt to the other end.*

- So, they would be closer to the supplies of grain.

Gen 47:22 *Only the land of the priests he did not buy; for the priests had rations allotted to them by Pharaoh, and they ate their rations which Pharaoh gave them; therefore they did not sell their lands.*

- Now, these priests and religious leaders, it would appear that Joseph wanted to also charge them, but Pharaoh nixed that, and they had privileges, not having to sell their lands. Later, when Moses stands before the Pharaoh, we find these religious leaders again withstanding Moses!

Gen 47:23 *Then Joseph said to the people, "Indeed I have bought you and your land this day for Pharaoh. Look, here is seed for you, and you shall sow the land.*

Gen 47:24 *And it shall come to pass in the harvest (when the famine is over) that you shall give one-fifth to Pharaoh. Four-fifths shall be your own, as seed for the field and for your food, for those of your households and as food for your little ones.*

Gen 47:25 *So they said, "You have saved our lives; let us find favor in the sight of my lord, and we will be Pharaoh's servants."*

- *They said you have saved our lives....we will be Pharaoh's servants.* They recognize that Joseph is being fair with everyone. Everyone is getting treated the same way!

Gen 47:26 *And Joseph made it a law over the land of Egypt to this day, that Pharaoh should have one-fifth, except for the land of the priests only, which did not become Pharaoh's.*

- **So there became a tax of twenty percent, but the government takes care of you.** You belong to the Pharaoh. They had a pretty good deal. You plant your food; you get eighty per cent of it.

Gen 47:27 *So Israel (first mention of Israel as a nation) dwelt in the land of Egypt, in the country of Goshen; and they had possessions there and grew and multiplied exceedingly.*

- They are prospering in the middle of all of this because of how God was working through Joseph!

Gen 47:28 *And Jacob lived in the land of Egypt seventeen years. So the length of Jacob's life was one hundred and forty-seven years.*

Gen 47:29 *When the time drew near that Israel must die, he called his son Joseph and said to him, "Now if I have found favor in your sight, please put your hand under my thigh (making a serious sacred commitment), and deal kindly and truly with me. Please do not bury me in Egypt,*

- **So, by faith, it says, Jacob, when he was old made commandments concerning his bones.** "Do not bury these bones in Egypt. Promise me, swear to me, you will not bury me here." He had been in Egypt for 17 years, but Egypt had not gotten into him!
- **The putting the hand under the thigh was the most sacred kind of a vow.** This was the kind Abraham sought from Eliezer. Now Jacob is asking the same kind of oath from Joseph.

Gen 47:30 *but let me lie with my fathers; you shall carry me out of Egypt and bury me in their burial place." And he said, "I will do as you have said."*

- **Jacob says to Joseph, do not leave me! Do not bury me in Egypt but bury me back in the land of Canaan.** Joseph gave his word to him, and he spoke. *I will do as you have said.*

Gen 47:31 *Then he said, "Swear to me." And he swore to him. So Israel bowed himself on the head of the bed.*

- **Also on his staff, because it said he leaned upon his staff in (Heb 11:21b) blessed each of the sons of Joseph, and worshiped, leaning on the top of his staff.**

Jacob Blesses Ephraim and Manasseh

Gen 48:1 *Now it came to pass after these things that Joseph was told, "Indeed your father is sick"; and he took with him his two sons, Manasseh and Ephraim.*

- **Joseph at this point was fifty-six years old**, which means that Manasseh and Ephraim were probably in their twenties, perhaps in their thirties.

Gen 48:2 *And Jacob was told, "Look, your son Joseph is coming to you"; and Israel strengthened himself and sat up on the bed.*

- **He is a gutsy old man. He is one hundred and forty-seven years old** and is lying on his deathbed. Hearing Joseph is coming, he musters the strength that is left, sits up on the edge of the bed.

Gen 48:3 *Then Jacob said to Joseph: "God Almighty appeared to me at Luz in the land of Canaan and blessed me,*

Gen 48:4 *and said to me, 'Behold, I will make you fruitful and multiply you, and I will make of you a multitude of people, and give this land to your descendants after you as an everlasting possession.'*

- **That is the promise that God made to Jacob in Bethel (Luz).** Jacob is recounting the most important things that happened to him in his life, including this experience when God initially came to him, giving him these promises! It is amazing what becomes more and more important, the older you get. When on your death bed, I am sure what is most important for a spiritual person rises to the top!

Gen 48:5 *And now your two sons, Ephraim and Manasseh, who were born to you in the land of Egypt before I came to you in Egypt, are mine; as Reuben and Simeon (were first born), they shall be mine (legally adopting them as his sons).*

- **Now these two sons, Ephraim, and Manasseh, they are going to be mine and they will be tribes of Israel.** When the tribes of Israel are named, these two will be named. This is how he gave Joseph the double portion of the inheritance, taking the two sons and giving each of them an equal share of the inheritance, which meant that a double portion came to Joseph. These two sons will be mine; so,

when the tribes of Israel developed, Ephraim and Manasseh became tribes of Israel, thus resulting in thirteen tribes.

- **Joseph, the double portion is going to go to you. Your sons will be mine.**

Gen 48:6 Your offspring whom you beget after them shall be yours; they will be called by the name of their brothers in their inheritance.

Gen 48:7 But as for me, when I came from Padan, Rachel died beside me in the land of Canaan on the way, when there was but a little distance to go to Ephrath; and I buried her there on the way to Ephrath (that is, Bethlehem)."

- **Now he was hoping to have other sons by Rachel, he did not**, so I am going to take and adopt these two grandsons who have come, actually, from Rachel through you. I am going to take these as mine.

Gen 48:8 Then Israel saw Joseph's sons, and said, "Who are these?"

- **He was probably not able to see, and so as he is talking to him about his two sons, he looks up and sees these two men standing there.** "Well, who are these?"

Gen 48:9 Joseph said to his father, "They are my sons, whom God has given me in this place." And he said, "Please bring them to me, and I will bless them."

Gen 48:10 Now the eyes of Israel were dim with age, so that he could not see. Then Joseph brought them near him, and he kissed them and embraced them.

Gen 48:11 And Israel said to Joseph, "I had not thought to see your face; but in fact, God has also shown me your offspring!"

- **How beautiful! "I never hoped to ever see your face again, but not only have I seen your face, I have even seen your children."**

Gen 48:12 So Joseph brought them from beside his knees, and he bowed down with his face to the earth.

- **They had, no doubt, come up and knelt by their grandpa as he was sitting there on the edge of the bed.** Joseph pulled them back *and he bowed with his face to the earth.* The reverence for this old patriarch.

Gen 48:13 And Joseph took them both, Ephraim with his right hand toward Israel's left hand, and Manasseh with his left hand toward Israel's right hand, and brought them near him.

- **So, Joseph brought them back up to Jacob**, but he brought Manasseh so that when Jacob would reach out to bless him, his right hand would be on Manasseh because Manasseh was the older son. And the left hand would be on Ephraim because he was the younger son. But Jacob, as the two sons came, crossed his hands, and put his right hand on Ephraim and his left hand over on Manasseh. Joseph was upset, "No, no dad, you've got it wrong." He said, "Leave me alone, son. I know what I am doing." He began to pronounce the blessings. His right hand crossed over on Ephraim.

Gen 48:14 Then Israel stretched out his right hand and laid it on Ephraim's head, who was the younger, and his left hand on Manasseh's head, guiding his hands knowingly, for Manasseh was the firstborn.

- **Of course, Jacob was the younger son, too, and maybe has a thing for younger sons.**

Gen 48:15 And he blessed Joseph, and said: "God, before whom my fathers, Abraham and Isaac walked, The God who has fed me all my life long to this day,

- **God, the eternal Creator, the One before whom my fathers, Abraham and Isaac walked.** The God who has fed me all my life long to this day - Interesting, interesting!
- **Here we actually have the Trinity.** First, God of my fathers, Abraham and Isaac is God the Father, God the Holy Spirit, the One who has fed me all the days of my life. The word *fed* here is the Hebrew word *ra'ah*, which in Hebrew is *shepherd*. The God who shepherded me. This is the first mention of God as a shepherd, *ra'ah*, which became a common figure for God as He relates to His people, watching over them, caring for them, keeping them, sustaining them. "*The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want*" (Psalm 23:1). He is in the work of the Holy Spirit here in the ministry of taking care of and providing for the people.
- **Am I presently reflecting in my life the fact that my God indeed has fed me all my life long to this day? How clear and how strong is this reflection of that fact?**

Gen 48:16 *The Angel (Jesus) who has redeemed me from all evil, Bless the lads; Let my name be named upon them, And the name of my fathers, Abraham and Isaac; And let them grow into a multitude (the blessing) in the midst of the earth."*

- **Has redeemed me.** This is the first mention of redemption in the Bible. There is what they call in hermeneutics, the law of first mention, go back where the thing was first mentioned in the Bible and usually it is quite significant.
- **The Angel--who is the redeeming Angel? Jesus!** Throughout the Old Testament He was called the Angel of the Lord, the Angel who redeemed me. So, the redemption, of course, through Jesus Christ. And here Jacob is prophesying now and blessing Joseph, speaking of the Father, God of his fathers, the work of the Holy Spirit feeding me, shepherding me, tending over me, then the work of Jesus Christ redeeming me.
- **Bless the lads; Let my name be named upon them, And the name of my fathers, Abraham and Isaac.** You look at Jacob's life, all that he went through, walking with God, the faith, and the hip out of joint, and everything. But it is what he does right here that lands him in the Hall of Faith in (**Heb 11:21**) *By faith Jacob, when he was dying, blessed each of the sons of Joseph.*
- This speaks of Jacob's confidence that God's plan for the salvation of the whole world through Abraham, Isaac and Jacob is going to continue after his death! God's plan never ends with the death of a man. Jacob demonstrates that faith and that confidence!
- **Both Isaac and Jacob are in Hebrews chapter 11, the hall of faith chapter, because of one thing they did in their lives and that was, by faith they blessed their sons! Has that been done in all my sons and daughters? Is my life a blessing to others?**

Gen 48:17 *Now when Joseph saw that his father laid his right hand on the head of Ephraim, it displeased him; so he took hold of his father's hand to remove it from Ephraim's head to Manasseh's head.*

Gen 48:18 *And Joseph said to his father, "Not so, my father, for this one is the firstborn; put your right hand on his head."*

Gen 48:19 *But his father refused and said, "I know, my son, I know. He also shall become a people, and he also shall be great; but truly his younger brother shall be greater than he, and his descendants shall become a multitude of nations."*

- He was prophesying, and it came to pass that both of those tribes, Ephraim, and Manasseh, became great tribes in the history of the Nation of Israel. But Ephraim did become greater, becoming the most influential tribe in the northern ten tribes of Israel.

Gen 48:20 *So he blessed them that day, saying, "By you Israel will bless, saying, 'May God make you as Ephraim and as Manasseh!'" " And thus he set Ephraim before Manasseh.*

Gen 48:21 *Then Israel said to Joseph, "Behold, I am dying, but God will be with you and bring you back to the land of your fathers."*

- I am dying but God will be with you and bring you back. What a beautiful thing to be able to say to your children and grandchildren, when you have that as your anchor in your own heart as you are moving on into eternity. I am dying, but God will be with you and bring you back to the land of your fathers! (**Heb 6:19**) *This hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and steadfast, and which enters the Presence behind the veil.*
- **He is my anchor in my heart now and forever! Will this be my testimony to my children? Behold, I am dying, but God will be with you and bring you back, bring you through! Trust in Him completely and always!**

Gen 48:22 *Moreover I have given to you one portion (Shekem) above your brothers, which I took from the hand of the Amorite with my sword and my bow."*

- This is an interesting scripture. What is he referring to? Jacob took from the Amorite, though it is not mentioned anywhere else in the Bible, these things with his sword and his bow and he gives a double portion to Joseph. There is one scripture, referring to this in (**Joh 4:5**) *So He came to a city of Samaria which is called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob gave to his son Joseph.* It does not really give us that much information. So that is an area that we know very little about.
- So, we move into the final two chapters of Genesis next week. Now we have the foundation, the beginning upon which the Bible is built. In the construction of a building, it is important to lay a

good foundation. All through the Bible we will be coming back to the foundation laid here in Genesis.

SUMMARY

- **(Gen 46:1)** So Israel took his journey with all that he had, and came to Beersheba, and offered sacrifices to the God of his father Isaac. **Whenever I am confronted with a significant decision, such as Jacob's going to Egypt, how completely do I seek and continue to seek the LORD's perfect will regarding my response to the decision?**
- **(Gen 46:34)** that you shall say, '*Your servants' occupation has been with livestock from our youth even till now, both we and also our fathers,*' that you may dwell in the land of Goshen; for every shepherd is an abomination to the Egyptians." **As we notice the importance of being set apart, how important is it to me that my life be free from worldly compromise? That I truly be sanctified, set apart from the world?**
- **(Gen 48:15)** And he blessed Joseph, and said: "God, before whom my fathers, Abraham and Isaac walked, *The God who has fed me all my life long to this day,* **Am I presently reflecting in my life the fact that my God indeed has fed me all my life long to this day? How clear and how strong is this reflection of that fact?**
- **(Gen 48:16)** The Angel (Jesus) who has redeemed me from all evil, *Bless the lads; Let my name be named upon them, And the name of my fathers, Abraham and Isaac; And let them grow into a multitude in the midst of the earth."* **Both Isaac and Jacob are in the Hebrews chapter 11, the hall of faith chapter because of one thing they did in their lives and that was, by faith they blessed their sons! Has that been done in all my sons and daughters? Is my life a blessing to others?**
- **(Gen 48:21)** Then Israel said to Joseph, "Behold, I am dying, *but God will be with you and bring you back* to the land of your fathers. **He is my anchor in my heart now and forever! Will this be my testimony to my children? Behold, I am dying, but God will be with you and bring you back, bring you through! Trust in Him completely and always!**
- *He is such a blessing to us!*

CLOSING SONG

THE BLESSING Kari Jobe (4:33/4:36)

The Lord bless you And keep you Make His face shine upon you And be gracious to you
The Lord turn His Face toward you And give you peace Amen, amen, amen Amen, amen, amen
The Lord bless you And keep you Make His face shine upon you And be gracious to you
The Lord turn His Face toward you And give you peace
Amen, amen, amen (we sing, we sing) Amen, amen, amen
May His favor be upon you And a thousand generations And your family and your children
And their children, and their children May His favor be upon you And a thousand generations
And your family and your children And **their children, and their children**
May His presence go before you And behind you, and beside you All around you, and within you
He is with you, He is with you In the morning, in the evening In your coming, and your going
In your weeping, and rejoicing He is for you, He is for you He is for you, He is for you
He is for you, He is for you He is for you, He is for you (I know, I know)
Amen, amen, amen Amen, amen, amen
May His presence go before you And behind you, and beside you All around you, and within you
He is with you, He is with you In the morning, in the evening In your coming, and your going
In your weeping, and rejoicing He is for you

CLOSING PRAYER

NEXT WEEK: Read and study Genesis Chapters 49 & 50!