

Genesis 48 - Lesson 47

Jacob Blesses Joseph's Sons

1. Gen 48:1-4 - Jacob passes the promise to Joseph

- a. *"by faith Jacob blessed both the sons of Joseph"* - Heb 11:21 (not in Gen 47:31, but in 48)
- b. Italics in the KJB are marks of integrity, and supply necessary words - 2 Sam 21:19
- c. Jacob is sick, but Israel strengthens himself (supported by his bed and staff)
- d. *"thy father is sick"* - We don't read about disease until Moses' day (Exo 4:6-7)
- e. *"to thy seed"* - notice the plurality of the seed here, this is not the singular seed
- f. The promise he made to Jacob about the people and the land was "everlasting"
- g. Jacob is concerned about Joseph, his sons, and God's promise at the end of his life

2. Gen 48:5-12 - Joseph's sons become Jacob's

- a. Joseph has the entire Egyptian empire at his disposal, but receives this blessing
 - i. What God promises is sure, what the world promises is not.
- b. 48:7 - The first time we hear of Joseph learning about Rachel's death
- c. Jacob makes Ephraim and Manasseh his own sons (but not any other of Joseph's)
- d. There are ~20 lists, 14 different men, 13 land allotments, 12 sons, 11 that pay tribute
- e. There are no mistakes in the lists, they are talking about different things
- f. Levi gets no inheritance of land - Josh 13:13-14, Num 18:20-21, 35:1-8

3. Gen 48:13-20 - Jacob blesses Ephraim

- a. *"wittingly"* - Jacob knew what he was doing (the fifth time the younger is blessed)
- b. *"which fed me"* - Jacob worked hard, but God had promised him provision
- c. *"Angel which redeemed me"* - Gen 28 (Esau) Gen 31:11-13 (Laban), Gen 32 Peneul
- d. 48:19 - *"I know it"* - We may not, but he did, he prophesies of Ephraim's greatness
- e. The tabernacle was there, Shiloh was there, the northern tribes named Ephraim
- f. *"multitude of nations"* - This is where the Samaritans lived - John 4:5, 19-22

4. Gen 48:21-22 - God will bring Joseph back to the land

- a. The birthright is passed to Joseph here - 1 Chron 5:1-2
- b. The land is where Joseph was buried, and where Jesus walked - Josh 24:32
- c. Israel prophesied that God would be with Joseph and bring him back to the land, and that is just what God did - Ex 12:31, Exo 13:19