

January 29/Day 29

Genesis 48

Verses 1-7

- This chapter begins with "...after these things...", so your first question should be *after what things?* Do you remember from yesterday? Jacob had made Joseph swear to carry his bones back to be buried with his fathers when he died, then Jacob worshiped the Lord in his bed.
- What is Joseph told in this passage?
- Who did Joseph take with him to see Israel?
- What two words are used in verse 4 that we saw confirmed yesterday? Who had told him this would happen?
- Jacob is saying he wanted to give an inheritance to Ephraim and Manassah by saying they would be his in the same way Reuben and Simeon were. In this way he was giving a double-portion to Joseph.
- What did he tell Joseph about his mother?

Verses 8-14

- What had happened to Jacob's eyes in his old age? Who else had this problem, do you remember?
- When Jacob bless the grandsons, he crossed his arms and gave the firstborn blessing to the second-born son. Have we seen the blessing go to the second-born before? To which second-born?

Verses 15-17

- How did Joseph feel about the crossing of the hands?
- What would happen to the younger brother?

Verses 18-22

- Here Jacob confirms Joseph's double-portion through his sons.

Genesis 49

Verse 1

- Below are Jacob/Israel's last words to his sons.

Verses 2-4

- Do you remember what Reuben did with his father's wife, Bilhah, in Genesis 35:22? Leviticus 18:8, "You shall not uncover the nakedness of your father's wife; it is your father's nakedness."

Verses 5-7

- Do you remember what Simeon and Levi did after their sister, Dinah, was raped? Genesis 34:25, "Now it came about on the third day, when they were in pain, that two of Jacob's sons, Simeon and Levi, Dinah's brothers, each took his sword and came upon the city unawares, and killed every male."

Verses 8-12

- Notice Israel speaks of Judah most. What Judah perfect? Do you remember what he did with his daughter-in-law in chapter 38? Yet, Judah showed repentance. Repentance is a change of mind which results in a change of direction.
- Jesus would be descended from the tribe of Judah.

Verse 13

- What will be Zebulan's occupation?

Verses 14-15

- What does this tell us about Issachar's character and occupation?

Verses 16-17

- What will Dan be?

Verses 18-19

- Gad sounds like a Viking.

Verse 20

- Asher had a sweet-tooth.

Verse 21

- Naphtali is a poet.

Verses 22-26

- Who were pictured as the archers who bitterly attacked Joseph?

Verse 27

- What is said about Benjamin?

Verses 28-33

- What does this passage say about the kinds of blessing Israel gave?
- What does he charge them regarding his burial?
- Have we seen this place before?
- Israel's parents are buried there. Did you happen to notice, after Rebekah helped Jacob trick Isaac and then sent him to Laban for Rachel, she never saw Jacob again. In her deceit, she did end up being bereaved of her son.
- Leah is buried there, though Rachel is buried near Bethlehem. So, Jacob was tricked by Laban into marrying Leah, and then he didn't even get to be laid to rest beside the love of his life. Leviticus 18:18 "You shall not marry a woman in addition to her sister as a rival while she is alive, to uncover her nakedness."

Genesis 50

Verse 1-3

- How did Joseph respond to Israel's death?
- How did they prepare his body? A practice of the ancient Egyptians.
- How long did this take?
- How long did the Egyptians mourn the death of Jacob/Israel?

Verses 4-6

- Did Pharaoh allow Joseph to keep his oath to his father?

Verses 7-11

- How many went with Joseph to bury Israel?

Verses 12-14

- After Jacob was buried, where did the sons return?

Verses 15-21

- What did the brothers start worrying about once Israel died?
- They send a message to Joseph. Had Israel really said these things?
- Joseph has already forgiven his brothers. He had done so years ago. But, here's what he didn't say, "Oh, it's okay", and pretend like nothing had happened or that it didn't really cause the harm it had caused. By forgiving, Joseph was giving up his right to vengeance. It is

obedience toward God, to allow God to deal out retribution. Notice, though he had forgiven his brothers, he absolutely acknowledged a wrong had been done. He didn't sweep it under the rug, he acknowledged it. This is the first step to true forgiveness, acknowledging a wrong has been done.

- Joseph also acknowledges God's sovereignty here. Though they brothers had evil intentions, God was sovereign over their deeds and used it for the good of everyone. He was with Joseph through all his trials, strengthening him and giving him wisdom and he used Joseph to save the lives of the very ones who had mistreated him, as well as saving two nations for sure along with the rest of the known world.
- What has God turned to the good in your life in order to preserve many people alive?
- How did Joseph treat them?

Verses 22-26

- How old was Joseph when he died? What generation of his family did he live to see?
- What does Joseph say to encourage and remind his brothers before he died?
- What did he make them promise?
- What did they do with his body in the meantime?
- Since Joseph was the next to the youngest, I have to wonder if any of the brothers had passed before him. We're not told.

Have you learned anything through the character of Joseph that can be applied to your life? How about Jacob, Isaac, Abraham, Noah, Enoch, Adam, and others?

Congratulations on completing the book of Genesis! God will honor your studies!