

Genesis 48:28 – Jacob Blesses His Sons

God is Faithful from Generation to Generation

Section 1: 48:1-21 – God Almighty is Faithful

³ Jacob said to Joseph, “God Almighty appeared to me at Luz in the land of Canaan and blessed me. ⁴ He said to me, ‘I will make you fruitful and numerous; I will make many nations come from you, and I will give this land as a permanent possession to your future descendants.’

⁸ When Israel saw Joseph’s sons, he said, “Who are these?” ⁹ And Joseph said to his father, “They are my sons God has given me here.” So Israel said, “Bring them to me and I will bless them.” ¹⁰ Now his eyesight was poor because of old age; he could hardly see. Joseph brought them to him, and he kissed and embraced them. ¹¹ Israel said to Joseph, “I never expected to see your face again, but now God has even let me see your offspring.” ¹² Then Joseph took them from his father’s knees and bowed with his face to the ground.

Who is the God of Jacob: God Almighty.

- Almighty (יְהוָה): ALL sufficient and ALL powerful.

Who is the driving force behind the covenant promise according to Jacob: God Almighty.

- “I will make you...fruitful and numerous.” (v. 4)
- “I will make...many nations come from you.” (v. 4)
- “I will give...this land as a permanent possession to your future descendants.” (v. 4)

Joseph recognizes that God is in control.

- “They are my sons...God has given me...here.” (v. 9)

Jacob gives credit to God for allowing him to see Joseph again.

- “God has even let me see...your offspring.” (v. 11)

Discussion Questions:

- ❖ How should God being described as God Almighty impact your view of Him?
- ❖ Have you submitted to the reality that God is ALL sufficient?
- ❖ Have you submitted to the reality that God is ALL powerful?

Section 2: 48:13-22 – God Almighty is the One Working

¹³ Then Joseph took them both—with his right hand Ephraim toward Israel’s left, and with his left hand Manasseh toward Israel’s right—and brought them to Israel. ¹⁴ But Israel stretched out his right hand and put it on the head of Ephraim, the younger, and crossing his hands, put his left on Manasseh’s head, although Manasseh was the firstborn. ¹⁵ Then he blessed Joseph and said:

The God before whom my fathers Abraham and Isaac walked, the God who has been my shepherd all my life to this day, ¹⁶ the angel who has redeemed me from all harm—may he bless these boys. And may they be called by my name and the names of my fathers Abraham and Isaac, and may they grow to be numerous within the land.

took from the Amorites with my sword and bow.

Again, we see a theme of the younger being “greater” than the older. Continually throughout Scripture we see God demonstrating that His ways are different and better than man’s ways.

Why is God’s ways better: God is the One who works all things together for His glory and our good.

- God is the one who blesses. (v. 16).
 - o “The God before whom my fathers Abraham and Isaac walked” (v. 15)
 - o “The God who has been my shepherd all my life to this day” (v. 15)
- God is the one who will guide Joseph. Israel passes on the Word of God to Joseph.
 - o “God will be with you” (v. 21)
 - “I will go down with you to Egypt” (46:4)
 - o “God will bring you back” (v. 21)
 - “I will also bring you back” (46:4)

Discussion Questions:

- ❖ How does your day-to-day life reveal to others that you believe that God’s ways are better than man’s ways?
- ❖ Are you faithfully passing on God’s Word to the next generation?

Section 3: 49:1-28 – God Almighty is fully Realized in the Messiah

¹⁰The scepter will not depart from Judah or the staff from between his feet until he whose right it is comes and the obedience of the peoples belongs to him

²⁸These are the tribes of Israel, twelve in all, and this is what their father said to them. He blessed them, and he blessed each one with a suitable blessing.

Leah's Sons	Concubine's Sons	Rachel's Sons
Reuben – undisciplined	Dan – judge, shrewd	Joseph – large genealogy, wealth
Simeon & Levi – uncontrolled anger	Gad – raider	Benjamin – wolf, seeking prey
Judah – power and authority	Asher – wealth	
Zebulun – haven for travelers	Naphtali – uninhibited, free talkers	
Issachar – defeated, slave		

Judah’s blessing from Israel contains a great revealing of the “would be” future Messiah. Genesis 46:10 (CSB):

- The scepter will not depart from Judah or the staff from between his feet...
 - o “until he whose right it is come”
 - o “and the obedience of the peoples belongs to him”

The tribe of Judah is described as a people with power, like a lion.

What we see in these last moments of Jacob’s life is a display of God Almighty. We see how God is ALL sufficient and ALL powerful.

Discussion Questions:

- ❖ To this point in time, what story about God is your life telling?
- ❖ What needs to change so that your life is telling the story that God is Almighty?