



Jacob Blessings & Death

Oct 23

INTRODUCTION: We've grown accustomed to the end of Genesis being about Joseph, yet here we remember it is about what Jacob produced (Gen 37:2). The Patriarch, on his deathbed, now blesses (and curses) each son, beginning with adopting Joseph's sons. We'll consider deathbeds and the most important prophecy about Judah.

REVIEW: [Genesis, pt. II](#) (be cautious with other videos)

KEY POINT: blessing, curse, prophecy, Judah

A.M. SERMON RECAP (Phil 1:1-11, Recovering Joy)

- What was the sermon about?
- What were the key points?
- Key takeaways...? Questions to keep considering?

P.M. SERMON RECAP (Mt 28, Discipleship)

- What was the sermon about?
- What were the key points?
- Key takeaways...? Questions to keep considering?

SURVEY: Gen 48 to 49

QUESTIONS:

Gen 48- Ephraim and Manasseh

1. *V. 1- Jacob is on his deathbed and so Joseph and his 2 sons go to visit grandfather.*
2. **Have you ever paid a death bed visit? What are these about? While painful what opportunities do they afford?**
3. **Think about this quote** *by the famous preacher Martin Lloyd Jones as he prepared for heaven, "We do not give enough time to death and to our going on. It is a very strange thing this: the one certainty, yet we do not think about it... People say about sudden death, 'It is a wonderful way to go.' I have come to the conclusion that is quite wrong... the hope of sudden death is based upon fear of death. But death is not to slip past, it should be victorious."*

Discuss.

4. **Read Heb 11:21. How did Jacob spend his last days? From v.3+, what was he thinking about?**
5. *V. 6b+ He clearly also wished he'd have had more children through Rachel, but she died early. From v.5+, what does He do?*
6. *Vv. 14-15- What amazing things does Jacob say about God?*
 - a. *It also includes the first reference to redemption.*
7. Jacob is just an old man, how is he able to bless/prophecy?
8. *V. 17- Like his father, he is blind (48:10), however he will not be tricked by Joseph. He knows what order the blessing should come. (Ephraim becomes a large tribe, even becoming synonymous with all of northern Israel). What reversals have we seen in Genesis? How do they teach us that we're not saved by nature/works but God's gift of grace?*
9. *V.21- God had promised this (46:4, etc), and Jacob passes this along to Joseph. How do we encourage others by reminding one another of God's promises?*
10. *V.22- Joseph becomes like the firstborn. Perhaps Jacob had to defend this land he had earlier owned?*

Gen 49:1-27- Jacob Blesses His Sons

11. *V.28- With Ephraim and Manasseh we get the 12 tribes of Israel who form the basis of God's OC people just as the 12 Apostles form the basis of the NC people.*
12. *This roughly follows their birth order. Emphasis is given to 4 brothers. Reuben- loses firstborn status, no prophet, judge or king comes from this tribe. Simeon and Levi- Simeon is later absorbed, Levi receives no land (but is elevated to the priesthood for their stand against apostasy [Ex 32:25]). Judah- he receives the rights of preeminence.*
13. *In Judah we learn something more about the seed (Gen 3:15). What kind of seed would come from Judah? What kingly language is used? Peoples- would His kingdom be confined to Israel alone? (the prophets and later Jesus quote from v. 11a). Vv. 11-12 picture the plenty of Eden. How does Jesus alone restore us to paradise?*
14. From the other sons, what literal fulfilment can you glean from your knowledge of the OT? What may be speaking of Jesus?

Gen 49:28-33- Jacob's Death

15. *Next to Jesus, more is said about Joseph's burial than anyone else in the Bible.*
16. *V. 29a- gathered- a faint belief in life beyond the grave.*
17. **Why is it important to share our wishes clearly with our family/in a will? How ought these wishes conform to God's Word?**
18. *Vv. 29b- 32- This little plot of land was key to God's promises, ultimately about the land in David and Solomon's day, and still greater yet, the New Heavens and New Earth. How is the Holy Spirit today a similar deposit of our future promise?*
(Eph 1:13-14).
19. *V.33- Jacob was a founding father. His death meant the end of the Patriarchal era. What was lamentable/hopeful about this? Have you lived through the end of any eras? When things seem to be ending, where do we keep our hope?*

NEXT WEEK: Oct 30- Life and Death, Gen 50