Genesis 48

Chapter 48 of 50 · 22 Verses · Authorized King James Version

Jacob Blesses Ephraim and Manasseh

¹ And it came to pass after these things, that one told Joseph, Behold, thy father is sick: and he took with him his two sons, Manasseh and Ephraim.

² And one told Jacob, and said, Behold, thy son Joseph cometh unto thee: and Israel strengthened himself, and sat upon the bed.

³ And Jacob said unto Joseph, God Almighty appeared unto me at Luz in the land of Canaan, and blessed me,

⁴ And said unto me, Behold, I will make thee fruitful, and multiply thee, and I will make of thee a multitude of people; and will give this land to thy seed after thee for an everlasting possession.

⁵ And now thy two sons, Ephraim and Manasseh, which were born unto thee in the land of Egypt before I came unto thee into Egypt, are mine; as Reuben and Simeon, they shall be mine.

⁶ And thy issue, which thou begettest after them, shall be thine, and shall be called after the name of their brethren in their inheritance.

⁷ And as for me, when I came from Padan, Rachel died by me in the land of Canaan in the way, when yet there was but a little way to come unto Ephrath: and I buried her there in the way of Ephrath; the same is Beth-lehem.

⁸ And Israel beheld Joseph's sons, and said, Who are these?

⁹ And Joseph said unto his father, They are my sons, whom God hath given me in this place. And he said, Bring them, I pray thee, unto me, and I will bless them.

¹⁰ Now the eyes of Israel were dim for age, so that he could not see. And he brought them near unto him; and he kissed them, and embraced them.

¹¹ And Israel said unto Joseph, I had not thought to see thy face: and, lo, God hath shewed me also thy seed.

¹² And Joseph brought them out from between his knees, and he bowed himself with his face to the earth.

¹³ And Joseph took them both, Ephraim in his right hand toward Israel's left hand, and Manasseh in his left hand toward Israel's right hand, and brought them near unto him.

¹⁴ And Israel stretched out his right hand, and laid it upon Ephraim's head, who was the younger, and his left hand upon Manasseh's head, guiding his hands wittingly; for Manasseh was the firstborn.

¹⁵ And he blessed Joseph, and said, God, before whom my fathers Abraham and Isaac did walk, the God which fed me all my life long unto this day,

¹⁶ The Angel which redeemed me from all evil, bless the lads; and let my name be named on them, and the name of my fathers Abraham and Isaac; and let them grow into a multitude in the midst of the earth.

¹⁷ And when Joseph saw that his father laid his right hand upon the head of Ephraim, it displeased him: and he held up his father's hand, to remove it from Ephraim's head unto Manasseh's head.

¹⁸ And Joseph said unto his father, Not so, my father: for this is the firstborn; put thy right hand upon his head.

¹⁹ And his father refused, and said, I know it, my son, I know it: he also shall become a people, and he also shall be great: but truly his younger brother shall be greater than he, and his seed shall become a multitude of nations.

²⁰ And he blessed them that day, saying, In thee shall Israel bless, saying, God make thee as Ephraim and as Manasseh: and he set Ephraim before Manasseh.

21 And Israel said unto Joseph, Behold, I die: but God shall be with you, and bring you again unto the land of your fathers.

22 Moreover I have given to thee one portion above thy brethren, which I took out of the hand of the Amorite with my sword and with my bow.

HEBREW & GREEK WORD STUDIES

Angel — מַלְאָךְ (Mal'akh)

Angel, messenger

The Hebrew **mal'akh** (מַלְאָךְ) means angel or messenger—a heavenly being sent by God. Angels serve as God's messengers, worship Him, and minister to believers (Hebrews 1:14).

Redeem — גָּאַל (Gaal)

To redeem, act as kinsman-redeemer

The Hebrew **gaal** (גָּאַל) means to redeem or act as kinsman-redeemer (go'el)—buying back family property or relatives. It foreshadows Christ redeeming His people through His blood.

God — אֱלֹהִים (Elohim)

God (plural of majesty)

The Hebrew **Elohim** (אֱלֹהִים) is a plural form denoting majesty and fullness of deity. Though grammatically plural, it takes singular verbs when referring to the one true God, suggesting the Trinity's plurality within unity.

CROSS REFERENCES

Genesis 48:3   **References God:** Genesis 17:1; Exodus 6:3. **Blessing:** Genesis 28:3

Genesis 48:4   **Eternal Life:** Genesis 17:8; 17:13. **Parallel theme:** Genesis 12:2; 22:17; 26:4; 28:3; 32:12; 35:11; 47:27; Exodus 1:7

Genesis 48:5   **References Egypt:** Genesis 46:20. **Parallel theme:** Joshua 13:7; 14:4; 2 Corinthians 6:18

Genesis 48:7   **Parallel theme:** Genesis 35:9; Matthew 2:18

Genesis 48:9   **Blessing:** Genesis 27:4; Hebrews 11:21. **References God:** Genesis 33:5

Genesis 48:10   **Parallel theme:** Genesis 27:1; 27:27

Genesis 48:11   **Parallel theme:** Genesis 45:26; Ephesians 3:20

Genesis 48:12   **Parallel theme:** Genesis 42:6

Genesis 48:14   **Parallel theme:** Genesis 41:51

Genesis 48:15   **References God:** Genesis 17:1. **Parallel theme:** Colossians 2:6

Genesis 48:16   **Redemption:** Psalms 34:22. **Parallel theme:** Genesis 48:5; 49:22; Joshua 17:17

Genesis 48:17   **Parallel theme:** Genesis 48:14

Genesis 48:19   **Parallel theme:** Genesis 25:28; Deuteronomy 33:17

Genesis 48:20   **Blessing:** Genesis 24:60; 28:3

Genesis 48:21   **Parallel theme:** Genesis 26:3; 28:15; 46:4. **References God:** Genesis 50:24; Hebrews 7:3

Genesis 48:22   **Parallel theme:** Joshua 24:32; 1 Chronicles 5:2; John 4:5