

## GENESIS 48; February 17; Jacob Blesses Joseph's Sons

### ANALYSIS:

1. After Joseph was told, "Behold, your father is sick," whom did he take to Jacob? \_\_\_\_\_
2. What claim did Jacob make concerning Joseph's two sons?  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. What specific physical problem did Jacob have? \_\_\_\_\_
4. Why was Joseph displeased with his father's blessing on his two sons?  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. What did Jacob prophecy God would do in the future?  
\_\_\_\_\_

Bonus Trivia: Assuming chapter 48 occurs during the last year of Jacob's life, how old were "the lads" (48:16) Ephraim and Manasseh when Jacob blessed them?

### THINGS TO THINK ABOUT:

Again in this chapter we see the blessing/choice of the LORD upon the second or later born rather than upon the firstborn. Who comes to mind as illustrating this work of God? Able over Cain, then Seth (4:4-5, 25). Isaac over Ishmael (17:20-21). Jacob over Esau (25:23). Pharez over Zarah (38:29-30). Ephraim & Manasseh over Reuben & Simeon (48:5). Ephraim over Manasseh (48:14). Do you thank the LORD regularly for His grace and loving kindness to you as a Gentile sinner? We have no claim to salvation for many reasons, but grace is free!

Probably Joseph was physically able to have moved Jacob's hands on the heads of his sons (v 17). However, he apparently yielded to his father Jacob. Let us please our God by yielding to God-appointed authority: as children to parents, as saints to pastor/teacher, as employee to employer, as citizens to rulers.

### HELP:

1. Joseph took his two sons to visit his father Jacob (v 1).
2. Jacob claimed Joseph's two sons, Ephraim & Manasseh, "are mine" (v 5).
3. Jacob's eyes were dim for age, he could not see (v 10).
4. Because Jacob set Ephraim before Manasseh who was the firstborn (v 17-19).
5. God shall be with you and bring your family unto the land of their fathers (Canaan) (v 21).

Bonus Trivia: "The lads" were born during the seven years of plenty (41:50), before Jacob came to Egypt after two years of famine (45:6), where he lived 17 more years (47:28). Add 0 to 6, plus 2, plus 17, equals between 19 to 25 for their ages.