

Genesis 48:1-22 **Biblical Blessings**

Introduction:

When we thinking of how God blesses humanity it is often His choice to bless the weak over the strong. The poor over the rich, and the foolish according to worldly standards over the wise; Why is this? The answer appears to be, throughout Scriptures all for the glory of God. (I Cor. 1:26-31; II Cor. 4:6)

I. Patriarchal Blessing

A. Manasseh and Ephraim to receive blessing

1. Young people need to be acquainted with the aged servants of the Lord – Job. 12:12; Psa. 119:100
2. Parents desire blessing not only for themselves but also for their children.
v.3
3. Greatness is not measured by status, occupation, pay scale or fame; but whether or not you have the blessing of God on your life.

B. What exactly is blessing as used in the Scripture?

1. Blessing's source is God Himself who is altogether lovely and gracious – Jam. 1:17
2. Blessing is an abundant and effective life – John 10:10; Eph. 1;7
3. Blessing may be transmitted – II Cor. 13:14

C. Adoption:

1. Jacob adopted Joseph's two sons, Manasseh and Ephraim – Gen. 49:3; I Chron. 5:1,2; Rom. 8:15; Gal. 4:5,6
2. Jacob transmitted blessing upon Joseph's sons which was based upon faith – v.10; Heb. 11:21; Eccl. 12:3; Prov. 17:6
3. God often in His merciful providences out does our expectations and magnifies His gracious ways towards us. Note. V.11
4. God has our seed in Covenant with Him : Turn To: Acts 2:37-42

D. Counting your blessings: v. 15,16

1. Recall what the Lord has done in the good history of God's providence.
2. Jacob recalls the Angel that redeemed him – Gen. 22:11; 32:24-30

II. The Right Hand of Fellowship

A. Cross hands

1. Ephraim on Jacob's left hand and Manasseh on his right – v.17-19
2. Jacob knew exactly what he was doing as he was led by the Spirit and had been given the prophetic utterance.

B. Right Hand

1. Indicates the Lord's glorious power - Exo, 15:12
2. The Psalms are filled with Almighty power of God expressed by the use of His Right Hand – Psa. 18:35; 20:6; 60:5 (Psalm 16:8; 17:7; 48:10; 63:8; 73:23; 89:13; 91:7; 98:1; 110:5; 118:15,16; 121:5; 138:7; 139:10)
3. Newly ordained pastors and elders – Gal. 2:9
4. The second born (Ephraim) is given greater blessing than the first born (Manasseh). (Num. 1:32-35; 2:18,20)