
DAILY READING

Genesis 48:1-12

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JACOB BLESSES EPHRAIM AND MANASSEH

48 Some time after this, Joseph was told, “Your father is weaker.” So he set out with his two sons, Manasseh and Ephraim. ² When Jacob was told, “Your son Joseph has come to you,” Israel summoned his strength and sat up in bed.

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.’ ⁵ Your two sons born to you in the land of Egypt before I came to you in Egypt are now mine. Ephraim and Manasseh belong to me just as Reuben and Simeon do. ⁶ Children born to you after them will be yours and will be recorded under the names of their brothers with regard to their inheritance. ⁷ When I was returning from Paddan, to my sorrow Rachel died along the way, some distance from Ephrath in the land of

Canaan. I buried her there along the way to Ephrath” (that is, Bethlehem).

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.