

# Genesis

The Book of Beginnings

**25. Jacob's last words in Egypt**

# An outline of the Book of Genesis \*

\* Approximate chapter divisions only

## Genesis 1 to 11

### Creation

Genesis 1 to 2

### The Fall

Genesis 3

### Before the Flood

Genesis 4 to 5

### The Flood

Genesis 6 to 8

### After the Flood

Genesis 9 to 11

## Genesis 12 to 50

### Abraham

Genesis 12 to 23

### Isaac

Genesis 24 to 27

### Jacob

Genesis 28 to 36

### Joseph

Genesis 37 to 50

Ch 48-50



# The “tôlēḏôt” divisions within Genesis...

**tôlēḏôt**: When plural, the procession of history as humans shape it.

1. Genesis 1:1 In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth.
2. Genesis 2:4 These are the **generations** of the heavens and the earth...
3. Genesis 5:1 This is the book of the **generations** of Adam.
4. Genesis 6:9 These are the **generations** of Noah.
5. Genesis 10:1 These are the **generations** of the sons of Noah...
6. Genesis 11:10 These are the **generations** of Shem.
7. Genesis 11:27 Now these are the **generations** of Terah.
8. Genesis 25:12 These are the **generations** of Ishmael, Abraham's son...
9. Genesis 25:19 These are the **generations** of Isaac, Abraham's son...
10. Genesis 36:1 These are the **generations** of Esau (that is, Edom).
11. Genesis 36:9 These are the **generations** of Esau the father of the Edomites...
- 12. Genesis 37:2 These are the generations of Jacob.**

# The strange ways of God

For My thoughts are not your thoughts,  
neither are your ways My ways,  
declares the LORD.

(Isaiah 55:8)

- Joseph was **hated** and **sold into slavery**, then to **prison**
- Pharaoh was given **strange prophetic dreams**
- The covenant people were **sent out of the land**

# Jacob and the land of promise

And when the time drew near  
that **Israel** must die...

Do not bury me in Egypt,  
but let me lie with my fathers.  
**Carry me out of Egypt**  
and bury me in their burying place.  
(Genesis 47:29-30)

# Genesis

The Book of Beginnings

## The final chapters – 48 to 50

- ✓ **Jacob blesses Ephraim and Manasseh** – Chapter 48
- ✓ **Jacob blesses all his sons** – Chapter 49:1-28
- ✓ **Jacob dies and is buried in Canaan** – Chapter 49:29-50:14
- ✓ **Joseph's brothers fear his revenge** – Chapter 50:15-21
- ✓ **Joseph dies and is embalmed in Egypt** – Chapter 50:22-26

## ✓ Jacob blesses Ephraim and Manasseh – Chapter 48

*El Shaddai*

“God Almighty appeared to me at Luz in the land of Canaan and blessed me, and said to me,

*‘Behold, **I will make you fruitful and multiply you, and I will make of you a company of peoples and will give this land to your offspring** after you for an everlasting possession.’*

“And now your two sons, who were born to you in the land of Egypt before I came to you in Egypt, are mine; **Ephraim** and **Manasseh** shall be mine, as Reuben and Simeon are.”

They are between  
19 and 25 years old

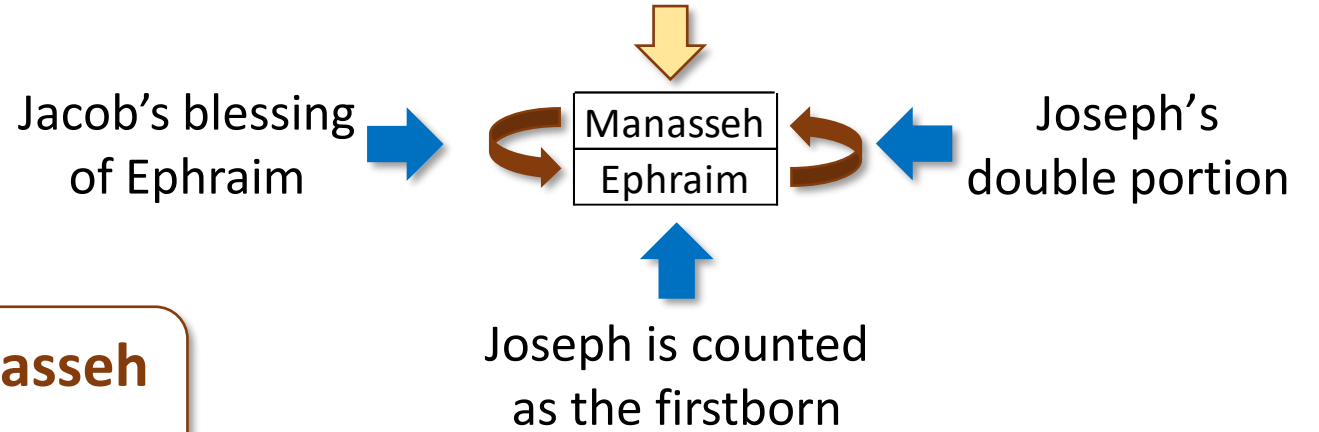
Jacob’s dream at Bethel  
(Genesis 28:10-22)

(Genesis 48:3-5)

# ✓ Jacob blesses Ephraim and Manasseh – Chapter 48

Leah's children						Zilpah's children		Rachel's children		Bilhah's children	
<b>Reuben</b>	Simeon	Levi	Judah	Issachar	Zebulun	Gad	Asher	<b>Joseph</b>	Benjamin	Dan	Naphtali

↑  
No longer  
counted as  
the firstborn



...**Ephraim** and **Manasseh**  
shall be mine...

...he [Reuben] was the firstborn,  
but because he defiled his father's couch,  
**his birthright was given to the sons of Joseph...**;  
though **Judah** became strong among his brothers  
and a chief came from him, **yet the birthright belonged to Joseph...**

(1 Chronicles 5:1-2)

## ✓ **Jacob blesses Ephraim and Manasseh** – Chapter 48

*“The God before whom my fathers **Abraham** and **Isaac** walked,  
the God who has been my shepherd all my life long to this day,  
the Angel who has redeemed me from all evil, **bless the boys**;  
and in them let **my name** be carried on,  
and **the name of my fathers Abraham and Isaac**;  
and let them grow into a multitude in the midst of the earth.”*

“Let my name be  
named upon them”

(Genesis 48:15-16)

## ✓ **Jacob blesses Ephraim and Manasseh** – Chapter 48

When Joseph saw that his father laid his right hand on the head of Ephraim, it displeased him...

“Not this way, my father; since this one is **the firstborn...**”

“**I know, my son, I know.**

He also shall become a people, and he also shall be great.

**Nevertheless,** his younger brother shall be greater than he, and his offspring shall become a multitude of nations.”

So he blessed them that day, saying,

“By you Israel will pronounce blessings, saying,

*‘God make you as Ephraim and as Manasseh.’”*

**Thus he put Ephraim before Manasseh.**

(Genesis 48:17-20)

## ✓ **Jacob blesses Ephraim and Manasseh** – Chapter 48

**Thus he put Ephraim before Manasseh.**

It is not **the spiritual** that is first  
but **the natural**, and then **the spiritual**.

The first man was from the earth, **a man of dust**;  
**the second man is from heaven**.

As was the man of dust,  
so also are those who are of the dust,  
and as is the man of heaven,  
so also are those who are of heaven.

(1 Corinthians 15:45-49)

It is not **the spiritual** that is first  
but **the natural**, and then **the spiritual**.

That which is born of the flesh is flesh,  
and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.

Do not marvel that I said to you,  
**'You must be born again.'**

(John 3:6-7)

If we live in the Spirit,  
let us also walk in the Spirit.

(Galatians 5:25)

✓ **Jacob blesses all his sons** – Chapter 49:1-28

Then **Jacob** called his sons and said,  
“Gather yourselves together,  
that I may tell you what shall happen  
to you in days to come.”

To their descendants

What is the  
**time horizon**  
for these blessings?

(Genesis 49:1)

**Reuben, Simeon & Levi, Judah, Zebulun, Issachar,  
Dan, Gad, Asher, Naphtali, Joseph, Benjamin**

This is what their father said to them as he blessed them,  
**blessing each with the blessing suitable to him.**

(Genesis 49:28)

## ✓ **Jacob blesses all his sons** – Chapter 49:1-28

**Reuben:**

*Behold, a son*

**Reuben**, you are my firstborn,  
my might, and the firstfruits of my strength,  
preeminent in dignity and preeminent in power.

} The privilege of  
the first born

**Unstable as water**, you shall not excel,  
because you went up to your father's bed;  
then you defiled it—he went up to my couch!

(Genesis 49:3-4)

~~Pre-eminence~~  
~~Leadership~~  
~~Priesthood~~  
~~Double portion~~

He lost his place  
on account of  
his uncontrolled  
sexual desire



We know very little of the tribe of Reuben.  
It produced no one of significance,  
no judge, no king, no prophet.

## ✓ **Jacob blesses all his sons** – Chapter 49:1-28

**Simeon:**  
*Heard*

**Levi:**  
*Joined to*

**Simeon** and **Levi** are brothers;  
weapons of violence are their swords.  
Let my soul come not into their council;  
O my glory, be not joined to their company.  
For in their anger they killed men,  
and in their willfulness they hamstringed oxen.  
**Cursed be their anger**, for it is fierce,  
**and their wrath**, for it is cruel!  
I will divide them in Jacob  
and scatter them in Israel.

(Genesis 49:5-7)

The people of the tribe of **Simeon** (the smallest tribe on entering Canaan) eventually lost their tribal identity, scattered among the tribe of Judah.

**The zeal of the Levites** at the time of Moses earned them some honour (Exodus 32:26).

## ✓ **Jacob blesses all his sons** – Chapter 49:1-28

**Judah:**  
*Praised*

**Judah**, your brothers shall **praise** you;  
your hand shall be on the neck of your enemies;  
your father's sons shall bow down before you.

...

The sceptre shall not depart from Judah,  
nor the ruler's staff from between his feet,  
until tribute comes to him;  
and to him shall be the obedience of the peoples.

Leadership

Nations

(See Genesis 49:8-10)

**The Messiah!**

**Behold, the Lion of the tribe of Judah,**  
**the Root of David...** (Revelation 5:5)

Or  
*"until Shiloh comes"*  
or  
*"until he comes  
to whom it belongs"*

## ✓ **Jacob blesses all his sons** – Chapter 49:1-28

**Joseph:**

*He will add*

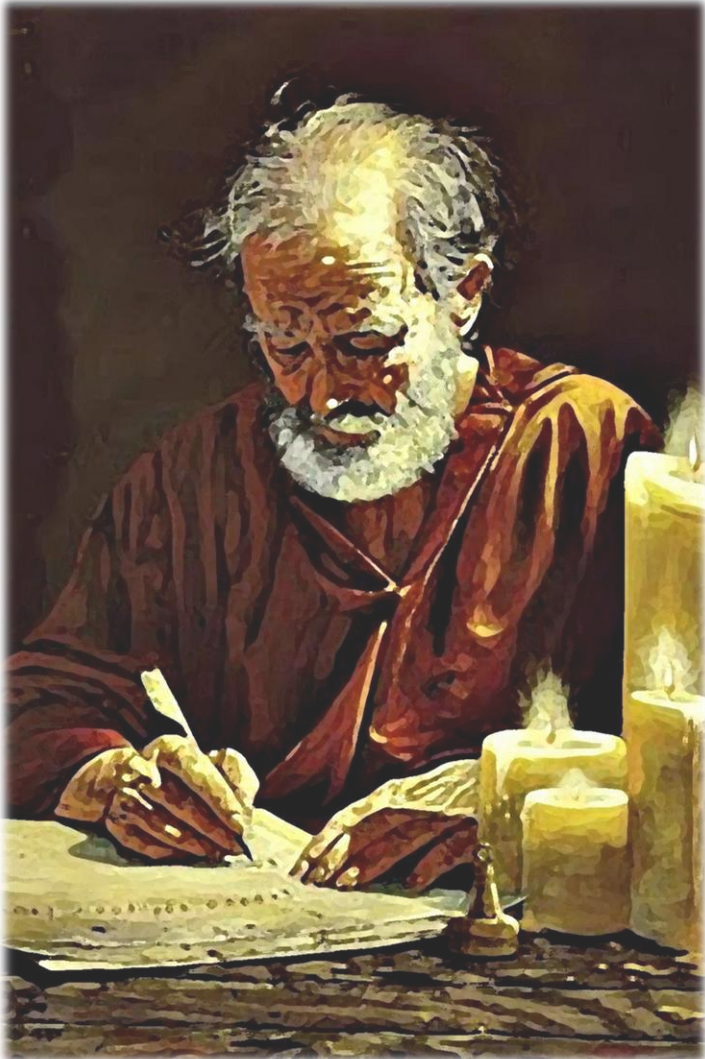
**Joseph** is **a fruitful bough**,  
a fruitful bough by a spring;  
his branches run over the wall.

The archers **bitterly attacked him**,  
shot at him, and harassed him severely,  
yet his bow remained unmoved;  
his arms were made agile  
by the hands of the Mighty One of Jacob...  
by the Almighty who will bless you...

**Joseph**... who was **set apart** from his brothers.

(See Genesis 49:22-26)

✓ **Jacob blesses all his sons** – Chapter 49:1-28



- **All** are sons of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob
- **All** are in a place to inherit the blessing
- **But** not all the outcomes will be the same

*But one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind  
and straining forward to what lies ahead,  
I press on toward the goal for the prize  
of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.*

(Philippians 3:13-14)

✓ **Jacob dies and is buried in Canaan** – Chapter 49:29-50:14

I am to be gathered to my people;  
bury me with my fathers in the cave  
that is in the field of Ephron the Hittite...  
**in the land of Canaan**, which **Abraham** bought  
... as a possession for a burial place.

(Genesis 49:29-30)

**So Joseph went up to bury his father;**  
and with him went up all the servants of Pharaoh,  
the elders of his house, and all the elders of the land of Egypt,  
as well as all the house of Joseph, his brothers, and his father's house.

(Genesis 50:7-8)

✓ **Joseph's brothers fear his revenge** – Chapter 50:15-21

But Joseph said to them,

God is judge



**“Do not fear**, for am I in the place of God?

God is working  
out His own will



“As for you, **you meant evil against me,**  
**but God meant it for good.** ...

Overcome evil  
with good



**“So do not fear;**  
**I will provide for you and your little ones.”**

(Genesis 50:19-21)

## ✓ Joseph dies and is embalmed in Egypt – Chapter 50:22-26

And Joseph said to his brothers,

“I am about to die, but **God will visit you**  
and bring you up out of this land to the land  
that he swore to **Abraham**, to **Isaac**, and to **Jacob**.”

Then Joseph made the sons of Israel swear, saying,

“**God will surely visit you,**  
**and you shall carry up my bones from here.**”

So Joseph died, being 110 years old.

They embalmed him, and he was put in a coffin in Egypt.

(Genesis 50:24-26)

And Moses took  
the bones of Joseph  
with him...

(Exodus 13:19, see  
also Joshua 24:32)

# Genesis

## The Book of Beginnings

**In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth.** (Genesis 1:1)

Then God saw everything that He had made, and indeed it was very good. (Genesis 1:31)

The LORD said to **Abram**, *“Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you. And I will make of you a great nation... and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”* (Genesis 12:1-3)

**Joseph** said to his brothers,

“I am about to die; but God will surely visit you, and bring you up out of this land to the land of which He swore to **Abraham**, to **Isaac**, and to **Jacob**.” (Genesis 50:24)



The Exodus ⇨ the wilderness ⇨ the Land ⇨ the Kingdom ⇨ **Jesus, the Saviour of the world**

# Genesis

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Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth,  
for the first heaven and the first earth  
had passed away, and the sea was no more.  
And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem,  
coming down out of heaven from God,  
prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.

(Revelation 21:1-2)