



Speaker: Pastor Matt Magee

Series: Genesis - Meant for Good

Sermon Title: Blessed to be a Blessing

Scripture: [Genesis 47:1-48:22](#)

MAIN IDEA: You—who are in Christ—have been blessed so you can bless your familial and spiritual heritage.

OUTLINE:

1. Jacob's blessings flowed from God's promises to him.
 1. Joseph's brothers and father (Jacob) stand before Pharaoh (47:1-12).
 1. Pharaoh gives Joseph's brothers a settlement in Goshen (the best of the land for shepherds). Any able men are to be put in charge of Pharaoh's livestock (47:1-6).
 2. Jacob stood before Pharaoh and blessed him. Jacob described his (Jacob's) years as "few and evil," not attaining to the days of Abraham and Isaac in their sojourning. Then Joseph settled Jacob with his family (47:7-12).
 1. Jacob, the less prominent man here, humanly speaking, acts in the strength of the Lord by blessing Pharaoh. (See Hebrews 7:7.)
 2. Joseph's leadership wisdom in Egypt during the famine was successful because of God's blessing as he (as God's agent) caused Pharaoh to increase in wealth. Within this, Israel settled in Goshen and their family become (47:13-31).
 1. Egypt prospered to provide the location for God to raise up his people to be mighty in number (47:27).
 2. God promised to bring Jacob back up to Canaan (46:3-4). (Jacob would be buried in the cave at Machpelah with Abraham, Sarah, Isaac and Rebekah, and Leah (49:29-31).)
2. Bless your familial and spiritual heritage by recounting your own walk with God, focusing on the enduring promise of God's presence (the Christian's ultimate blessing).
 1. Jacob adopts Ephraim and Manasseh (48:1-7).
 2. Jacob prepares to bless Ephraim and Manasseh (48:8-14).
 3. Jacob blessed Joseph (48:15-16).

4. Joseph expresses displeasure with Jacob's decision. Jacob doubles-down and continues to bless Ephraim and Manasseh (48:20).
5. Jacob/Israel confirms God's ongoing presence with Joseph (48:21-22).

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DISCUSSION GUIDE

1. How do you find yourself comparing your life to the lives of others? What is the end result in your heart? How should you focus your mind for God's purposes in any sort of comparison?
2. Re-read Genesis 47:1-48:22. Capture the broad events of what transpires.
 1. 47:1-12:
 2. 47:13-31:
 3. 48:1-7:
 4. 48:8-16:
 5. 48:17-22:
3. How does Hebrews 7:7 describe the one who blesses another?
4. Joseph enjoyed much prosperity as Pharaoh's right-hand leader. To what degree may Christians enjoy worldly prosperity? Must we give away everything above a subsistence level to be seeking first God's kingdom?
5. Jacob worshiped in response to God's faithfulness and promises. What promises of God cause you to break out in joyful worship? How do you involve your family in worshipping the Lord?
6. God's presence is a continual theme in Genesis. (He walks in the garden of Eden and comes down at Babylon. He closes Noah's family in the ark and visits with Abraham.) In the events described in these sections, God goes down to Egypt with Jacob. The prophets speak of how he will eventually put on flesh and be born in the town of Bethlehem. How does God's presence provide comfort? Why should awareness of it provide strength?
7. The family of Jacob is filled with murderers, adulterers, and deceivers. However, God's grace covers them because of his promise to Abraham. How does the promise made through Jesus cover believers even in the midst of their sin? How can God use sinful people?
8. What steps can you take to help ensure you keep walking by faith the way Jacob did, all the way up to your own death? In what ways does your longing for a homeland and better country guide your pilgrimage here on earth?
9. Have you, or someone you know, said, "I've done my time"? What's wrong with this way of thinking? What is a more obedient approach?