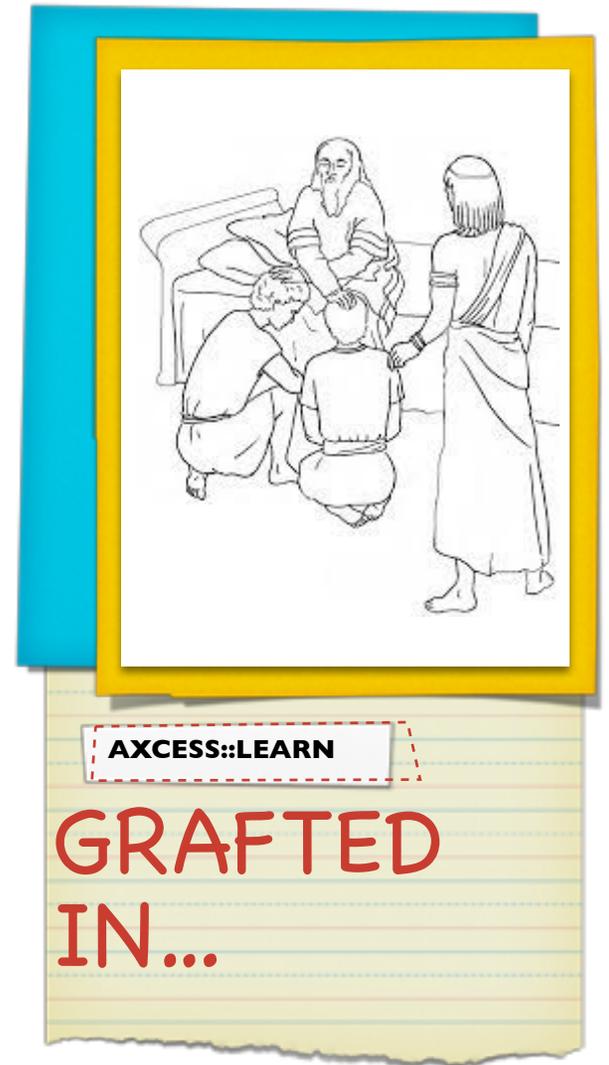




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*\*\*\* Approaching Scripture through the Hebrew mindset and context can help us to appreciate more fully and to properly interpret what the passage is actually intending to communicate.*

*^^study notes adapted from The Complete Jewish Study Bible, MacArthur Study Bible, & Torah Class*



## Read Genesis 48

### GENESIS 48

➤< v. 1-4 **Abrahamic Covenant paraphrased** Yosef receives an urgent message that his aged father is very ill; so this ruler of Egypt takes his two sons, born to his Egyptian wife Asenath, and went to see Ya'akov, Israel. Out of respect for the office of his son, Ya'akov props himself up in bed and recites the Abrahamic covenant to Yosef as was taught to him by his father, Yitz'chak who was taught by his father Avraham.

\*\*The Hebrews will become very numerous; and they will become a "kahal ammin", a holy convocation of fellow countrymen. And they will be given the land of Kena'an as an everlasting possession.

### ➤< v. 5- 12 **Ya'akov/Isra'el adopts Yosef's sons**

"Now your two sons...are mine." When Ya'akov declares this he is actually adopting his two grandchildren to become his own sons. He is not merely taking Egyptians and adopting them so that they become Israelites. Yosef's two sons technically become his brothers and they become Ya'akov's own sons who would receive legal status entitling them to their inheritance as Ya'akov's sons. There were now 14 tribes of Israel...the original 12 brothers plus Efrayim & M'nasheh.

\*\*Ya'akov was granting Rachel's two sons (Yosef & Binyamin) 3 territories in the Land as he adopted Efrayim & M'nasheh.

### ➤< v. 13-20 **Cross-handed blessing** Why did Isra'el cross his hands when blessing Efrayim & M'nasheh?

\*\*v. 19 "younger brother will be greater" Efrayim did indeed become the dominant tribe of the 10 northern tribes, eventually being used as the national designate for the 10 tribes in the prophets.

➤< v. 21-22 **God will bring you back** Dying Isra'el gives voice to his undying trust in God's taking his descendants back to Kena'an.

### **WHO IS THE "FAMILY OF GOD"...**

Isn't the real family of God the Church? Yes...but what makes the Church, the Church, is that as disciples of Yeshua, we gentile believers have been grafted into the covenants of Israel...not INSTEAD of Israel...not as a replacement for Israel...but alongside Israel.

\*\*It's NOT about physical Israel, but about the spiritual element and ideal of Israel.

### **THE COVENANT IS MADE WITH ISRAEL**

Both the older covenants and the newest covenant were given to Israel. The promise of another covenant after the covenant with Moshe on Mount Sinai was prophesied throughout the Tanakh. **READ:: Jeremiah 31:31-37**

### **THE PROBLEM OF REPLACEMENT THEOLOGY**

With whom is the new covenant going to be made with? —Jeremiah 31:31 "with the house of Isra'el and with the house of Y'hudah."

Nowhere in the Scriptures remotely suggests that God will make this covenant with gentiles. Gentiles would have no part of this New Covenant UNLESS we are seen by God (*or declared by Yehoveh*) to be part of either the House of Israel or the House of Y'hudah!

### **GOOD FOR ISRAEL...WHAT ABOUT GENTILES?**

From the time of Avraham onward, God made provisions for any foreigner or stranger that wanted to give up their allegiance to their pagan gods and be joined to Israel was more than welcome to do so. Those who joined Israel had just as much right to the inheritance of the covenants of God as a natural born Israelite.

### **READ:: Romans 2:26-29...3:1-4**

Paul uses the word Jew in place of Israel...at that time, the Jews were all that remained in their time, as a remnant of the Hebrews representing Israel.

DISCUSSION:: Physical Israelite versus Spiritual Israelite.

### **GOD GRAFTS GENTILES IN TO ISRAEL**

#### **READ:: Ephesians 2:11-13**

Gentiles by birth are brought near and declared citizens of Israel, part of the family of God, by the work of Yeshua.

#### **READ:: Romans 9:6-9**

The children that the promise referred to are the true children, those who trust God in their hearts.

#### **READ:: Galatians 3:26-29**

If you belong to Yeshua, Jew or Gentile, then you are a seed of whom? Avraham! The first Hebrew, the forefather of the Israelites...not the Gentiles. Our only hope as Gentiles is in becoming *spiritual Israelites*, which we can become by trusting Yeshua so that we might become partakers in the covenants made between God and Israel.

It's the Israelite Messiah Yeshua who lead us to that and makes it possible by His sacrifice on the cross.

## NOTES

### HEBREW WORD DEFINITIONS

**kahal ammin:** a holy convocation of fellow countrymen

**El Shaddai:** "God of the mountain" from the Akkadian word **Shaddu** meaning "mountain" (Christian tradition loosely translates to mean "God Almighty")

**GOD'S PLAN...** God creates physical Israel (*human beings called Hebrews*) as His chosen people to bring the knowledge of the One True God (*by means of the Laws and Commands of God*) to the world. He brought the Word forth from Israel, specifically the Jews. Then because most Jews rejected the incarnate Word of God (*Yeshua, Christ*) He gave the duty of spreading the gospel to gentiles. After a long time, when the gentiles have spread the Word of God to the entire world, He has the gentiles take the Word back to the Jews. The Jews accept the Word, who is Christ, and are saved. And in this way, ALL of Israel is saved.

The basic idea of the Reality of Duality is this: in the Scriptures and in the NT, the physical is often a shadow of something spiritual that already exists.

**Governing Dynamics of the Reality of Duality**  
*When the physical and spiritual reality of something exists simultaneously:*

1. The spiritual existed first.
2. The spiritual is preeminent.
3. The spiritual is almost unlimited in its attributes/dimensions.
4. The physical can occur in a maximum of four dimensions,
5. The physical is inferior to the spiritual.
6. The physical can only partially mimic or reveal its spiritual counterpart.

[\*\*The term Reality of Duality was coined by Torah Class Bible teacher Tom Bradford, Seed of Abraham Ministries]