



Chapter 48

1. :1 Who are the two sons of Joseph? Who is the first-born? Why does Joseph bring his two sons to see Jacob?
2. :2-22 What special thing does Jacob do for both Ephraim & Manasseh?
3. What would happen to the rest of Joseph's offspring?
4. What special thing does Jacob do for Ephraim?
5. Why does Jacob have the right to do this?
6. Did Joseph see this coming?
7. What would have been the result of this?
8. Why would Jacob have done these 2 things which would look so unfair to the rest of his family?
9. What does that tell you about life? What does that tell you about God?

Let's take a look at the part Ephraim and Manasseh will play in the future of Israel from this point on:

I know there are always many purposes in what God does...but just common sense tells me that at least one of them in this case is that Joseph is rewarded in this way because of what he had to endure in order to save his own family from extinction....and to bring the Messiah into our world.

"In the Beginning, God....."
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| The List of 12 tribes | In their original birth order (<i>Genesis 29&30 and Genesis 49</i>) | As they gathered around the tabernacle (<i>Numbers 2</i>) | As they settled in the land of Canaan (<i>Joshua 13-20</i>) | the 144,000 – (<i>Revelation 7:5-9</i>) | As they will someday settle in the Millennium (<i>Ezekiel 48</i>) |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| 1. Reuben – in all lists | Reuben | Reuben | Reuben | Reuben | Reuben |
| 2. Simeon – in all lists | Simeon | Simeon | Simeon | Simeon | Simeon |
| 3. Levi - Never included when the list had to do with inheritance of the land | Levi | | | Levi | |
| 4. Judah – in all lists | Judah | Judah | Judah | Judah | Judah |
| 5. Dan – absent from the 144,000. | Dan | Dan | Dan | | Dan |
| 6. Naphtali – in all lists | Naphtali | Naphtali | Naphtali | Naphtali | Naphtali |
| 7. Gad – in all lists | Gad | Gad | Gad | Gad | Gad |
| 8. Asher – in all lists | Asher | Asher | Asher | Asher | Asher |
| 9. Issachar – in all lists | Issachar | Issachar | Issachar | Issachar | Issachar |
| 10. Zebulun – in all lists | Zebulun | Zebulun | Zebulun | Zebulun | Zebulun |
| 11. Joseph – Ephraim and Manasseh split up his place as inheritors of land, but Joseph is included in the 144,000 | Joseph | | | Joseph | |
| 12. Benjamin – in all lists | Benjamin | Benjamin | Benjamin | Benjamin | Benjamin |
| 13. Ephraim – inherited Joseph's right to land – but is not included in the 144,000 | | Ephraim | Ephraim | | Ephraim |
| 14. – Manasseh – inherited Joseph's right to land – and is included in the 144,000. | | Manasseh | Manasseh | Manasseh | Manasseh |