

## Vayechi, Torah, January 7, 2023

Genesis 47:28-48:22

(28) Jacob lived seventeen years in the land of Egypt, so that the span of Jacob's life came to one hundred and forty-seven years. (29) And when the time approached for Israel to die, he summoned his son Joseph and said to him, "Do me this favor, place your hand under my thigh as a pledge of your steadfast loyalty: please do not bury me in Egypt. (30) When I lie down with my ancestors, take me up from Egypt and bury me in their burial-place." He replied, "I will do as you have spoken." (31) And he said, "Swear to me." And he swore to him. Then Israel bowed at the head of the bed. (1) Some time afterward, Joseph was told, "Your father is ill." So he took with him his two sons, Manasseh and Ephraim. (2) When Jacob was told, "Your son Joseph has come to

בראשית מ"ז:כ"ח-מ"ח:כ"ב  
(כח) וַיְחִי יַעֲקֹב בְּאֶרֶץ מִצְרַיִם  
שִׁבְעַת עֶשְׂרֵה שָׁנָה וַיְהִי יַמֵּי יַעֲקֹב  
שְׁנַיִם חֲמִיּוֹן שִׁבְעַת שָׁנִים וְאַרְבָּעִים  
וּמֵאֵת שָׁנָה: (כט) וַיִּקְרָבוּ  
יַמֵּי יִשְׂרָאֵל לָמוֹת וַיִּקְרָא אֵלָיו  
לְיוֹסֵף וַיֹּאמֶר לוֹ אִם-נָא מִצָּאתִי חַי  
בְּעֵינַיךָ שָׂים-נָא יָדְךָ תַּחַת יְרֵכִי  
וְעָשִׂיתָ עִמָּדִי חֶסֶד וְאָמַת אֶל-נְפֹשׁ  
תַּקְבְּרֵנִי בְּמִצְרַיִם: (ל) וְשָׁכַבְתִּי  
עִם-אֲבֹתַי וְנִשְׂאתָנִי מִמִּצְרַיִם  
וְקִבַּרְתָּנִי בְּקִבְרֹתָם וַיֹּאמֶר אָנֹכִי  
אֶעֱשֶׂה כְּדַבְּרֶךָ: (לא) וַיֹּאמֶר  
הַשִּׁבְעָה לִּי וַיִּשָּׁבַע לוֹ וַיִּשְׁתַּחוּ  
יִשְׂרָאֵל עַל-רֹאשׁ הַמִּטָּה: {פ} (א)  
וַיְהִי אַחֲרֵי הַדְּבָרִים הָאֵלֶּה וַיֹּאמֶר  
לְיוֹסֵף הִנֵּה אָבִיךָ חָלָה וַיִּקָּח  
אֶת-שְׁנֵי בָנָיו עִמּוֹ אֶת-מְנַשֶּׁשֶׁה

see you,” Israel summoned his strength and sat up in bed. (3) And Jacob said to Joseph, “El Shaddai, who appeared to me at Luz in the land of Canaan, blessed me— (4) and said to me, ‘I will make you fertile and numerous, making of you a community of peoples; and I will assign this land to your offspring to come for an everlasting possession.’ (5) Now, your two sons, who were born to you in the land of Egypt before I came to you in Egypt, shall be mine; Ephraim and Manasseh shall be mine no less than Reuben and Simeon. (6) But progeny born to you after them shall be yours; they shall be recorded instead of their brothers in their inheritance. (7) I [do this because], when I was returning from Paddan, Rachel died, to my sorrow, while I was journeying in the land of Canaan, when still some distance short of Ephrath; and I buried her there on the road to

וְאֶת־אֶפְרַיִם: (ב) וַיִּגַּד לְיַעֲקֹב וַיֹּאמֶר  
הִנֵּה בְנִי יוֹסֵף בָּא אֵלַי וַיִּתְחַזַּק  
יִשְׂרָאֵל וַיָּשָׁב עַל־הַמֶּטֶה: (ג) וַיֹּאמֶר  
יַעֲקֹב אֶל־יוֹסֵף אֵל שְׁדַי נִרְאָה־אֵלַי  
בְּלוֹז בְּאֶרֶץ כְּנָעַן וַיְבָרֶךְ אֹתִי: (ד)  
וַיֹּאמֶר אֵלַי הִנְנִי מִפְּרֹךְ וְהִרְבִּיתִךְ  
וַנְתַּתִּיךְ לְקָהָל עַמִּים וַנְתַּתִּי  
אֶת־הָאָרֶץ הַזֹּאת לְזֶרְעֶךָ אַחֲרֶיךָ  
אַחֲזֶת עוֹלָם: (ה) וְעַתָּה שְׁנֵי־בָנֶיךָ  
הַנּוֹלָדִים לְךָ בְּאֶרֶץ מִצְרַיִם עַד־בָּאִי  
אֵלַי מִצְרַיִמָּה לִי־הֵם אֶפְרַיִם  
וּמְנַשֶּׁה כִּרְאוּבֵן וְשִׁמְעוֹן יִהְיוּ־לִי: (ו)  
וּמוֹלַדְתֶּךָ אֲשֶׁר־הוֹלַדְתָּ אַחֲרֵיהֶם לְךָ  
יִהְיוּ עָלַי שֵׁם אַחֵיהֶם יִקְרָאוּ  
בְּנַחֲלָתָם: (ז) וְאֲנִי אֲבָאִי מִפְּדוֹן  
מִתָּה עָלַי רַחֵל בְּאֶרֶץ כְּנָעַן בְּדֶרֶךְ  
בְּעוֹד כְּבַרְת־אֶרֶץ לָבָא אֶפְרַתָּה  
וְאֶקְבְּרָהָ שָׁם בְּדֶרֶךְ אֶפְרַת הִוא  
בֵּית לָחֶם: (ח) וַיֵּרָא יִשְׂרָאֵל  
אֶת־בְּנֵי יוֹסֵף וַיֹּאמֶר מִי־אֵלֶּה: (ט)  
וַיֹּאמֶר יוֹסֵף אֶל־אָבִיו בְּנֵי הֵם

Ephrath”—now Bethlehem. (8)  
 Noticing Joseph’s sons, Israel asked,  
 “Who are these?” (9) And Joseph  
 said to his father, “They are my  
 sons, whom God has given me  
 here.” “Bring them up to me,” he  
 said, “that I may bless them.” (10)  
 Now Israel’s eyes were dim with age;  
 he could not see. So [Joseph]  
 brought them close to him, and he  
 kissed them and embraced them.  
 (11) And Israel said to Joseph, “I  
 never expected to see you again, and  
 here God has let me see your  
 children as well.” (12) Joseph then  
 removed them from his knees, and  
 bowed low with his face to the  
 ground. (13) Joseph took the two of  
 them, Ephraim with his right hand  
 —to Israel’s left—and Manasseh  
 with his left hand—to Israel’s right  
 —and brought them close to him.  
 (14) But Israel stretched out his right  
 hand and laid it on Ephraim’s head,  
 though he was the younger, and his  
 left hand on Manasseh’s head—thus

אֲשֶׁר-נָתַן-לִי אֱלֹהִים בְּזֶה וַיֹּאמֶר  
 קַח-נָא אֵלַי וְאֲבָרְכֶם: (י) וַעֲיִנַי  
 יִשְׂרָאֵל כָּבְדוּ מִזֶּקֶן לֹא יוּכַל  
 לְרֹאוֹת וַיִּגַּשׁ אֹתָם אֱלֹוֹ וַיִּשָּׂק לָהֶם  
 וַיַּחַבֵּק לָהֶם: (יא) וַיֹּאמֶר יִשְׂרָאֵל  
 אֶל-יוֹסֵף רְאֵה פָנַי לֹא פָלַתִּי  
 וְהִנֵּה הִרְאָה אֹתִי אֱלֹהִים גַּם  
 אֶת-זַרְעֶךָ: (יב) וַיֹּצֵא יוֹסֵף אֹתָם  
 מֵעַם בְּרַכְיוֹ וַיִּשְׁתַּחוּ לְאַפְיוֹ אֶרְצָה:  
 (יג) וַיִּקַּח יוֹסֵף אֶת-שְׁנֵיהֶם  
 אֶת-אֶפְרַיִם בְּיָמֵינוּ מִשְׁמָאל יִשְׂרָאֵל  
 וְאֶת-מְנַשֶּׁה בְּשֵׁמְאֵלוֹ מִיְמִין יִשְׂרָאֵל  
 וַיִּגַּשׁ אֱלֹוֹ: (יד) וַיִּשְׁלַח יִשְׂרָאֵל  
 אֶת-יָמֵינוּ וַיִּשֶׁת׀ עַל-רֹאשׁ אֶפְרַיִם  
 וְהוּא הִצָּעִיר וְאֶת-שְׁמָאלוֹ עַל-רֹאשׁ  
 מְנַשֶּׁה שְׁכַל אֶת-יָדָיו כִּי מְנַשֶּׁה  
 הַבְּכוֹר: (טו) וַיִּבְרַךְ אֶת-יוֹסֵף וַיֹּאמֶר  
 הָאֱלֹהִים אֲשֶׁר הִתְהַלְכִו אֲבֹתַי  
 לְפָנָיו אֲבָרְכֶם וַיְצַחֵק הָאֱלֹהִים  
 הָרַעָה אֹתִי מֵעוֹדִי עַד-הַיּוֹם הַזֶּה:  
 (טז) הַמִּלְאָךְ הַגָּאֵל אֹתִי מִכָּל-רָע

crossing his hands—although Manasseh was the first-born. (15) And he blessed Joseph, saying, “The God in whose ways my fathers Abraham and Isaac walked, The God who has been my shepherd from my birth to this day— (16) The Messenger who has redeemed me from all harm— Bless the lads. In them may my name be recalled, And the names of my fathers Abraham and Isaac, And may they be teeming multitudes upon the earth.” (17) When Joseph saw that his father was placing his right hand on Ephraim’s head, he thought it wrong; so he took hold of his father’s hand to move it from Ephraim’s head to Manasseh’s. (18) “Not so, Father,” Joseph said to his father, “for the other is the first-born; place your right hand on his head.” (19) But his father objected, saying, “I know, my son, I know. He too shall become a people, and he too shall be great. Yet his

וַיְבָרֵךְ אֶת־הַנְּעָרִים וַיִּקְרָא בָהֶם  
 שְׁמֵי וַיִּשֶׂם אֲבֹתָי אַבְרָהָם וַיִּצְחָק  
 וַיְדַגֵּן לָרֹב בְּקֶרֶב הָאָרֶץ: (יז) וַיֵּרָא  
 יוֹסֵף כִּי־יָשִׁית אָבִיו יְדָיִמֵינוּ  
 עַל־רֹאשׁ אֶפְרַיִם וַיִּרַע בְּעֵינָיו  
 וַיִּתְמַךְ יַד־אָבִיו לְהַסִּיר אֹתָהּ מֵעַל  
 רֹאשׁ־אֶפְרַיִם עַל־רֹאשׁ מְנַשֶּׁה: (יח)  
 וַיֹּאמֶר יוֹסֵף אֶל־אָבִיו לֹא־כֵן אָבִי  
 כִּי־זֶה הַבְּכֹר שָׁיִם יְמִינִךָ עַל־רֹאשׁוֹ:  
 (יט) וַיִּמָּאֵן אָבִיו וַיֹּאמֶר יַדְעָתִי בְנִי  
 יַדְעָתִי גַם־הִוא יִהְיֶה־לָּעַם וְגַם־הִוא  
 יִגְדֹל וְאוֹלָם אַחֲיוּ הַקָּטָן יִגְדֹל מִמֶּנּוּ  
 וְזָרְעוֹ יִהְיֶה מְלֹא־הַגּוֹיִם: (כ)  
 וַיְבָרְכֶם בַּיּוֹם הַהוּא לֵאמֹר בְּךָ  
 יְבָרֵךְ יִשְׂרָאֵל לֵאמֹר יִשְׁמַךְ אֱלֹהִים  
 כָּאֶפְרַיִם וְכַמְנַשֶּׁה וַיִּשֶׂם אֶת־אֶפְרַיִם  
 לְפָנָי מְנַשֶּׁה: (כא) וַיֹּאמֶר יִשְׂרָאֵל  
 אֶל־יוֹסֵף הִנֵּה אָנֹכִי מֵת וְהָיָה  
 אֱלֹהִים עִמָּכֶם וְהֵשִׁיב אֶתְכֶם  
 אֶל־אָרֶץ אֲבֹתֵיכֶם: (כב) וַאֲנִי נִתְתִּי  
 לָךְ שְׁכֶם אֶחָד עַל־אֲחִיךָ אֲשֶׁר

younger brother shall be greater than he, and his offspring shall be plentiful enough for nations.” (20) So he blessed them that day, saying, “By you shall Israel invoke blessings, saying: God make you like Ephraim and Manasseh.” Thus he put Ephraim before Manasseh. (21) Then Israel said to Joseph, “I am about to die; but God will be with you and bring you back to the land of your ancestors. (22) And now, I assign to you one portion more than to your brothers, which I wrested from the Amorites with my sword and bow.”

לְקַחְתִּי מִיַּד הָאֲמֹרִי בְּחַרְבִּי  
וּבְקִשְׁתִּי: {פ}