

TORAH, GOD'S INSTRUCTIONS
GENESIS 48 - BLESSING OF EPHRAIM, MANASSEH AND JOSEPH,
GENESIS 49 - PROPHECIES OF THE 12 TRIBES OF ISRAEL,
GENESIS 50 - THE DEATH OF JACOB AND JOSEPH

Say - Welcome to Sabbath School class. Let's bow our head and ask God for understanding as we continue our study of Jacob/Israel, Joseph and his family and the New Jerusalem. It is important to remember God is working out all the details of which you play a part in this great story because you are a follower of God and have learned to be governed or led by Him here on earth.

Genesis 48

Say - Verses 1-20 are of the blessing of Joseph, Ephraim and Manasseh by Jacob.

¹And it came to pass after these things, that one told Joseph, Behold, thy father is sick: and he took with him his two sons, Manasseh and Ephraim.

²And one told Jacob, and said, Behold, thy son Joseph cometh unto thee: and Israel strengthened himself, and sat upon the bed.

³And Jacob said unto Joseph, God Almighty (El Shaddai, the God who sustaineth) appeared unto me at Luz in the land of Canaan, and blessed me (Luz is the Canaanite name but is also called Bethel which means house of God), ⁴And said unto me, Behold, I will make thee fruitful, and multiply thee, and I will make of thee a multitude of people; and will give this land to thy seed (descendants) after thee for an everlasting possession (This covenant which Jacob gave to Joseph is a repeat of the everlasting covenant which God gave to Abraham and was passed on to Isaac and Jacob.

Here is what the covenant said, "¹And when Abram was ninety years old and nine, the LORD appeared to Abram, and said unto him, I am the Almighty God; walk before me, and be thou perfect. ²And I will make my covenant between me and thee, and will multiply thee exceedingly. ³And Abram fell on his face: and God talked with him, saying, ⁴As for me, behold, my covenant is with thee, and thou shalt be a father of many nations. ⁵Neither shall thy name any more be called Abram, but thy name shall be Abraham; for a father of many nations have I made thee. ⁶And I will make thee exceeding fruitful, and I will make nations of thee, and kings shall come out of thee. ⁷And I will establish my covenant between me and thee and thy seed after thee in their generations for an everlasting covenant, to be a God unto thee, and to thy seed (descendants) after thee (would be with every generation until the end of time). ⁸And I will give unto thee, and to thy seed after thee, the land wherein thou art a stranger, all the land of Canaan, for an everlasting possession (not only a physical covenant but a spiritual covenant which none have seen yet but will in the future when Christ returns and they are resurrected in the first resurrection, Hebrews 11:13.); and I will be their God. ⁹And God said unto

Abraham, Thou shalt keep my covenant therefore, thou, and thy seed after thee in their generations "Genesis 17:1-9.).

Say - Back to Genesis 48

⁵And now thy two sons, Ephraim and Manasseh (which formed two tribes in Israel), which were born unto thee in the land of Egypt before I came unto thee into Egypt, are mine; as Reuben and Simeon, they shall be mine.

⁶And thy issue, which thou begetteth after them, shall be thine, and shall be called after the name of their brethren in their inheritance (Please read, "¹Now the sons of Reuben the firstborn of Israel, (for he was the firstborn; but forasmuch as he defiled his father's bed, his birthright was given unto the sons of Joseph the son of Israel: and the genealogy is not to be reckoned after the birthright. ²For Judah prevailed above his brethren, and of him came the chief ruler; but the birthright was Joseph's" I Chronicles 5:1-2).

⁷And as for me, when I came from Padan, Rachel died by me in the land of Canaan in the way, when yet there was but a little way to come unto Ephrath: and I buried her there in the way of Ephrath; the same is Bethlehem (Rachel died in Genesis 35:19).

⁸And Israel beheld Joseph's sons, and said, Who are these? ⁹And Joseph said unto his father, They are my sons, whom God hath given me in this place. And he said, Bring them, I pray thee, unto me, and I will bless them (The same blessing as was passed on from Abraham to Isaac to Jacob and to Joseph and now to Ephraim and Manasseh.).

¹⁰Now the eyes of Israel were dim for age, so that he could not see. And he brought them near unto him; and he kissed them, and embraced them.

¹¹And Israel said unto Joseph, I had not thought to see thy face: and, lo, God hath shewed me also thy seed.

¹²And Joseph brought them out from between his knees, and he bowed himself with his face to the earth.

(Always remember God is inspiring all of these actions.) ¹³And Joseph took them both, Ephraim in his right hand toward Israel's left hand, and Manasseh in his left hand toward Israel's right hand, and brought them near unto him.

¹⁴And Israel stretched out his right hand, and laid it upon Ephraim's head, who was the younger, and his left hand upon Manasseh's head, guiding his hands wittingly (knowingly for was directed by God); for Manasseh was the firstborn.

¹⁵And he blessed Joseph, and said, God (My Shepherd), before whom my fathers Abraham and Isaac did walk, the God which fed me all my life long unto this day,

¹⁶The Angel (This is Christ for an angel does not "bless" or "redeem" anyone) which redeemed me from all evil, bless the lads; and let my name be named on them, (Why? Because I am adopting them as my own sons.) and the name of my fathers Abraham and Isaac; and let them grow into a multitude in the midst of the earth (Ephraim and Manasseh are part of the House of Israel or part of the 12 tribes of Israel) ¹⁷And when Joseph saw that his father laid his right hand upon the head of Ephraim, it displeased him: and he held up his father's hand, to remove it from Ephraim's head unto Manasseh's head.

¹⁸And Joseph said unto his father, Not so, my father: for this is the firstborn; put thy right hand upon his head (This was not an appropriate action on Joseph's part because this was done by the hand of God.).

¹⁹And his father refused, and said, I know it, my son, I know it: he also shall become a people, and he also shall be great: but truly his younger brother shall be greater than he, and his seed shall become a multitude of nations (This is Jacob's faith overcoming the will of man. God was in charge of all things.).

²⁰And he blessed them that day, saying, In thee shall Israel bless, saying, God make thee as Ephraim and as Manasseh: and he set Ephraim before Manasseh.

²¹And Israel said unto Joseph, Behold, I die: but God shall be with you, and bring you again unto the land of your fathers (The land of Canaan, the Promised Land which represents the Kingdom of God.).

²²Moreover I have given to thee one portion above thy brethren (double portion of the firstborn to Joseph because Reuben had forfeited it), which I took out of the hand of the Amorite with my sword and with my bow (Both Abraham and Jacob bought property at Shechem, Genesis 23:17, Genesis 33:18-19 but the Amorite had taken the land and Jacob had recovered it because God fought for them. God said don't touch my holy people even though there will be persecution to come in the future.).

Genesis 49

Say - Verses 1-28 are of the 2nd portion of the blessings of all Jacob's sons. This is also a prophecy of God's people and the future of all mankind.

¹And Jacob called unto his sons, and said, Gather yourselves together, that I may tell you that which shall befall you in the last days (The end times as we discussed in the last lesson; God will never leave His people.).

²Gather yourselves together, and hear, ye sons of Jacob; and hearken unto Israel your father.

Say - Verses 3-15 are of Leah's sons she birthed to Jacob.

³Reuben, thou art my firstborn, my might, and the beginning of my strength (Jacob's firstfruit), the excellency of dignity, and the excellency of power: ⁴Unstable as water, thou shalt not excel; because thou wentest up to thy father's bed; then defiledst thou it: he went up to my couch (What kind of son would do this? No judge, prophet nor ruler came from this tribe.).

⁵Simeon and Levi are brethren; instruments of cruelty are in their habitations (These brothers are always together but into mischief.). ⁶O my soul, come not thou into their secret (counsel); unto their assembly, mine honour, be not thou united: for in their anger they slew a man, and in their selfwill they digged down a wall (anger controlled Simeon and Levi). ⁷Cursed be their anger, for it was fierce; and their wrath, for it was cruel: (so) I will divide them in Jacob, and scatter them in Israel (Levi had cities allotted to them, Joshua 21, but Simeon was guilty of the worst idolatry and would not change and so were "scattered").

⁸Judah, thou art he whom thy brethren shall praise: thy hand shall be in the neck of thine enemies; thy father's children shall bow down before thee. ⁹Judah is a lion's whelp: from the prey, my son, thou art gone up: he stooped down, he couched as a lion, and as an old lion; who shall rouse him up (who will stop him)?

¹⁰The sceptre (rod of a King, Jesus Christ) shall not depart from Judah, nor a lawgiver from between his feet, until Shiloh come ("The sceptre shall not depart from Judah" until the people obey Christ and His enemies be subdued; He shall rule over many people. This belongs to the Messiah which means gift of God, Jesus Christ, for He came from the tribe of Judah and He will set up His Kingdom when He returns and will rule the earth forever, Revelation 11:15. In this verse the word "kingdom" means government.); and unto him shall the gathering of the people be.

¹¹Binding his foal unto the vine, and his ass's colt unto the choice vine; he washed his garments in wine, and his clothes in the blood of grapes: ¹²His eyes shall be red with wine, and his teeth white with milk.

¹³Zebulun shall dwell at the haven of the sea; and he shall be for an haven of ships; and his border shall be unto Zidon (Would be active in sea trade and commerce).

¹⁴Issachar is a strong ass couching down between two burdens: ¹⁵And he saw that rest was good, and the land that it was pleasant (in the midst of the Canaanites, was into farming); and bowed his shoulder to bear, and became a servant unto tribute (paid tribute to the Canaanites instead of expelling them from the land as God had directed.).

Say - Verses 16-18 are of Bilhah's son.

¹⁶Dan shall judge his people, as one of the tribes of Israel. ¹⁷Dan shall be a serpent by the way, an adder in the path, that biteth the horse heels, so that his rider shall fall

backward (The first tribe to go into idolatry, an expert on magic and superstition.). ¹⁸I have waited for thy salvation, O LORD.

Say - Gad and Asher are the sons of Zilpah in verses 19 and 20 below.

¹⁹Gad, a troop shall overcome him: but he shall overcome at the last (This tribe had many battles but won most of them.).

²⁰Out of Asher his bread shall be fat, and he shall yield royal dainties (Asher would be blessed for they lived on the seacoast and produced the best corn and oil in Canaan.).

Say - Bilhah's son Naphtali.

²¹Naphtali is a hind let loose (roams at liberty): he giveth goodly words (lived in a very fertile territory and rich pasture land).

Say - Verses 22-27 are of Rachel's two sons, Joseph and Benjamin.

²²Joseph is a fruitful bough, even a fruitful bough by a well; whose branches run over the wall: ²³The archers have sorely grieved him, and shot at him, and hated him: ²⁴But his bow abode in strength, and the arms of his hands were made strong by the hands of the mighty God of Jacob; (from thence is the shepherd, the stone of Israel ("...Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone" Ephesians 2:20, I Peter 2:6.):

²⁵Even by the God of thy father, who shall help thee; and by the Almighty, who shall bless thee with blessings of heaven above, blessings of the deep that lieth under, blessings of the breasts, and of the womb: ²⁶The blessings of thy father have prevailed above the blessings of my progenitors unto the utmost bound of the everlasting hills: they shall be on the head of Joseph, and on the crown of the head of him that was separate (set apart) from his brethren (Joseph triumphed over all opposition that came his way and he became the "life-giver" of Israel. He gave many blessings to his sons, Ephraim and Manasseh and our world has been blessed by these two tribes all down through history.).

²⁷Benjamin shall ravin as a wolf: in the morning he shall devour the prey, and at night he shall divide the spoil (Benjamin spent a lot of time in war and almost destroyed the tribe but it became part of the southern Kingdom of Judah.).

²⁸All these are the twelve tribes of Israel: and this is it that their father spake unto them, and blessed them; every one according to his blessing he blessed them.

²⁹And he charged them, and said unto them, I am to be gathered unto my people (Jacob died believing as Abraham and Isaac in the true God): bury me with my fathers in the cave that is in the field of Ephron the Hittite,

³⁰In the cave that is in the field of Machpelah, which is before Mamre, in the land of Canaan, which Abraham bought with the field of Ephron the Hittite for a possession of a buryingplace (Genesis 23:19).

³¹There they buried Abraham and Sarah his wife; there they buried Isaac and Rebekah his wife; and there I buried Leah.

³²The purchase of the field and of the cave that is therein was from the children of Heth.

³³And when Jacob had made an end of commanding his sons, he gathered up his feet into the bed, and yielded up the ghost (breathed his last breath, died), and was gathered unto his people (147 years old).

Genesis 50

¹And Joseph fell upon his father's face, and wept upon him, and kissed him.

²And Joseph commanded his servants the physicians to embalm his father: and the physicians embalmed Israel.

³And forty days were fulfilled for him; for so are fulfilled the days of those which are embalmed: and the Egyptians mourned for him threescore and ten days.

⁴And when the days of his mourning were past, Joseph spake unto the house of Pharaoh, saying, If now I have found grace (favor) in your eyes, speak, I pray you, in the ears of Pharaoh, saying,

⁵My father made me swear, saying, Lo, I die: in my grave which I have digged for me in the land of Canaan, there shalt thou bury me. Now therefore let me go up, I pray thee, and bury my father, and I will come again.

⁶And Pharaoh said, Go up, and bury thy father, according as he made thee swear.

⁷And Joseph went up to bury his father (This was a journey of 300 miles.): and with him went up all the servants of Pharaoh, the elders of his house, and all the elders of the land of Egypt (Tremendous respect for Jacob for God had said, "I will go with you" and God was directing all things.),

⁸And all the house of Joseph, and his brethren, and his father's house: only their little ones, and their flocks, and their herds, they left in the land of Goshen.

⁹And there went up with him both chariots and horsemen: and it was a very great company.

¹⁰And they came to the threshingfloor of Atad, which is beyond Jordan, and there they mourned with a great and very sore lamentation: and he made a mourning for his father seven days.

¹¹And when the inhabitants of the land, the Canaanites, saw the mourning in the floor of Atad, they said, This is a grievous mourning to the Egyptians: wherefore the name of it was called Abelmizraim, which is beyond Jordan.

¹²And his sons did unto him according as he commanded them:

¹³For his sons carried him into the land of Canaan, and buried him in the cave of the field of Machpelah, which Abraham bought with the field for a possession of a buryingplace of Ephron the Hittite, before Mamre.

¹⁴And Joseph returned into Egypt, he, and his brethren, and all that went up with him to bury his father, after he had buried his father.

¹⁵And when Joseph's brethren saw that their father was dead, they said, Joseph will peradventure hate us, and will certainly requite us all the evil which we did unto him (At this point in time, can you imagine the brothers thinking this; the brothers had no faith that they had been forgiven? Some people think this about Christ which is a carnal mind or human reasoning.).

¹⁶And they sent a messenger unto Joseph, saying, Thy father did command before he died, saying,

¹⁷So shall ye say unto Joseph, Forgive, I pray thee now, the trespass of thy brethren, and their sin; for they did unto thee evil: and now, we pray thee, forgive the trespass of the servants of the God of thy father. And Joseph wept when they spake unto him (Joseph could not believe this is how his brothers felt. He had shown and told them they were forgiven. We must forget and forgive ourselves as if the sin never happened. Joseph was a type of Christ for he through God saved the 12 tribes of Israel.).

¹⁸And his brethren also went and fell down before his face; and they said, Behold, we be thy servants (The brothers still did not get it that they are forgiven.).

¹⁹And Joseph said unto them, Fear not: for am I in the place of God (means I fear God)?

²⁰But as for you, ye thought evil against me; but God meant it unto good, to bring to pass, as it is this day, to save much people alive (The end result all directed by God was worth it. Everything which has been done to us is used by God as a tool to turn us to Him. Paul says all the evil and pain we go through is nothing compared to the glory that awaits us. Just as Jesus said when He was on the stake, "I forgive them for they know not what they do"; that is what we must learn to feel and say to others. That is not human nature; this is Godly Nature and that is what we must have as we take up our burden in our lives and follow Christ.).

²¹Now therefore fear ye not: I will nourish you, and your little ones. And he comforted them (This is what God does our Good Shepherd, He comforts His people), and spake kindly unto them (This describes a repentant heart the very nature

of God; this is what our goal should be as a follower of God for while we were in our sins Christ died for us).

²²And Joseph dwelt in Egypt, he, and his father's house: and Joseph lived an hundred and ten years.

²³And Joseph saw Ephraim's children of the third generation: the children also of Machir the son of Manasseh were brought up upon Joseph's knees.

²⁴And Joseph said unto his brethren, I die: and God will surely visit you, and bring you out of this land unto the land which he sware to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob (Shows the faith of Joseph and believed God would do what He had said.).

²⁵And Joseph took an oath of the children of Israel, saying, God will surely visit you, and ye shall carry up my bones from hence.

²⁶So Joseph died (in peace, reconciled with his brothers), being an hundred and ten years old: and they embalmed him, and he was put in a coffin in Egypt.

Say - Do we see all of God's laws which were broken and yet reconciliation came about because God was orchestrating or directing everything from beginning to end. God grants us all many experiences in life which leads to repentance so we realize what forgiveness means. We have to know and realize what we have done to others to produce the end result of a divine person when Christ returns for His people.

Say - And now one more very important prophetic item to leave you with concerning the 12 tribes of Israel. We will go to the book of Revelation. Please read the following very Good News:

Revelation 21

Say - The New Jerusalem comes down to earth after 1100 years which includes the millennium of 1000 years and 100 years pictured by the Holy Day called The Last Great Day. In Revelation 21 is a vision God gave to John over 2000 years ago of the New Jerusalem descending to earth with God. This happens 100 years after the 2nd resurrection when all the nations will learn the truth of God for the very first time!! How can we be in this great Family of God? By obeying God on earth now as Abraham, Isaac, Jacob and Joseph did. The Bible tells us "Abraham believed God"... James 2:23; we must believe Him also. Abraham, Isaac, Jacob and Joseph were willing to submit and be governed by God here on earth and just like them we must do the same thing. Then, like them,

we will be in the first resurrection and be in the Kingdom of God and be a part of the Divine Family of God.

¹And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea (All will be spiritual so no need for seas, etc.).

²And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband (This is the city Abraham, Isaac and Jacob were looking for. The Bible tells us, "¹⁰For he looked for a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God" Hebrews 11:10; this is the ultimate promise. Realize God will make all things new after the earth is purged and cleansed with fire.! Here is what the Bible says, "¹²Looking for and hasting unto the coming of the day of God, wherein the heavens being on fire shall be dissolved, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat? "¹³Nevertheless we, according to his promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness" 2 Peter 3:12-13).

³And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God.

⁴And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away (The world totally free of bondage; happy ever after.).

⁵And he that sat upon the throne said, Behold, I make all things new. And he said unto me, Write: for these words are true and faithful (A national renewal of the entire world.).

⁶And he said unto me, It is done. I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end. I will give unto him that is athirst of the fountain of the water of life freely. ⁷He that overcometh shall inherit all things; and I will be his God, and he shall be my son (This is the end of God's plan pictured by the Holy Day called Last Great Day.).

⁹And there came unto me one of the seven angels which had the seven vials full of the seven last plagues, and talked with me, saying, **Come hither, I will shew thee the bride, the Lamb's wife.** (Over 2000 years ago God is showing John in vision who His wife is and they are the 12 tribes of Israel; please read on.)

¹⁰And he carried me away in the spirit to a great and high mountain, and shewed me that great city, the holy Jerusalem, descending out of heaven from God,

¹¹Having the glory of God: and her light was like unto a stone most precious, even like a jasper stone, clear as crystal (symbolic of the righteousness of God);

¹²And had a wall great and high, and had twelve gates, and at the gates twelve angels, and names written thereon, which are the names of the twelve tribes of the children of Israel: (not a gentile or man-made religion or church)

¹³On the east three gates; on the north three gates; on the south three gates; and on the west three gates (just like in the wilderness). ¹⁴And the wall of the city had twelve foundations, and in them the names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb (all Israelites, no pagan religion but God's only).

²²And I saw no temple therein: for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are the temple of it (Those who were resurrected in the first resurrection will be part of the temple of God for the Bible tells us "Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the second death hath no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ and shall reign (rule) with him a 1000 years" Revelation 20:6).

²³And the city had no need of the sun, neither of the moon, to shine in it: for the glory of God did lighten it, and the Lamb is the light thereof (And those resurrected in the first resurrection shall shine also for we are told "¹Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God: therefore the world knoweth us not, because it knew him not. ²Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is" I John 1:2.).

²⁴And the nations ("nations" means children from the 2nd resurrection after the 1000 years, Revelation 20:5) of them which are saved shall walk in the light of it: and the kings of the earth do bring their glory and honour into it (the children will be reunited with their families and those "which are saved" in the 2nd resurrection will all come to worship God, Christ and His Bride).

Say - The remainder of the chapter goes on to describe the New Jerusalem which I would recommend you read and study but the important thing to remember is it is the Holy City in Jerusalem with God the Father and Jesus Christ on earth with their Bride!

Say - I hope you have enjoyed the book of Genesis as much as I had preparing the lessons for you. Now we will move on to the second book in the Torah, Exodus.

MEMORY VERSE

Blessed are they that do his commandments,
that they may have right to the tree of life,
and may enter in through the gates into the city.

REVELATION 22:14

(Remember the "gates" carry the names of the 12 tribes of Israel
Revelation 21:12)

BELOW IS THE SABBATH SCHOOL LESSON FOR TOTS AND YOUTH

BLESSING OF JOSEPH, EPHRAIM AND MANASSEH
THE FUTURE OF THE 12 TRIBES OF ISRAEL
THE DEATH OF JACOB/ISRAEL AND JOSEPH

JOSEPH YOUR FATHER, ISRAEL, IS SICK. JOSEPH TOOK HIS TWO SONS, EPHRAIM AND MANASSEH, TO SEE HIM. JACOB SAT UP IN BED AND SAID, "GOD CAME TO ME IN CANAAN AND BLESSED ME AND TOLD ME I WOULD BE FRUITFUL AND I WILL GIVE THIS LAND TO YOUR DESCENDANTS AS AN EVERLASTING POSSESSION."

ISRAEL CONTINUED, "YOUR TWO SONS, EPHRAIM AND MANASSEH WERE BORN TO YOU IN EGYPT JOSEPH BUT I WANT THEM AS MY OWN SONS." "I WANT MY BIRTHRIGHT TO GO TO YOUR SONS FOR REBEN, MY FIRST BORN, HAS LOST IT BECAUSE OF SIN." SO THE BIRTHRIGHT WENT TO JOSEPH IN A DOUBLE PORTION.

"BRING YOUR SONS TO ME AND I WILL BLESS THEM" ISRAEL SAID. HE KISSED THE TWO BOYS AND HUGGED THEM AND "STRETCHED OUT HIS RIGHT HAND TO EPHRAIM'S HEAD WHO WAS THE YOUNGER BROTHER AND HIS LEFT HAND UPON MANASSEH'S HEAD." ALL OF THIS WAS DIRECTED BY THE HAND OF GOD.

SOON ISRAEL BLESSED JOSEPH AND SAID, "GOD, MY SHEPHERD, BEFORE WHOM ABRAHAM AND ISAAC WALKED, MY GOD WHO FED ME ALL MY LIFE AND REDEEMED OR DELIVERED ME FROM SIN, BLESS THE BOYS AND LET MY NAME BE UPON THEM." "LET THEM GROW INTO A MULTITUDE UPON THE EARTH." "THE YOUNGER BROTHER, EPHRAIM, SHALL BE GREATER THAN MANASSEH."

ISRAEL SAID TO JOSEPH, "I DIE, BUT GOD BE WITH YOU AND BRING YOU AGAIN TO THE LAND OF CANAAN", THE PROMISED LAND WHICH IS SYMBOLIC OF THE KINGDOM OF GOD.

SOON ISRAEL CALLED ALL OF HIS SONS TOGETHER SO HE COULD TELL THEM WHAT WOULD HAPPEN TO THEM IN THE LAST DAYS.

REUBEN, ISRAEL'S FIRST BORN WOULD NOT PRODUCE A JUDGE OR A PROPHET NOR A RULER FROM THIS TRIBE FOR THEY WERE "UNSTABLE AS WATER".

SIMEON AND LEVI WERE ALWAYS INTO MISCHIEF BECAUSE OF THEIR UNCONTROLABLE ANGER. LEVI HAD CITIES ALLOTTED TO HIM BUT SIMEON WAS GUILTY OF THE WORST IDOLATRY WHICH IS THE WORSHIP OF FALSE GODS AND WERE SCATTERED THROUGHOUT THE LAND.

JUDAH IS THE TRIBE JESUS CHRIST CAME FROM AND ALSO KING DAVID. WHEN CHRIST RETURNS FOR HIS PEOPLE, HE WILL SET UP HIS KINGDOM AND WITH DAVID WILL RULE THE WORLD FOREVER IN PEACE.

ZEBULUM WOULD LIVE BY THE SEA AND WITH MANY SHIPS WOULD BE ACTIVE IN SEA TRADE AND COMMERCE.

ISSACHAR WAS INTO FARMING AND AGRICULTURE AND JOINED THE CANAANITES INSTEAD OF EXPELLING THEM FROM THE LAND.

DAN WENT INTO IDOLATRY, THE WORSHIP OF FALSE GODS WHICH WERE NOT GODS AND WAS AN EXPERT ON MAGIC AND SUPERSTITION.

GAD FOUGHT IN MANY BATTLES AND WON MOST OF THEM.

ASHER LIVED ON THE SEACOAST AND HAD THE BEST CORN AND OIL IN THE LAND OF CANAAN.

NAPHTALI ROAMED AT LIBERTY AND LIVED IN A VERY FERTILE TERRITORY WITH RICH PASTURELAND.

JOSEPH WAS A FRUITFUL SON AND WAS DIVINE IN NATURE OR LIKE GOD FOR HE WAS "MADE STRONG BY THE HAND OF THE MIGHTY GOD OF JACOB". JOSEPH TRIUMPHED OVER ALL OPPOSITION WHICH CAME HIS WAY AND HE BECAME THE "LIFE-GIVER" OF ISRAEL WHICH WAS DIRECTED BY GOD'S DIVINE

GUIDANCE. JOSEPH HAD TWO SONS, EPHRAIM AND MANESSEH AND OUR WORLD HAS BEEN BLESSED GREATLY BY THESE TWO TRIBES ALL DOWN THROUGH HISTORY.

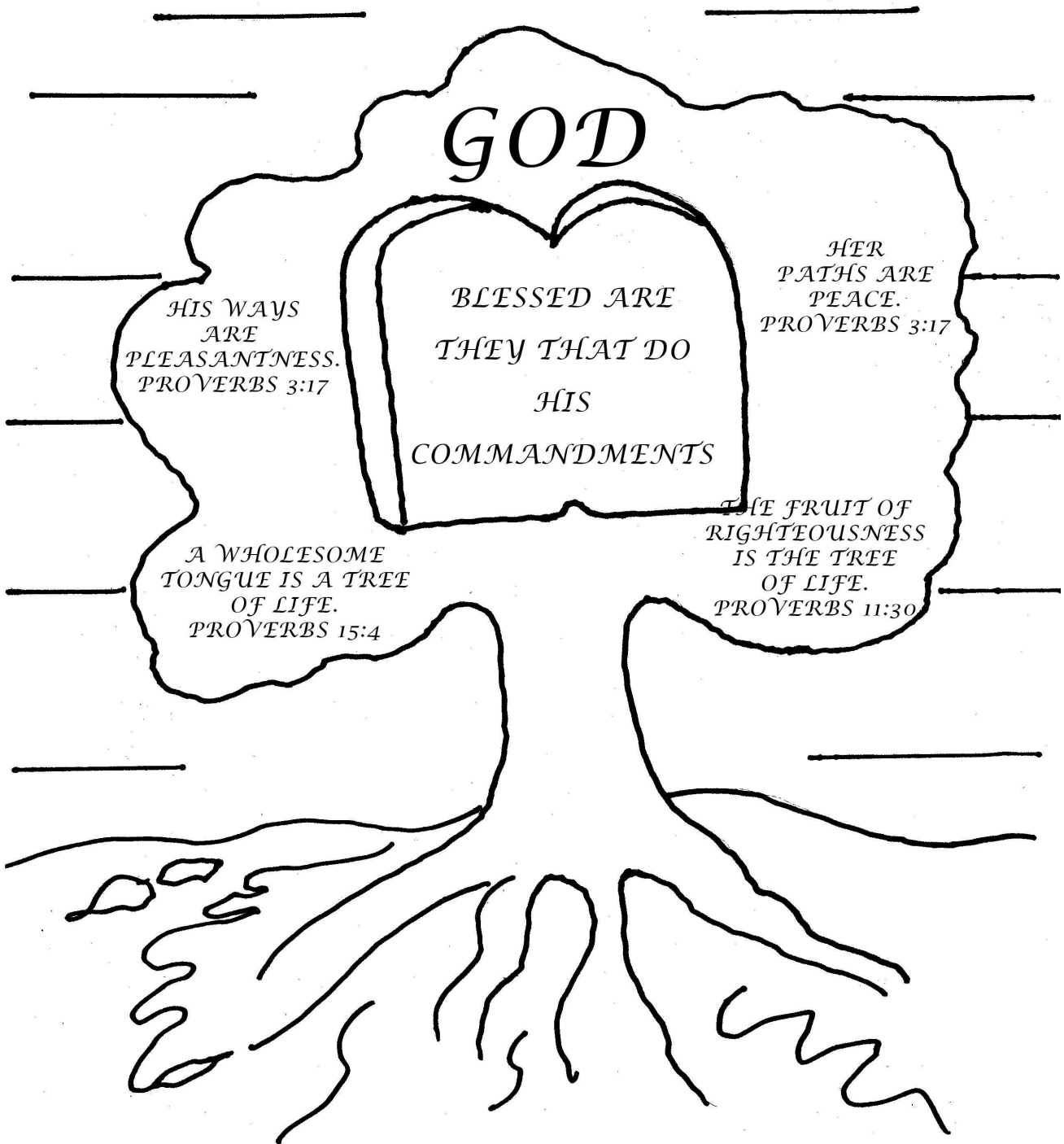
BENJAMIN SPENT A LOT OF TIME IN WAR AND ALMOST DESTROYED THE TRIBE. BENJAMIN WAS PART OF THE SOUTHERN KINGDOM OF JUDAH.

ISRAEL SPOKE UNTO EACH ONE AND BLESSED THEM AND TOLD THEM HE WANTED TO BE BURIED WITH HIS FATHERS ABRAHAM AND ISAAC. ISRAEL DIED BELIEVING AS ABRAHAM AND ISAAC IN THE ONE TRUE GOD. ISRAEL WAS 147 YEARS OLD AT THE TIME OF HIS DEATH. THE FAMILY TOOK HIM BACK TO CANAAN AND THEY MOURNED GREATLY FOR THEIR FATHER 7 DAYS.

JOSEPH AND HIS BROTHERS WENT BACK TO EGYPT AND JOSPEH COMFORTED HIS BROTHERS AND FAMILIES JUST LIKE THE GOOD SHEPHERD AND SPOKE KINDLY TO THEM. JOSEPH LIVED 110 YEARS AND HE WANTED TO BE BURIED WHERE ABRAHAM, ISAAC AND JACOB WERE BURIED IN THE LAND OF CANAAN.

IN THE FUTURE, AFTER 1100 YEARS WHICH INCLUDES THE 1000 YEAR REIGN OF CHRIST ON THIS EARTH PLUS 100 YEARS OF THE LAST GREAT DAY, THE NEW JERUSALEM WILL COME DOWN FROM HEAVEN WITH GOD AND THE NEW CITY WILL HAVE ON THE TWELVE GATES THE NAMES OF THE TWELVE TRIBES OF ISRAEL. ON THE FOUNDATION WILL BE THE NAMES OF CHIRST'S DISCIPLES. IT IS A GOOD FUTURE FOR THE 12 TRIBES OF ISRAEL OF WHICH YOU ARE A PART.

ON THE PICTURE BELOW, WRITE THE NAMES OF THE TWELVE TRIBES OF ISRAEL ON THE LINES AROUND THE TREE OF LIFE.



THAT THEY MAY HAVE RIGHT TO THE TREE OF LIFE
AND MAY ENTER INTO THROUGH THE GATES INTO
THE CITY.
REVELATION 22:14