

Text: Genesis 48

Title: Wisdom From A Deathbed

Opening Reading: 48:1-7

3 Pieces of Wisdom You Need For Your Last Day

1. The primary identity of a believer is: child of God.

- Summary of vv. 1-7
 - God's promises reaffirmed (3, 4; Genesis 12:1-2)
 - Joseph's sons are adopted as sons of Jacob (5-6)
- Reminders throughout:
 - To promises (4, 21)
 - To heritage/homeland (3, 4, 6, 7, 15, 16, 21, 22)
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- The point: Frequent reminders of who we are in God's sight guard us from temptation
- Ephesians 5:1

2. Grace belongs to God

[Second reading: vv. 8-20]

- Summary of 8-22
 - Jacob blesses the younger son of Joseph over the older (14-16)
 - Joseph is initially displeased by this, but Jacob confirms and completes the blessing of the younger over the older (17-20)
- God frequently subverts human standards and priorities:
 - To remove our ground for boasting (1 Corinthians 1:26-31)
 - To test how much of our "self" has been mixed into our faith

3. We should learn from and admire the faith of older saints

- Remember Jacob's life: schemer, deceiver, great suffering and loneliness
- See the outcome of his life: Faithful, confident in God's promises, rejoicing in God (3, 5, 11, 15, 16, 19, 21-22)
- Application:
 - To the young: put yourself in situations where seasoned believers can influence you
 - To older saints: show us how to prioritize the word