



## Gen 47:28-50:26 *Vayechi* Expanded Chiasm

**1A) 47:28-31** And Jacob lived in the land of Egypt seventeen years; so the days of Jacob, the years of his life, were a hundred and forty-seven years. **29** And the time drew near that Israel must die; and he called his son Joseph, and said to him: If now I have found favor in your sight, put, I pray you, your hand under my thigh, and deal kindly and truly with me; bury me not, I pray you, in Egypt. **30** But when I sleep with my fathers, you shall carry me out of Egypt, and bury me in their burial place. And he said: I will do as you have said. **31** And he said: Swear to me. And he swore to him. And Israel bowed down upon the bed's head [i.e., **JACOB'S REQUEST** that his bones are taken up from Egypt]; {p}

**1B.1) 48:1A** And it came to pass after these things, that one said to Joseph: Behold, **YOUR FATHER IS SICK**;

**1B.2) 48:1B-2** And he took with him his two sons, Manasseh and Ephraim. And one told Jacob, and said: Behold, **YOUR SON JOSEPH COMES TO YOU**. And Israel strengthened himself, and sat upon the bed;

**1B.3) 48:3-6 JACOB'S COMMAND TO JOSEPH:** Your two sons, Ephraim and Manasseh, shall be mine, even as Reuben and Simeon;

**1a) 48:3-5** Your two sons, **Ephraim and Manasseh**, shall be mine, even as Reuben and Simeon;

**1a) 48:3-4a** And Jacob said to Joseph: God Almighty appeared to me at Luz in the land of Canaan, and blessed me, **4** and said to me: Behold, ***I will make you fruitful, and multiply you***, and I will make of you a company of peoples;

**central axis) 48:4b** *And will give this land to your seed after you for an everlasting possession*;

**2a) 48:5** And now ***your two sons***, who were born to you in the land of Egypt before I came to you into Egypt, ***are mine; Ephraim and Manasseh***, even as Reuben and Simeon, shall be mine;

**central axis) 48:6a** **And your children, that you beget after them, shall be yours**;

**1a) 48:6b** They [**Ephraim and Manasseh**] shall be called after the name of their brothers in their inheritance;

**1C) 48:7** And as for me, when I came from Paddan, **RACHEL DIED** to me in the land of Canaan in the way, when there was still some way to come to Ephrath; **AND I BURIED HER** there in the way to Ephrath—the same is Bethlehem;

**1D) 48:8-20** The **GREAT MULTITUDE** of Ephraim and Manasseh;

**1a) 48:8-12** The **two sons of Joseph** brought near to Israel that he might **bless them**;

**1a.1) 48:8-9a** And Israel beheld Joseph's sons, and said: **Who are these?** 9  
And Joseph said to his father: They are my sons, whom God has given  
me here;

**1a.2) 48:9b** And he said: **Bring them**, I pray you, **to me**;

**central axis) 48:9c** And I will bless them;

**2a.1) 48:10a** Now the eyes of Israel were dim for age, so that **he could  
not see**;

**2a.2) 48:10b-12** And **he brought them near to him**; and he kissed  
them, and embraced them. **11** And Israel said to Joseph: I had not  
thought to see your face; and, lo, God has let me see your offspring al-  
so. **12** And Joseph brought them out from between his knees; and he  
fell down on his face to the earth;

**1b) 48:13-14** And Joseph took them both, Ephraim in his right hand toward Is-  
rael's left hand, and Manasseh in his left hand toward Israel's right hand,  
and brought them near to him. **14** And **Israel stretched out his right  
hand, and laid it on Ephraim's head**, who was the younger, and his left  
hand on Manasseh's head, guiding his hands knowingly; for Manasseh was  
the firstborn;

**central axis) 48:15-16** And he blessed Joseph, and said: The God before  
whom my fathers Abraham and Isaac walked, the God who has  
been my shepherd all my life long to this day, **16** the angel who has  
redeemed me from all evil, bless the lads; and let my name be  
named in them, and the name of my fathers Abraham and Isaac;  
and let them grow into a multitude in the midst of the earth;

**2b) 48:17-18** And when Joseph saw that **his father was laying his right hand  
on the head of Ephraim**, it displeased him, and he held up his father's  
hand, to remove it from Ephraim's head to Manasseh's head. **18** And Joseph  
said to his father: Not so, my father, for this is the firstborn; put your right  
hand on his head;

**2a) 48:19-20** **Israel's blessing over the two sons of Joseph**;

**1a) 48:19** And 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; however **his  
younger brother shall be greater than he**, and his seed shall be-  
come a multitude of nations;

**central axis) 48:20a** And he blessed them that day, saying: **By you  
shall Israel bless, saying: God make you as Ephraim and as  
Manasseh**;

**2a) 48:20b** And **he set Ephraim before Manasseh**;

**1E) 48:21-22** And Israel said to Joseph: Behold, **I DIE**; but God will be with you,  
and bring you back to the land of your fathers. **22** Moreover I have given to

you one portion above your brothers, which I took out of the hand of the Amorite with my sword and with my bow [i.e., **THE POSSESSION GAINED FROM THE AMORITES**]; {p}

**1F) 49:1-2 JACOB CALLED HIS SONS** together, **TO BLESS THEM**;

**1a) 49:1a** And Jacob **called** to his sons, and said;

**1b) 49:1b** **Gather yourselves** together;

**central axis) 49:1c** That I may tell you what shall befall you in the end of days;

**2b) 49:2a** **Assemble yourselves**;

**2a) 49:2b** And **hear**, you sons of Jacob; **and pay heed** to Israel your father;

**1G) 49:3-4 REUBEN THE ELDEST**; {p}

**1a) 49:3a** **Reuben**, you are **my firstborn**, my might, and the firstfruits of my strength;

**1b) 49:3b** The **excellency** of dignity, and the **excellency** of power;  
**central axis) 49:4a** **Unstable as water**;

**2b) 49:4b** You shall not have the **excellency**;

**2a) 49:4c** Because **you went up to your father's bed**; then you defiled it—he went up to my couch;

**1H) 49:5-7 Simeon and Levi to be SEPARATED AMONG THEIR BROTHERS**; {p}

**1a) 49:5-6a** Simeon and Levi are brothers; weapons of violence their kinship. **6** Let not my soul enter into their **council**; let not my glory be **united** to their assembly;

**1b) 49:6b** For in **their anger** they slew men;

**central axis) 49:6c** And in their self-will they hamstrung oxen;

**2b) 49:7a** Cursed be **their anger**, for it is fierce; and **their wrath**, for it is cruel!

**2a) 49:7b** I will **divide** them in Jacob **and scatter** them in Israel; {p}

**1I) 49:8-12 JUDAH'S BLESSING** of leadership [i.e., **THE BIRTH-RIGHT**]; {p}

**1a) 49:8-9** **Judah's prowess**;

***1a) 49:8*** Judah, you shall your brothers praise; your hand shall be on the neck of your enemies; your father's sons **shall bow down before you**;

***1b) 49:9a*** Judah is a **lion's whelp**;

*central axis) 49:9b From the prey, my son, you have gone up;*

*2b) 49:9c He stooped down, he crouched as a lion; and as a lioness;*

*2a) 49:9d Who shall rouse him up?*

*1b) 49:10a The scepter shall not depart from Judah, nor the ruler's staff from between his feet;*

**central axis) 49:10b Until Shiloh comes;**

*2b) 49:10c And to Him shall be the obedience of the peoples;*

*2a) 49:11-12 Binding his foal to the vine, and his donkey's colt to the choice vine, he washed his garments in wine, and his clothes in the blood of grapes. 12 His eyes are darkly flashing with wine, and his teeth white with milk [i.e., Judah's prosperity]; {p}*

**1J) 49:13-17 ZEBULUN / ISSACHAR / DAN;** {p+s}

*1a) 49:13 Zebulun shall dwell at the shore of the sea, and he shall be a haven for ships, and his border shall be upon Sidon; {p}*

*1b) 49:14a Issachar is a strong donkey;*

*1c) 49:14b Lying down between two burdens;*

**central axis) 49:15a For he saw a resting place that was good, and the land that was pleasant;**

*2c) 49:15b And he bowed his shoulder to bear;*

*2b) 49:15c And to serve under forced labor; {s}*

*2a) 49:16-17 Dan shall judge his people as one of the tribes of Israel. 17 Dan shall be a serpent in the way, a viper in the path, that bites the horse's heels, so that his rider shall fall backward;*

**CENTRAL AXIS) 49:18 I WAIT FOR YOUR SALVATION, O YHVH;** {s}

**2J) 49:19-21 GAD,** a troop shall tramp upon him, but he shall tramp upon their heel. {s} **20** Bread from **ASHER** shall be rich [fat], and he shall yield royal dainties. {s} **21 NAPHTALI** is a deer let loose; he gives beautiful words; {s}

**2I) 49:22-26A JOSEPH'S BLESSING** of fruitfulness [i.e., **THE BLESSING**];

*1a) 49:22 Joseph is a fruitful vine, a fruitful vine by a fountain; its branches run over the wall;*

**1b) 49:23-24a** The archers have dealt bitterly with him, and shot at him, and hated him; **24** but **his bow remained firm**, and the arms of **his hands were made supple**;

**1c) 49:24b** By the hands of the **Mighty One of Jacob**;  
**central axis) 49:24c** From there is the Shepherd, the Stone of Israel;

**2c) 49:25a** Even **by the God of your father**;

**2b) 49:25b** Who shall **help you**, and by the Almighty;

**2a) 49:25c-26** Who shall **bless you, with blessings** of heaven above, **blessings** of the deep that lies beneath, **blessings** of the breasts, and of the womb. **26** The **blessings** of your father are excellent beyond the **blessings** of my ancestors to the utmost bound of the everlasting hills;

**2H) 49:26B** They shall be on the head of Joseph, and on the crown of the head of him that was **SEPARATED FROM HIS BROTHERS**; {p}

**2G) 49:27 BENJAMIN** is ravenous wolf; in the morning he devours the prey, and at evening he divides the spoil [i.e., **THE YOUNGEST** son];

**2F) 49:28** All these are the twelve tribes of Israel, and this is what **THEIR FATHER SPOKE TO THEM** and **BLESSED THEM**; every one according to his blessing he blessed them;

**2E) 49:29-33** The **DEATH OF JACOB** / He charged his sons to bury him at Machpelah, **THE POSSESSION GAINED FROM THE HITTITES**;

**1a.1) 49:29a** And he **charged** them;

**1a.2) 49:29b** And said to them: I am to be **gathered to my people**;

**1b) 49:29c-30** Bury me with my fathers in the cave that is in the field of Ephron the Hittite, **30** in **the cave that is in the field of Machpelah**, which is before Mamre, in the land of Canaan, **which Abraham bought** with the field from Ephron the Hittite for a possession of a burial place;

**central axis) 49:31** There they buried Abraham and Sarah his wife; there they buried Isaac and Rebekah his wife; and there I buried Leah;

**2b) 49:32** The field and the cave that is within it, which was **purchased** from the children of Heth;

**2a.1) 49:33a** And when Jacob made an end of **charging** his sons;

**2a.2) 49:33b** He gathered up his feet into the bed, and expired, and was **gathered to his people**;

**2D) 50:1-11** The **IMPOSING COMPANY** of Jacob's mourners;

1a) 50:1-3 The **mourning for Jacob in Egypt**;

1a) 50:1 And *Joseph* fell upon his father's face, and *wept on him*, and kissed him;

1b) 50:2 And Joseph commanded his servants the physicians to embalm his father. And *the physicians embalmed Israel*;

central axis) 50:3 a And *forty days were fulfilled for him*;

2b) 50:3b For so are fulfilled the days of *embalming*;

2a) 50:3c And *the Egyptians wept for him* seventy days;

1b.1) 50:4-5a And when the days of weeping for him were past, Joseph spoke to the house of Pharaoh, saying: If now I have found favor in your eyes, speak, I pray you, in the ears of Pharaoh, saying: 5 **My father made me swear**;

1b.2) 50:5b Saying: Lo, I die; in my grave which I have dug for me in the land of Canaan, **there you shall bury me**;

1c) 50:5c Now therefore **let me go up**, I pray you, **and bury my father**;

central axis) 50:5d And **I will come back**;

2c) 50:6a And Pharaoh said: **Go up, and bury your father**;

2b.1) 50:6b According as **he made you swear**;

2b.2) 50:7-9 And Joseph went up **to bury his father**; and with him went up all the servants of Pharaoh, the elders of his house, and all the elders of the land of Egypt, 8 and all the house of Joseph, and his brothers, and his father's house; only their little ones, and their flocks, and their herds, they left in the land of Goshen. 9 And there went up with him both chariots and horsemen; and it was a very great company;

2a) 50:10-11 The **mourning for Jacob in Canaan**;

1a) 50:10a And they came to the threshing floor of Atad, *which is beyond the Jordan*;

1b) 50:10b And there they wailed with *a very great and severe wailing*;

central axis) 50:10c And *he made a mourning for his father seven days*;

2b) 50:11a And when the inhabitants of the land, the Canaanites, saw the mourning in the floor of Atad, they said: This is *a grievous mourning* for the Egyptians;

2a) 50:11b Therefore the name of it was called Abel-mizraim, *which is beyond the Jordan*;

2C) 50:12-14 **JACOB BURIED** in Machpelah;

1a.1) 50:12-13a And his sons did for him according as he commanded them. 13

For **his sons carried him into the land of Canaan**;

1a.2) 50:13b And **buried him**;

central axis) 50:13c In the cave of the field of Machpelah, which Abraham bought with the field, for a possession of a burial place, of Ephron the Hittite, in front of Mamre;

2a.1) 50:14a And **Joseph returned into Egypt**, he, and his brothers, and all that went up with him to bury his father;

2a.2) 50:14b After he had **buried his father**;

2B.1) 50:15A And when Joseph's brothers saw that **THEIR FATHER WAS DEAD**;

2B.2) 50:15B-16A They said: It may be that Joseph will hate us, and will fully requite us all the evil which we did to him. 16 And **THEY SENT** a message **TO JOSEPH**;

2B.3) 50:16B-21 **JACOB'S "COMMAND" TO JOSEPH**;

1a) 50:16b-17e Joseph wept when **they spoke to him**;

*1a) 50:16b-17a* Saying: Your father commanded before he died, saying: 17 So shall **you say to Joseph**;

*1b) 50:17b* **Forgive**, I pray you now, **the transgression** of your brothers, and their sin;

*central axis) 50:17c* **For they did evil to you**;

*2b) 50:17d* And now, we pray you, **forgive the transgression** of the servants of the God of your father;

*2a) 50:17e* And Joseph wept when **they spoke to him**;

1b) 50:18 And his brothers also went and fell down before his face; and they said: Behold, **we are your bondmen**;

1c) 50:19 And Joseph said to them: **Fear not**; for am I in the place of God?

central axis) 50:20 And as for you, **you meant evil against me; but God meant it for good, to bring to pass, as it is this day, to save many people alive**;

2c) 50:21a Now therefore **fear not**;

2b) 50:21b **I will sustain you**, and your little ones;

2a) 50:21c And **he** comforted them, and **spoke kindly to them**;

2A) 50:22-26 **JOSEPH'S REQUEST** that his bones be taken up from Egypt; {p}

1a) 50:22-23 And Joseph dwelt in Egypt, he, and his father's house; and **Joseph lived a hundred and ten years**. 23 And Joseph saw Ephraim's children of the third generation; the children also of Machir the son of Manasseh were born upon Joseph's knees;

1b) 50:24a And Joseph said to his brethren: **I die**;

1c) 50:24b But **God will surely remember you**, and bring you up out of this land to the land which He swore to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob;

central axis) 50:25a And Joseph took an oath of the children of Israel;

2c) 50:25b Saying: **God will surely remember you**, and you shall carry up my bones from here;

**2b) 50:26a** So **Joseph died**;

**2a) 50:26b** Being **a hundred and ten years old**. And they embalmed him, and he was put in a coffin in Egypt. {p}