

Genesis 48:15-20 – VaYechi ויחי – January 3, 2026

15 וַיְבָרֶךְ אֶת-יוֹסֵף וַיֹּאמֶר הָאֱלֹהִים אֲשֶׁר הִתְהַלְכֹוּ אֲבֹתַי לִפְנֵי אַבְרָהָם וַיִּצְחָק הָאֱלֹהִים הִרְעָה אֹתִי
 מֵעוֹדִי עַד-הַיּוֹם הַזֶּה:
 16 הַמַּלְאָךְ הַגָּאֹל אֹתִי מִכָּל-רָע יְבָרֶךְ אֶת-הַנְּעָרִים וַיִּקְרָא בָהֶם שְׁמִי וְשֵׁם אֲבֹתִי אַבְרָהָם וַיִּצְחָק
 וַיֵּדְגוּ לָרֹב בְּקֶרֶב הָאָרֶץ:
 17 וַיֵּרָא יוֹסֵף כִּי-יָשִׁית אָבִיו יָדַיִמִּינוּ עַל-רֹאשׁ אֶפְרַיִם וַיִּרַע בְּעֵינָיו
 וַיִּתְמָךְ יָד-אָבִיו לְהִסִּיר אֹתָהּ מֵעַל רֹאשׁ-אֶפְרַיִם עַל-רֹאשׁ מְנַשֶּׁה:
 18 וַיֹּאמֶר יוֹסֵף אֶל-אָבִיו לֹא-כֵן אָבִי כִי-זֶה הַבְּכֹר שִׁים יְמִינִךְ עַל-רֹאשׁוֹ:
 19 וַיִּמָּאֵן אָבִיו וַיֹּאמֶר יָדְעָתִי בְנִי יִלְעָתִי גַם-הוּא יִהְיֶה-לָּעַם וְגַם-הוּא יִגְדֹּל
 וְאוֹלָם אֲחִיו הַקָּטָן יִגְדֹּל מֵאֲנֹו וַיִּרְעוּ יְהִי מְלֹא-הַגּוֹיִם:
 20 וַיְבָרְכֵם בַּיּוֹם הַהוּא לֵאמֹר בָּךְ יְבָרֶךְ יִשְׂרָאֵל לֵאמֹר יִשְׁמְךָ אֱלֹהִים
 כְּאֶפְרַיִם וְכַמְנַשֶּׁה וַיִּשֶׁם אֶת-אֶפְרַיִם לִפְנֵי מְנַשֶּׁה:

¹⁵ Then he blessed Joseph and said, "The God before whom my fathers Abraham and Isaac walked, The God who has shepherded me throughout my life to this day, ¹⁶ The Angel who redeemed me from all evil, May He bless the boys, and may they be called by my name, and by the name of my fathers, Abraham and Isaac. May they multiply to a multitude in the midst of the land."
¹⁷ When Joseph saw that his father placed his right hand upon Ephraim's head, it was wrong in his eyes. So his took hold of his father's hand to remove it from Ephraim's head to Manasseh's head. ¹⁸ Joseph said to his father, "Not like that, my father, because this one's the firstborn. Put your right hand upon his head." ¹⁹ But his father refused and said, "I know, my son, I know. He also will become a people, and he also will become great. But his younger brother will become greater than he and his seed will be the fullness of the nations." ²⁰ Then he blessed them that day saying, "In you shall Israel bless by saying: 'May God make you like Ephraim and like Manasseh.'" Thus he put Ephraim before Manasseh.