

August 2, 2026

Pastor Andy McClellan

Title: “The Soundtrack of God’s Faithfulness”

Series: Genesis: Beginnings

Text: Genesis 48

1. God's faithful **WORK** accomplishes His promised word, vv. 1-7 (*see also 1:28; 17:8; 28:3, 13-15; 35:9-20; 41:52; Joshua 21:43-45; Isaiah 55:11; Luke 1:72-73; 2 Corinthians 1:20; 1 Thessalonians 5:24; Hebrews 6:13-18, 10:23, 13:20-21*).
2. God's faithful **GRACE** guides His gracious blessings, vv. 8-20 (*see also 25:23; 27:1; 42:6; Numbers 13:7; Deuteronomy 33:13-17; 1 Chronicles 5:1-2; Psalm 78:67-72; Romans 4:16, 9:10-13; 1 Cor. 1:26-31; Ephesians 1:3-6; Heb. 11:21*).
3. God's faithful **PRESENCE** secures His future promises, vv. 21-22 (*see also 26:3; 28:15; 46:3-4; 50:24; Psalm 102:25-28; Matthew 28:20; John 14:2-3; Philippians 3:20-21; 2 Timothy 4:18; Heb. 13:8; Revelation 21:3-7*).

FOR FURTHER STUDY & DISCUSSION

1. In Gen. 35:11, God directed Jacob to “*be fruitful and multiply*.” In 48:4-5, how do the lives of Ephraim and Manasseh demonstrate God’s faithfulness to accomplish the very instructions He gave Jacob, and to do it even outside of the Promised Land and without Jacob’s direct involvement? What does this tell us about God’s commitment to His promises? How does it encourage you when you can’t directly see Him working to accomplish His promises?
2. Read vv. 8-20. While the word “grace” is not used, how do we see God’s unmerited favor demonstrated in both Jacob’s words and actions (see especially vv. 11, 15-16, 18-19)? How do these present a God who blesses, not based on merit or qualifications, but based on His faithful grace to each generation? How have you seen that unmerited favor from God demonstrated in your life? How has God blessed you and used you in ways that are clearly not based on your own merit or qualifications?
3. How does a movie soundtrack help tell the film’s story? How do certain repeated refrains identify the heroes and villains? As Jacob rehearses God’s promises in this chapter (ex. 48:3-4, 15-16, 19, 21), what repeated refrains have we heard before, going all the way back to Genesis 1? What does this tell us about the “soundtrack” of the book of Genesis? What does this book repeatedly teach us about the nature of God and His Word?
4. In vv. 21-22, what does Jacob promise to Joseph? What does he believe about God that allows him to make those promises when he himself is not going to be there? In the same way, what can you, by faith, boldly promise to those who will come after you (your children, those you disciple, etc.) about themselves, about God, and about the future? How does that confidence for the future give you hope today? How is that confidence only available because of Jesus Christ (use the scriptures in point 3 above to help you)?

NEXT WEEK: Genesis 49, Pastor Asa Hart

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