

JANUARY 17

Read Genesis 49–50

CHAPTER 49

AND Jacob called unto his sons, and said, Gather yourselves together, that I may tell you *that* which shall befall you in the last days.

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

3 ¶ Reuben, thou *art* my firstborn, my might, and the beginning of my strength, the excellency of dignity, and the excellency of power:

4 Unstable 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.

5 ¶ Simeon and Levi *are* brethren; instruments of cruelty *are in* their habitations.

6 O my soul, come not thou into their secret; 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.

7 Cursed *be* their anger, for *it was* fierce; and their wrath, for it was cruel: I will divide them in Jacob,

and scatter them in Israel.

8 ¶ Judah, 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.

9 Judah *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?

10 The sceptre shall not depart from Judah, nor a lawgiver from between his feet, until Shiloh come; and unto him *shall* the gathering of the people *be*.

11 Binding 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:

12 His eyes *shall be* red with wine, and his teeth white with milk.

13 ¶ Zebulun shall dwell at the haven of the sea; and he *shall be* for an haven of ships; and his border *shall be* unto Zidon.

14 ¶ Issachar *is* a strong ass

couching down between two burdens:

15 And he saw that rest *was* good, and the land that *it was* pleasant; and bowed his shoulder to bear, and became a servant unto tribute.

16 ¶ Dan shall judge his people, as one of the tribes of Israel.

17 Dan shall be a serpent by the way, an adder in the path, that biteth the horse heels, so that his rider shall fall backward.

18 I have waited for thy salvation, O LORD.

19 ¶ Gad, a troop shall overcome him: but he shall overcome at the last.

20 ¶ Out of Asher his bread *shall* be fat, and he shall yield royal dainties.

21 ¶ Naphtali *is* a hind let loose: he giveth goodly words.

22 ¶ Joseph *is* a fruitful bough, *even* a fruitful bough by a well; *whose* branches run over the wall:

23 The archers have sorely grieved him, and shot *at him*, and hated him:

24 But 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:)

25 *Even* 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:

26 The 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 from his brethren.

27 ¶ Benjamin shall ravin *as* a wolf: in the morning he shall devour the prey, and at night he shall divide the spoil.

28 ¶ All 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.

29 And he charged them, and said unto them, I am to be gathered unto my people: 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 of Ephron the Hittite for a

possession of a buryingplace.

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

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

33 And when Jacob had made an end of commanding his sons, he gathered up his feet into the bed, and yielded up the ghost, and was gathered unto his people.

CHAPTER 50

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

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

3 And 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.

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

5 My 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.

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

7 ¶ 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 brethren, 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.

10 And 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.

11 And 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.

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

13 For 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.

14 ¶ And 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.

15 ¶ And 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.

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

17 So 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.

18 And his brethren also went and fell down before his face; and they said, Behold, we *be* thy servants.

19 And Joseph said unto them, Fear not: for *am* I in the place of God?

20 But 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.

21 Now therefore fear ye not: I will nourish you, and your little ones. And he comforted them, and spake kindly unto them.

22 ¶ And Joseph dwelt in Egypt, he, and his father's house: and Joseph lived an 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 brought up upon Joseph's knees.

24 And 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.

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

26 So Joseph died, *being* an hundred and ten years old: and they embalmed him, and he was put in a coffin in Egypt.

DEVOTIONAL COMMENTS

Chapter 49 continues Jacob's last message and his dying blessing. He assembled his twelve sons together to prophesy of their tribal future. The prophecy, covered in verses 3-27, covers the entire sweep of Israelite history—past, present, and future. The prophecy concerning Reuben (verses 3 and 4) and Simeon and Levi (verses 5 and 7) characterized the nation of Israel until the Messiah's advent. Judah (verses 8-12) pointed to the period when our Lord was on the earth. Zebulun (verse 13) and Issachar (verses 14 and 15) portrayed Israel, a trading people scattered among the nations. Verses 16-18 suggest apostate Israel during the reign of the Antichrist. Gad (verse 10), Asher (verse 20) and Naphtali (verse 21) portray the godly Jewish remnant of the Great Tribulation, and then Joseph (verses 22-26) speaks of the second advent of Messiah, and Benjamin of the rod-of-iron righteous rule of the King in the Kingdom Age.

The deaths of Jacob and Joseph are recorded in chapter 50. Jacob was buried in Canaan, the land God had given him. He did not belong to the world or to Egypt. Joseph was buried in Egypt, but as we read the Book of Exodus we will see that Moses took Joseph's remains from Egypt when the children of Israel left there.

PROVERB FOR TODAY

"A fool hath no delight in understanding, but that his heart may discover itself" (Proverbs 18:2).

TREASURE PATH TO SOUL WINNING

ASSIGNMENT 3: For today's memory verses, follow instructions on page 8.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO

LENA BUSH

HYMN FOR TODAY

THE KING OF LOVE MY SHEPHERD IS by Henry W. Baker, 1821-1877

The beloved words of Psalm 23 have undoubtedly provided greater comfort and encouragement to God's people through the years than any other portion of Scripture. In times of deep need, how eloquently these tender words from the psalmist David minister to our wounded spirits. This psalm has also

formed the textual basis for more sacred music than any other scriptural setting. But to many devout Christians the best-loved hymn based on Psalm 23 is this paraphrase by an English musician, Sir Henry Baker. In this text Baker skillfully combines thoughts of King David with lessons from the New Testament. For example, the words from the third stanza are based on the parable of the lost sheep in Luke 15:5. The fourth stanza includes the phrase "Thy cross before to guide me." Here the shepherd is identified as Christ by the inclusion of the cross symbolism.

Sir Henry William Baker is highly regarded by students of hymnody for his work as the editor-in-chief of one of the most monumental hymnals ever published, *Hymns, Ancient and Modern*, a book which sold more than 60 million copies after it was published in 1861. See how these words can direct you again to the love of the Good Shepherd.

*The King of Love my Shepherd is, whose goodness
faileth never;
I nothing lack if I am His and He is mine forever.*

*Where streams of living water flow my ransomed soul
He leadeth,
and where the verdant pastures grow, with food celestial
feedeth.*

*Perverse and foolish oft I strayed, but yet in love He
sought me,
and on His shoulder gently laid, and home rejoicing
brought me.*

*In death's dark vale I fear no ill with Thee, dear Lord,
beside me;
Thy rod and staff my comfort still, Thy cross before to
guide me.*

*Thou spread'st a table in my sight; Thine unction grace
bestoweth;
and O what transport of delight from Thy pure chalice
floweth!*

*And so through all the length of days Thy goodness
faileth never:
Good Shepherd, may I sing Thy praise within Thy house
for ever!*

ON THIS DATE IN HISTORY

1706

**THIS IS THE BIRTHDAY OF BENJAMIN
FRANKLIN.**

On the tombstone of Benjamin Franklin, it is supposedly written, "Here lies all that could die of Benjamin Franklin." Someone has said that he wrote before his death something like this, "Here lies the body of Benjamin Franklin like an old book, tattered and worn, but it shall appear again in a new edition as revised and corrected by the Author." Though these are not the exact words, this is the idea. Some believe that Benjamin Franklin was one of the great Americans. Scientist, statesman, scholar, patriot, as well as a God-fearing man, was this one of our forefathers. There are so many things for which we find ourselves indebted to his life. Let us thank God for him and pray for our leaders today.

1863
DAVID LLOYD GEORGE WAS BORN.

RE-EXAMINE YOUR NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS.

This would be a good day for us to re-examine our New Year's resolutions and see how it is with our lives. Perhaps we have stumbled a bit and failed a little. Let us rededicate ourselves to them today.

ON THIS DATE IN AFRICAN-AMERICAN HISTORY

1759
PAUL CUFFE, MERCHANT, SHIPBUILDER, AND BLACK NATIONALIST, BORN NEAR DARTMOUTH, MASSACHUSETTS.

1874
ARMED DEMOCRATS SEIZED TEXAS GOVERNMENT and ended Radical Reconstruction in Texas.

1917
U.S. SUCCEEDED DENMARK as the sovereign authority in the Virgin Islands.

1966
MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. OPENED CAMPAIGN IN CHICAGO.

1970
JOHN M. BURGESS INSTALLED AS BISHOP of

the Protestant Episcopal diocese of Massachusetts.

1941
THE WAR DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED FORMATION OF FIRST ARMY AIR CORPS SQUADRON FOR BLACK CADETS.

1941
A BLACK SCIENTIST HELPED SAVE THOUSANDS OF LIVES during World War II. Dr. Charles Richard Drew set up and ran the pioneer blood plasma bank in Presbyterian Hospital in New York City. This bank served as one of the models for the system of banks operated later by the American Red Cross. On October 1, 1940, in response to a British Appeal Dr. Drew was appointed medical director of the plasma project of Great Britain. As director of the first great experiment in the gross production of human plasma, Dr. Drew created models for later developments in the United States and Europe. When the project ended in 1941, Dr. Drew became the first director of a new project charged with the responsibility of setting up donor stations to collect blood plasma for the American armed services. He resigned three months later and became professor of surgery at Howard University. Under an American Red Cross ruling in World War II, Dr. Drew's blood, ironically enough, would have been segregated from the blood of white donors.

1962
SUIT ACCUSING NEW YORK CITY BOARD OF EDUCATION OF USING "RACIAL QUOTAS" filed in U.S. District Court on behalf of black and Puerto Rican children.

1966
HAROLD R. PERRY BECAME SECOND BLACK ROMAN CATHOLIC BISHOP IN U.S. HISTORY.

1967
LUCIUS D. AMERSON, FIRST BLACK SHERIFF IN THE SOUTH in the twentieth century, sworn in at Tuskegee (Macon County), Alabama.

FIRST BLACK GOVERNMENT INSTALLED IN THE BAHAMAS.

A Christian Life:

DALLAS FRANKLYN BILLINGTON

1903-1972

Dallas Billington was born in a log house in west Kentucky. Although his parents were devout Christians and his formative years were spent in a Christian environment, he did not respond personally to the Gospel until the age of 21, in a tent meeting in Paducah, Kentucky, to which he had been invited by his fiancée, Nell Stokes.

In 1927, having moved to Akron, Ohio, to gain employment, he answered God's call to preach during a serious illness of his infant son, Charles. In June, 1934, he was invited to preach for a small group of people who were meeting in Rimer School. There, with a congregation of 13 and an offering of \$1.18, the Akron Baptist Temple was born. Under his ministry during the next 38 years, the church grew to 16,000 members, with physical assets of several million. The outreach of radio, television, and missionaries contributed to its worldwide ministry, in addition to aiding the establishment of hundreds of independent Baptist churches across America.

Dr. Billington's ministry was unique in that his messages were plain, simple, and to the point. A master in the use of illustrations and always preaching with the invitation in view, he was used of God to win thousands of men to Christ. His compassion for people, his integrity and spotless example as a man of God will long be remembered.

Having suffered heart trouble since 1941, he died August 26, 1972, at the age of 69. His only son, Charles, having served with his father for 24 years, succeeded him as pastor of the Akron Baptist Temple.



The Treasure Path to Soul Winning

**MEMORY VERSE TOPIC FOR THE NEXT SEVEN DAYS:
NEW BIRTH THE ONLY ENTRANCE INTO GOD'S SPIRITUAL FAMILY**
(Assignment 3)

Please recite all three components of each of these five verses aloud, five times each morning, and five times each evening, for seven days. The three components of each verse are: Subject, Scripture Reference, and Scripture Text. (For more details, see "The Treasure Path to Soul Winning" link back on the DailyKJV.com page.)

The Lost are:

BLIND, and cannot SEE.

() John 3:3

Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, Verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.

IGNORANT and cannot UNDERSTAND.

() John 3:4 (1 Cor. 1:18; 2:14)

Nicodemus saith unto him, How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter the second time into his mother's womb, and be born?

HELPLESS, and cannot ENTER.

() John 3:5

Jesus answered, Verily, Verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of Water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.

SINFUL, and first birth is REJECTED.

() John 3:6 (Romans 8:8)

That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.

DEPRAVED and new birth is a MUST.

() John 3:7

Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again.