

# Defining Moments

## **Intro video:**

Prov 25:27

At the end of our lives we will realize the glory we sought for ourselves never really defined us. When we meet the Lord He will define for us our greatest moments

I for one would like there to be many of them

*(Let God define your moments video)*

## **Problem:**

**This is Jacobs defining moment**

Heb 11:21

More of Genesis is devoted to Jacob than any other character. Yet in his whole story it is this moment that is recorded.

According to Hebrews, Jacob had one defining moment of noteworthy greatness and it came when he was sick, blind and about to die -

Heb 11:1

this was his greatest moment...because it was his greatest moment of faith, his greatest moment of conviction his greatest moment of assurance.

He may have been sick but he was stronger than ever, he may have been blind but he was seeing clearer than ever, he may have been dying but he was more alive than ever because of his faith

This is Jacobs defining moment...of faith

## **Main Idea:**

**He saw Him in his sickness**

**He saw Him in his blindness**

**He saw Him in his death**

## **Implication:**

**But we can see Him now**

We are too strong for our own good - Ecc 12:1-8

Don't wait to be weak to rely on Him

Don't wait to be blind to follow Him

Don't wait to be dying to live for Him

## **Application:**

Eph 5:15 - follow Him now with your strength and health

Eph 5:16 - live for Him now with your time and talents

Eph 5:17 - see Him now with your eyes wide open

## **Outro video:**

Let this moment and every moment hereafter be a defining moment of faith

*(Calvinism video)*

## **Articles for further study:**

<https://www.gotquestions.org/glorify-God-in-everything.html>

<https://www.raystedman.org/daily-devotions/ecclesiastes/before-its-too-late>

<https://www.desiringgod.org/messages/urgency-and-gratitude>

## Defining Moments

Text:

**He saw Him in his sickness - (bowing in worship Heb 11:21)**

Gen. 48:1 ¶ After this, Joseph was told, "**Behold, your father is ill.**" So he took with him his two sons, Manasseh and Ephraim.

Gen. 48:2 And it was told to Jacob, "Your son Joseph has come to you." **Then Israel summoned his strength and sat up in bed.**

Ge 46:5; 47:7 (passive verbs - what changed)

Heb 11:21 (he worshipped)

Gen 45:25-28 (he saw God's provision)

1 sam 30:1-6 (he strengthened himself)

2 Sam 16:5-14 (he refreshed himself)

ps 3 (he understood strength)

2 Cor 12:7-10 (see His strength now)

**He saw Him in his blindness - (blessing the sons of Joseph)**

Gen. 48:3 And Jacob said to Joseph, "God Almighty appeared to me at Luz in the land of Canaan and blessed me,

Gen. 48:4 and said to me, 'Behold, I will make you fruitful and multiply you, and I will make of you a company of peoples and will give this land to your offspring after you for an everlasting possession.'

Gen. 48:5 **And now your two sons, who were born to you in the land of Egypt before I came to you in Egypt, are mine; Ephraim and Manasseh shall be mine, as Reuben (concubine 35:22) and Simeon (slaughter 34:25) are.**

Gen. 48:6 And the children that you fathered after them shall be yours. They shall be called by the name of their brothers in their inheritance.

Gen. 48:7 **As for me, when I came from Paddan, to my sorrow Rachel died in the land of Canaan on the way, when there was still some distance to go to Ephrath, and I buried her there on the way to Ephrath** (that is, Bethlehem)."

Gen. 48:8 ¶ When Israel saw Joseph's sons, he said, "**Who are these?**"

Gen. 48:9 Joseph said to his father, "They are my sons, whom God has given me here." And he said, "Bring them to me, please, that I may bless them."

Gen. 48:10 **Now the eyes of Israel were dim with age, so that he could not see.** So Joseph brought them near him, and he kissed them and embraced them.

Gen. 48:11 And Israel said to Joseph, "**I never expected to see your face; and behold, God has let me see your offspring also.**"

Gen. 48:12 Then Joseph removed them from his knees, and he bowed himself with his face to the earth.

Gen. 48:13 And Joseph took them both, Ephraim in his right hand toward Israel's left hand, and Manasseh in his left hand toward Israel's right hand, and brought them near him.

Gen. 48:14 And Israel stretched out his right hand and laid it on the head of Ephraim, who was the younger, and

his left hand on the head of Manasseh, **crossing his hands** (for Manasseh was the firstborn).

Gen. 48:15 **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,**

Gen. 48:16 **the angel who has redeemed (first time) me from all evil,** bless the boys; and in them let my name be carried on, and the name of my fathers Abraham and Isaac; and let them grow into a multitude in the midst of the earth."

Gen. 48:17 ¶ When Joseph saw that his father laid his right hand on the head of Ephraim, it displeased him, and he took his father's hand to move it from Ephraim's head to Manasseh's head.

Gen. 48:18 **And Joseph said to his father, "Not this way, my father; since this one is the firstborn, put your right hand on his head."**

Gen. 48:19 **But his father refused and said, "I know, my son, I know. He also shall become a people, and he also shall be great. Nevertheless, his younger brother shall be greater than he, and his offspring shall become a multitude of nations."**

Gen. 48:20 So he blessed them that day, saying,

**"By you Israel will pronounce blessings,** saying,

'God make you as Ephraim and as Manasseh.'

¶ **Thus he put Ephraim before Manasseh.**

Gen 47:9 (what changed?)

ps 23 (he saw his shepherd)

Gen 25:22-23 (he saw God's unconditional election)

Heb 11:21 (he chose and blessed each son by grace - see the cross)

Rom 9:10-16 (he understood sov grace)

1 Cor 1:26-31 (see His sov. Grace now)

**He saw Him in his death - (Jacob when dying Heb 11:21)**

Gen. 48:21 Then Israel said to Joseph, "**Behold, I am about to die, but God will be with you and will bring you again to the land of your fathers.**

Gen. 48:22 **Moreover, I have given to you rather than to your brothers one mountain slope that I took from the hand of the Amorites with my sword and with my bow."**

Gen 46:1-4 (saw Him in his death)

Heb 11:21 (Jacob, when dying)

Gen 33:18-19; 34:25-31 (saw Him in his sin)

Rom 8:28 (he understood goodness)

Phil 1:6; 2 cor 3:18 (See His goodness toward you now)