

Where's Your Chair?

Genesis 48



'If your children keep my covenant and my testimonies that I shall teach them,
their children also shall sit upon your throne for evermore.'
Psalm 132:12

Praising:

Loving Shepherd of your sheep,
keep your lamb in safety keep;
nothing can your power
withstand,
none can pluck me from your
hand.

Reading:

Genesis 48
Jacob blesses Joseph's sons

By adopting his grandsons
Manasseh and Ephraim
(Joseph's sons), Jacob gives
them equal status to his own
eldest sons Reuben and Simeon.
The seemingly preferential
blessing Jacob bestows on the
younger boy works itself out in
the story of Israel still to come,
when in due course, the tribe of
Ephraim comes to gain pre-
eminence over the first-born tribe
of Manasseh. But Jacob's

blessing itself alludes to three
aspects of God's character. He
invokes the God before whom his
ancestors walked, the God who
has been his shepherd
throughout his life, and the God
who has been his redeeming
angel, delivering him from evil.
Looking back from his deathbed,
in other words, Jacob can see
clearly where he has come from,
where he has been guided and
directed, and where he has been
rescued and protected.

Listening:

Praying:

Lord as we reflect on you
bringing us into being and giving
us life

- we think of those who
introduced us to Christ and
taught us how to pray
- we acknowledge your wise
and watchful care, the pushing
and pulling of your Spirit
- we can see the situations
where in your love and mercy
you have saved us

Father: you were with me at the
beginning, you will be with me at
the end, and you are with me
even now – through all the ups
and downs and the very worst
that life can throw at me. Amen

Doing:

Monday, 15 February 2016