Parashat Vayechi 2021

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Parashat_...

Dan and Ephraim not mentioned in Revelation, פרשת ויחי, Parashat Vayechi, Bits of Torah Truths – Digging Deeper

By MATSATI - December 27, 2020



This week's Torah portion, Parashat Vayechi, concludes the book of Bereshit / Genesis. In this last Torah portion, we read how before Jacob died he spoke prophetically over each of his sons, (Bereshit / Genesis 49) then his children buried him in Canaan in the cave that is in the field of Ephron the Hittite that Abraham had purchased. (Bereshit / Genesis 49:29) We read on how his brothers were afraid and Joseph said that He was in the place of God, that he forgave them of their sins against him. We read then of Joseph's death at 110 years old and his command to bury his body in the same location as his father, Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.

While reading through this week's Torah portion, there are a few things that jump out of the text from the blessing that Jacob had spoken over his brothers. The two brothers we are interested in are Dan and Joseph specifically:

DAN (49:16-18)

דָן יָדָין עְמָּוֹ פְּאַחָד שִׁבְעֵי יִשְׂרָאָל: DAN SHALL GOVERN HIS PEOPLE, AS
ONE OF THE TRIBES OF ISRAEL.17 יְהִי־דָן (ְּחָשׁ עֲלֵי־לָּרֶךְ שִׁפִּיפִּן עֲלֵי־אֶרַח DAN SHALL BE A SERPENT BY THE
ROAD, A VIPER BY THE PATH, THAT BITES THE HORSE'S HEELS SO
THAT HIS RIDER IS THROWN BACKWARD 18 לִישׁוּעַתְּךָּ קְנִיתִי יְהַנָה:
WAIT FOR YOUR DELIVERANCE, O LORD!

JOSEPH (49:22-26)

בו פֿרַת יוֹסֶׁף בֵּן פֿרַת עַלִּי־עַיִן בַּנּוֹת צַעַדָה עַלֵּי־שָׁוּר: JOSEPH IS A WILD ASS, A WILD ASS BY A SPRING —WILD COLTS ON A HILLSIDE. 23 וימברהוּ בּעֲלֵי חָצֵים: ARCHERS BITTERLY ASSAILED HIM; THEY וַתַשֶּׁב בָּאֵיתוֹ קַשָּׁתוֹ וַיַּפֹזּוּ זַרעֵי יַדֵיו 24 SHOT AT HIM AND HARRIED HIM. וַתַשֶּׁב בָּאֵיתוֹ קַשָּׁתוֹ וַיַּפֹזּוּ זַרעֵי יַדֵיו מידי אביר יַעלֶּב משַׁם רעה אַבן יִשׂראַל: YET HIS BOW STAYED TAUT, AND HIS ARMS WERE MADE FIRM BY THE HANDS OF THE MIGHTY ONE OF JACOB- THERE, THE SHEPHERD, THE ROCK OF ISRAEL-מאָל אַבִיר וַיַעזרָר וַאָת שׁדַי וִיבַרְכָּרָ בַּרְכֹת שַׁמִים מעל בַּרְכֹת תַּהוֹם רֹבֵצֵת תַּחַת 25 THE GOD OF YOUR FATHER WHO HELPS YOU, AND SHADDAI WHO BLESSES YOU WITH BLESSINGS OF HEAVEN ABOVE, BLESSINGS OF THE DEEP THAT COUCHES BELOW, BLESSINGS OF THE BREAST AND WOMB. 26 בַּרְכָּת אַבִּיךְ גַּבְרוֹ (עַל־בָּרָכֹת הוֹרָי עַד־תַּאַות גָּבָעֹת עוֹלֶם תַּהְיֵּין לְרֹאשׁ יוֹסְׁף וּלְקָדְקֹד נָזִיר אָחֵיו: (פּ THE BLESSINGS OF YOUR FATHER SURPASS THE BLESSINGS OF MY ANCESTORS. TO THE UTMOST BOUNDS OF THE ETERNAL HILLS. MAY THEY REST ON THE HEAD OF JOSEPH. ON THE BROW OF THE ELECT OF HIS BROTHERS.

In the case of Dan, the rabbis discuss his being a judge over Israel and and connect this to Samson. The things mentioned in Dan's blessing parallel the events in Samson's life. (see Rabbeinu Bahya, Bereshit 49:17 Parts 1-3) In his blessing, Jacob speaks of him being a viper striking the heals of the horse. This parallels what we read in Bereshit / Genesis 3:15 "the man will crush the serpent's head" (שובר ראש) Chizkuni, Genesis 49:17 Part 2) Which we know is a messianic prophecy. Note how Dan is described as the serpent, not the man. The serpent is a description of the evil one (Satan).

In the case of Joseph, Jacob is much more expansive and speaks to the blessings of God in heaven over Joseph. According to Rabbeinu Bahya, Bereshit 49:22 Parts 1-4 the interpretation of the Hebrew text from a kabbalistic interpretation is "the words מַן פֿרָת are an allusion to the glory of Israel, the word אָפָה, being a derivative of תַּפְאָרָת. The words , refer to the origin of the river Euphrates, i.e. עָלִי־עֵּין, which is one of the four rivers originating in גן עדן, in Paradise. Joseph gets his vital input directly from גן עדן. Seeing that the emanations נצח and הוד arespectively appear left and right of the emanation תפאָרָת in our usual diagrams, it is logical that he, Joseph, would produce two tribes instead of merely one. This is why Yaakov continued with בָּנוֹת צְעָדָה עָלִי־שָׁוּר which Onkelos translates as "two tribes will emerge from him." This is what caused Moses to speak of both איר and יאם, in his blessing of the tribe of Joseph (Deut, 33,17) the former representing the emanation נצח, the latter the emanation Tim." It is interesting how this interpretation connects Joseph back to the garden of Eden (גן עדן) through the use of the words Jacob spoke. This is certainly connected to Joseph saving many peoples lives through his position of power in Egypt. Jacob speaks of Joseph being assailed by his brothers, and how Joseph was firm due to the God of Israel, the Rock of Israel. The end of Jacob's words speak of his brothers resting in Joseph. This is an interesting thought as Joseph functions as a Savior Messiah in the way that he saved many from death.

The verses we are looking at for today are from Bereshit / Genesis 49:1-33.

ספר בראשית פרק מט

רביעי] א וַיִּקרָא יַעֲקֹב אֶל-בָּנַיו וַיֹּאמֶר הֶאָסִפּוּ וְאַגִּידָה לַכֶם אֶת אֲשֶׁר-יִקרָא אֶתְכֶם] בָּאַחַרִית הַיָּמִים: ב הָקָבְצוּ וִשְׁמְעוּ בְּנֵי יַעֲקֹב וְשְׁמְעוּ אֶל-יִשְׂרָאֵל אֲבִיכֶם: ג רְאוּבֵן בָּכֹרִי אַתָּה כֹּחִי וְרֵאשִׁית אוֹנִי יֵתֶר שְּׁאֵת וְיֵתֶר עָז: ד פַּחַז כַּמַיִם אַל-תּוֹתַר כִּי עַלִיתָ ָמשָׁכְּבֵי אָבִיךָ אָז חַלַּלְתָּ יִצוּעִי עָלָה: פ ה שִׁמְעוֹן וְלֵוִי אַחִים כְּלֵי חָמָס מְכֵרֹתֵיהֶם: ו בָּסֹדֶם אַל-תָּבֹא נַפָּשִׁי בִּקְהָלֶם אַל-תֵּחַד כָּבֹדִי כִּי בְאַפֶּם הָרְגוּ אִישׁ וּבִרְצֹנֶם ָעָקָרו-שׁוֹר: ז אַרוּר אַפָּם כִּי עַז ועֲבָרָתַם כִּי קַשָּׁתָה אֲחַלְּקֵם בִּיַעַקֹב וַאַפִּיצֵם בִּיִשִּׂרָאֵל פ ח יְהוּדָה אַתָּה יוֹדוּךְ אַחֶיךְ יָדָךְ בְּעֹרֶף אֹיְבֶיךְ יִשְׁתַּחֲווּ לְךְ בְּנֵי אָבִיךְ: ט גּוּר אַרְיֵה יָהוּדָה מִטֶרֵף בָּנִי עָלִיתָ כָּרַע רָבַץ כָּאַרְיֵה וּכָלָבִיא מִי יִקִימֵנוּ: י לֹא-יָסוּר שֶׁבֵט מִיהוּדָה וּמְחֹקֵק מְבֶּין רַגִּלַיו עַד כִּי-יָבֹא שִׁילֹה וְלוֹ יִקְהַת עַמִּים: יא אֹסְרִי לַגְּפֵן עִירֹה [עִירוֹ] וַלַשֹּׁרֵקָה בָּנִי אָתנוֹ כָּבֶּס בַּיַּיוַ לְבָשׁוֹ וּבְדַם-עַנַבִים סוּתֹה [סוּתוֹ] : יב חַכְלִילִי עִינַיִם מִיָּיָן וּלְבֶן-שָׁנַיִם מֶחָלָב: פ יג זְבוּלָן לְחוֹף יַמִּים יִשָּׁכֹּן וְהוּא לְחוֹף אֶנִיֹּת וְיַרְכָתוֹ עַל-צִידֹן: פּ יד יִשָּׁשֹׁכֶר חֲמֹר גָּרֶם רֹבֵץ בֵּין הַמִּשְׁפְּתָיִם: טו וַיַּרְא מְנֵחָה כִּי טוֹב ָוְאֶת-הָאָרֶץ כִּי נָעֵמָה וַיֵּט שִׁכְמוֹ לְסְבֹּל וַיָהִי לְמַס-עֹבֶד: ס טז דָן יָדִין עַמּוֹ כְּאַחַד שָׁבְטי יִשְׂרָאֵל: יז יִהִי-דָן נָחָשׁ עַלֵי-דֵרֵךְ שִׁפִּיפֹן עַלֵי-אֹרַח הַנּשֵׁךְ עָקְבֵי-סוּס וַיִּפּל רֹכָבוֹ אָחוֹר: יח לִישׁוּעַתָּךְ קוּיתִי יִהוַה: ס [חמישי] יט גָּד גִּדוֹד יָגוּדֵנּוּ וְהוּא יַגִד עָקֵב: ס כ מֶאַשֶּׁר ָשְׁמֶנָה לַחְמוֹ וְהוּא יִתֵּן מַעֲדַנֵּי-מֶלֶבְ: ס כא נַפְתָּלִי אַיָּלָה שְׁלַחָה הַנֹּתֵן אִמְרֵי-שָׁפֵר: ס ַכב בֵּן פֿרָת יוֹסֵף בֵּן פֿרָת עַלֵי-עָיַן בָּנוֹת צָעַדָה עַלֵי-שׁוּר: כג וַיִּמָרֵרֶהוּ וַרֹבּוּ וַיִּשְּׂטְמֶהוּ בַּעֲלֵי חָצִים: כד וַתֵּשֶׁב בְּאֵיתָן קַשְׁתּוֹ וַיָּפֹזּוּ זְרֹעֵי יָדָיו מִידֵי אֲבִיר יַעַקֹב מִשָּׁם רֹעֵה אֵבֶן ִישִׂרָאֵל: כה מֵאֵל אָבִיךְ וַיַעִזְרֵךָ וְאֵת שַׁדַי וִיבָרֲכֶךָ בִּרְכֹת שָׁמַיִם מֵעָל בַּרְכֹת תִּהוֹם רֹבֶצֶת תַּחַת בִּרְכֹת שָׁדַיִם וַרָחַם: כו בִּרְכֹת אָבִיךְ גָּבְרוּ עַל-בִּרְכֹת הוֹרַי עַד-תַּאָוַת ּגָבָעת עוֹלַם תָּהְיֵין ַלְרֹאשׁ יוֹסֶף וּלְקָדָקֹד נָזִיר אֶחַיו: פּ [ששי] כז בִּנִימִין זָאֶב יִטְרַף בַּבַּקָר יאַכַל עַד וַלַעָרֶב יָחַלֶּק שָׁלַל: כח כַּל-אָלֶה שָׁבְטִי יִשַּׂרָאֵל שַׁנִים עַשַּׂר וְזֹאַת אַשֶּׁר-דָּבֶּר לָהֶם אֵבִיהֶם וַיִּבָרֶךְ אוֹתָם אִישׁ אֲשֶׁר כְּבְרָכָתוֹ בֵּרַךְ אֹתַם: כט וַיִּצוּ אוֹתַם ַויֹאמֶר אָלֶהֶם אָנִי נֵאֶסֶף אֶל-עַמִּי קבָרוּ אֹתִי אֶל-אֶבֹתַי אֶל-הַמִּעַרָה אָשֶׁר בְּשִּׁדֶה עָפָרוֹן הַחָתִּי: ל בַּמִּעָרָה אֲשֵׁר בִּשְּׁדֵה הַמַּכְפֵּלָה אֲשֵׁר-עַל-פָּנֵי מַמְרֵא בָּאֶרֵץ כִּנָעַן ּאֲשֶׁר קַנֶה אַבְרָהָם אֶת-הַשָּׁדֵה מֱאֶת עֲפָרֹן הַחִתִּי לַאֲחָזַת-קַבֶּר: לא שָׁמָה קַבְרוּ ָאֶת-אַבְרָהָם וְאֵת שָּׂרָה אִשְׁתּוֹ שָׁמָּה קָבְרוּ אֶת-יִצְחָק וְאֵת רְבְקָה אִשְׁתּוֹ וְשָׁמָּה ָקַבַרְתִּי אֶת-לֵאָה: לב מִקנָה הַשָּּדֵה וְהַמְּעָרָה אֲשֵׁר-בּוֹ מֵאֵת בְּנֵי-חֵת: לג וַיִּכַל יַעַקֹב ַלְצַוֹּת אֶת-בָּנַיו וַיֵּאֱסֹף רַגִּלָיו אֱל-הַמְּטָה וַיִּגְוַע וַיֵּאָסֵף אֶל-עַמַּיו:

BERESHIT / GENESIS 49:1-33

49:1 THEN JACOB SUMMONED HIS SONS AND SAID, 'ASSEMBLE YOURSELVES THAT I MAY TELL YOU WHAT WILL BEFALL YOU IN THE DAYS TO COME. 49:2 'GATHER TOGETHER AND HEAR, O SONS OF JACOB; AND LISTEN TO ISRAEL YOUR FATHER. 49:3 'REUBEN, YOU ARE MY FIRSTBORN; MY MIGHT AND THE BEGINNING OF MY STRENGTH, PREEMINENT IN DIGNITY AND PREEMINENT IN POWER. 49:4 'UNCONTROLLED AS WATER, YOU

SHALL NOT HAVE PREEMINENCE, BECAUSE YOU WENT UP TO YOUR FATHER'S BED: THEN YOU DEFILED IT HE WENT UP TO MY COUCH. 49:5 'SIMEON AND LEVI ARE BROTHERS: THEIR SWORDS ARE IMPLEMENTS OF VIOLENCE. 49:6 'LET MY SOUL NOT ENTER INTO THEIR COUNCIL; LET NOT MY GLORY BE UNITED WITH THEIR ASSEMBLY; BECAUSE IN THEIR ANGER THEY SLEW MEN, AND IN THEIR SELF-WILL THEY LAMED OXEN. 49:7 'CURSED BE THEIR ANGER, FOR IT IS FIERCE; AND THEIR WRATH, FOR IT IS CRUEL. I WILL DISPERSE THEM IN JACOB, AND SCATTER THEM IN ISRAEL. 49:8 'JUDAH, YOUR BROTHERS SHALL PRAISE YOU; YOUR HAND SHALL BE ON THE NECK OF YOUR ENEMIES; YOUR FATHER'S SONS SHALL BOW DOWN TO YOU. 49:9 'JUDAH IS A LION'S WHELP: FROM THE PREY, MY SON, YOU HAVE GONE UP. HE COUCHES. HE LIES DOWN AS A LION. AND AS A LION. WHO DARES ROUSE HIM UP? 49:10 'THE SCEPTER SHALL NOT DEPART FROM JUDAH, NOR THE RULER'S STAFF FROM BETWEEN HIS FEET, UNTIL SHILOH COMES, AND TO HIM SHALL BE THE OBEDIENCE OF THE PEOPLES. 49:11 'HE TIES HIS FOAL TO THE VINE, AND HIS DONKEY'S COLT TO THE CHOICE VINE; HE WASHES HIS GARMENTS IN WINE, AND HIS ROBES IN THE BLOOD OF GRAPES. 49:12 HIS EYES ARE DULL FROM WINE, AND HIS TEETH WHITE FROM MILK. 49:13 'ZEBULUN WILL DWELL AT THE SEASHORE; AND HE SHALL BE A HAVEN FOR SHIPS, AND HIS FLANK SHALL BE TOWARD SIDON. 49:14 ISSACHAR IS A STRONG DONKEY. LYING DOWN BETWEEN THE SHEEPFOLDS. 49:15 'WHEN HE SAW THAT A RESTING PLACE WAS GOOD AND THAT THE LAND WAS PLEASANT, HE BOWED HIS SHOULDER TO BEAR BURDENS, AND BECAME A SLAVE AT FORCED LABOR. 49:16 'DAN SHALL JUDGE HIS PEOPLE, AS ONE OF THE TRIBES OF ISRAEL. 49:17 'DAN SHALL BE A SERPENT IN THE WAY, A HORNED SNAKE IN THE PATH, THAT BITES THE HORSE'S HEELS, SO THAT HIS RIDER FALLS BACKWARD. 49:18 'FOR YOUR SALVATION I WAIT, O LORD. 49:19 'AS FOR GAD, RAIDERS SHALL RAID HIM, BUT HE WILL RAID AT THEIR HEELS. 49:20 'AS FOR ASHER, HIS FOOD SHALL BE RICH, AND HE WILL YIELD ROYAL DAINTIES, 49:21 'NAPHTALI IS A DOE LET LOOSE, HE GIVES BEAUTIFUL WORDS. 49:22 'JOSEPH IS A FRUITFUL BOUGH, A FRUITFUL BOUGH BY A SPRING; ITS BRANCHES RUN OVER A WALL. 49:23 'THE ARCHERS BITTERLY ATTACKED HIM, AND SHOT AT HIM AND HARASSED HIM; 49:24 BUT HIS BOW REMAINED FIRM, AND HIS ARMS WERE AGILE,

FROM THE HANDS OF THE MIGHTY ONE OF JACOB (FROM THERE IS THE SHEPHERD, THE STONE OF ISRAEL), 49:25 FROM THE GOD OF YOUR FATHER WHO HELPS YOU, AND BY THE ALMIGHTY WHO BLESSES YOU WITH BLESSINGS OF HEAVEN ABOVE, BLESSINGS OF THE DEEP THAT LIES BENEATH, BLESSINGS OF THE BREASTS AND OF THE WOMB. 49:26 THE BLESSINGS OF YOUR FATHER HAVE SURPASSED THE BLESSINGS OF MY ANCESTORS UP TO THE UTMOST BOUND OF THE EVERLASTING HILLS; MAY THEY BE ON THE HEAD OF JOSEPH, AND ON THE CROWN OF THE HEAD OF THE ONE DISTINGUISHED AMONG HIS BROTHERS. 49:27 'BENJAMIN IS A RAVENOUS WOLF; IN THE MORNING HE DEVOURS THE PREY, AND IN THE EVENING HE DIVIDES THE SPOIL.' 49:28 ALL THESE ARE THE TWELVE TRIBES OF ISRAEL. AND THIS IS WHAT THEIR FATHER SAID TO THEM WHEN HE BLESSED THEM. HE BLESSED THEM, EVERY ONE WITH THE BLESSING APPROPRIATE TO HIM. 49:29 THEN HE CHARGED THEM AND SAID TO THEM, I AM ABOUT TO BE GATHERED TO MY PEOPLE: BURY ME WITH MY FATHERS IN THE CAVE THAT IS IN THE FIELD OF EPHRON THE HITTITE, 49:30 IN THE CAVE THAT IS IN THE FIELD OF MACHPELAH, WHICH IS BEFORE MAMRE, IN THE LAND OF CANAAN, WHICH ABRAHAM BOUGHT ALONG WITH THE FIELD FROM EPHRON THE HITTITE FOR A BURIAL SITE. 49:31 THERE THEY BURIED ABRAHAM AND HIS WIFE SARAH, THERE THEY BURIED ISAAC AND HIS WIFE REBEKAH. AND THERE I BURIED LEAH 49:32 THE FIELD AND THE CAVE THAT IS IN IT, PURCHASED FROM THE SONS OF HETH.' 49:33 WHEN JACOB FINISHED CHARGING HIS SONS. HE DREW HIS FEET INTO THE BED AND BREATHED HIS LAST, AND WAS GATHERED TO HIS PEOPLE. (NASB)

The things that we learn about the tribe of Dan and Joseph are very important as we read through the rest of Scripture. Note, studying the Torah is absolutely foundational to understanding the rest of Scripture. This point is illustrated so profoundly when we study the book of Revelation, according to Revelation 7:1-10.

REVELATION 7:1-10

7:1 AFTER THIS I SAW FOUR ANGELS STANDING AT THE FOUR CORNERS OF THE EARTH, HOLDING BACK THE FOUR WINDS OF THE EARTH, SO THAT NO WIND WOULD BLOW ON THE EARTH OR ON THE SEA OR ON ANY TREE. 7:2 AND I SAW ANOTHER ANGEL ASCENDING FROM THE RISING OF THE SUN, HAVING THE SEAL

OF THE LIVING GOD; AND HE CRIED OUT WITH A LOUD VOICE TO THE FOUR ANGELS TO WHOM IT WAS GRANTED TO HARM THE EARTH AND THE SEA, 7:3 SAYING, 'DO NOT HARM THE EARTH OR THE SEA OR THE TREES UNTIL WE HAVE SEALED THE BOND-SERVANTS OF OUR GOD ON THEIR FOREHEADS.' 7:4 AND I HEARD THE NUMBER OF THOSE WHO WERE SEALED, ONE HUNDRED AND FORTY-FOUR THOUSAND SEALED FROM EVERY TRIBE OF THE SONS OF ISRAEL: 7:5 THE TRIBE OF JUDAH, TWELVE THOUSAND WERE SEALED. FROM THE TRIBE OF REUBEN TWELVE THOUSAND. FROM THE TRIBE OF GAD TWELVE THOUSAND. 7:6 THE TRIBE OF ASHER TWELVE THOUSAND, FROM THE TRIBE OF NAPHTALI TWELVE THOUSAND, FROM THE TRIBE OF MANASSEH TWELVE THOUSAND, 7:7 THE TRIBE OF <mark>SIMEON</mark> TWELVE THOUSAND, FROM THE TRIBE OF LEVI TWELVE THOUSAND, FROM THE TRIBE OF ISSACHAR TWELVE THOUSAND, 7:8 THE TRIBE OF ZEBULUN TWELVE THOUSAND, FROM THE TRIBE OF JOSEPH TWELVE THOUSAND, FROM THE TRIBE OF BENJAMIN, TWELVE THOUSAND WERE SEALED. 7:9 AFTER THESE THINGS I LOOKED, AND BEHOLD, A GREAT MULTITUDE WHICH NO ONE COULD COUNT, FROM EVERY NATION AND ALL TRIBES AND PEOPLES AND TONGUES. STANDING BEFORE THE THRONE AND BEFORE THE LAMB. CLOTHED IN WHITE ROBES, AND PALM BRANCHES WERE IN THEIR HANDS; 7:10 AND THEY CRY OUT WITH A LOUD VOICE, SAYING, 'SALVATION TO OUR GOD WHO SITS ON THE THRONE, AND TO THE LAMB.' (NASB)

While reading through Revelation 7, note how the tribes of Israel are mentioned here, but there are a few things that are amiss. The first thing is the tribe of Dan is missing, and the second is the tribe of Ephraim is missing. In Ephraim's place we find Joseph being called the tribe of Joseph which is different from what we read in the Torah. The question for us then is why is Dan missing from this list, and why is Joseph mentioned instead of Ephraim? The reason for Dan not being mentioned is connected to what we read about the blessing of Jacob:

DAN (49:16-18)

יָשְרָאֵל: יִשְׂרָאֵל: DAN SHALL GOVERN HIS PEOPLE, AS ONE OF THE TRIBES OF ISRAEL.17 יְהִי־דָן נָחָשׁ עֲלֵי־דֶּׁרֶךְ שָׁפִּיפָּן עֲלֵי־אֻׁרַח DAN SHALL BE A SERPENT BY THE ROAD, A VIPER BY THE PATH, THAT BITES THE HORSE'S HEELS SO THAT HIS RIDER IS THROWN BACKWARD 18 לֵישׁוּעַתְּךָּ קְנִיתִי יְהֹוָה: WAIT FOR YOUR DELIVERANCE, O LORD!

1/1/2021

In his blessing, Jacob speaks of him being a viper striking the heals of the horse. This parallels what we read in Bereshit / Genesis 3:15 "the man will crush the serpent's head" (הוא ישופך ראש) Note that it is Chizkuni, Genesis 49:17 Part 2, who suggests this connection. We also know that Bereshit / Genesis 3:15 is a messianic prophecy. This historical point of view is also of interest as it helps to explain why the tribe of Dan is not mentioned in Revelation 7:4-8. According to the Tanach, the tribe of Dan as a whole was guilty of gross idolatry, even to the point of stealing the idols they used to practice their religion (see Judges 18:14-31). It was also Dan who first organized idolatry in ancient Israel, and the longest in duration. (Judges 18:30) Jewish tradition says that Dan was the first tribe to follow Jeroboam into his sin of idolatry, and the rabbinic literature the tribe of Dan is often used to represent idolatry. Note the following references

RASHI ON DEUTERONOMY 34:1 PART 3

עד דו UNTO DAN - HE SHOWED HIM THE CHILDREN OF DAN PRACTICING IDOLATRY, AS IT IS SAID. "AND THE SONS OF DAN ERECTED THE GRAVEN IMAGE FOR THEMSELVES": AND HE SHOWED HIM ALSO SAMSON WHO WOULD IN THE FUTURE (REF. PENTATEUCH WITH RASHI'S COMMENTARY BY M. ROSENBAUM AND A.M. SILBERMANN, 1929-1934)

SIFREI DEVARIM 357:7

VARIANTLY: "UNTIL DAN": WE ARE HEREBY TAUGHT THAT HE SHOWED HIM THE SEED OF DAN, SERVING IDOLATRY, VIZ. "AND THE CHILDREN OF DAN SET UP FOR THEMSELVES THE CARVED IMAGE, ETC.

(REF. SIFREI BY RABBI SHRAGA SILVERSTEIN)

TUR HAAROCH, NUMBERS 2:2 PART 1

JUDGES 18 DESCRIBES THAT THE TRIBE OF DAN HIRED THEMSELVES A PHONY PRIEST AND INSTITUTED IDOLATRY IN THEIR NEWLY CONQUERED TERRITORY, FORMERLY KNOWN AS LAYISH.

(REF. TUR ON THE TORAH, TRANS. ELIYAHU MUNK)

RASHI ON EZEKIEL 16:15 PART 3

THIS ENTIRE ALLEGORY REPRESENTS THE CALF OF THE DESERT AND THE OTHER IDOLATRY THAT THE TRIBE OF DAN WORSHIPPED IN THE DESERT, AS IT IS WRITTEN: "ALL THOSE WHO TRAILED AFTER YOU," AND WE FIND IN THE PESIKTA EZEKIEL.

(ENGLISH TRANSLATION BY S. FISCH, SONCINO PRESS, 1950)

We note also that Dan is missing from the genealogies in 1 Chronicles 1-9. This is also a significant observation in light of Revelation 7. Many have suggested that Dan may have not returned form captivity and thus lost his place in the tribes. We not that Ephraim is not mentioned, and Ephraim in both the Scriptures and the Rabbinic literature at times are synonymous to the entire northern kingdom in terms of idolatrous worship. The prophet Hosea speaks of Ephraim as describing the 10 tribes (northern kingdom) as being in apostasy in idolatry. The historical and literary analysis of this does suggests these as reasons, however, I feel it is prophetic word Jacob spoke over Dan that is most significant. Dan being connected to Bereshit / Genesis 3:15, Jacob says סוֹס ' עַּלְּי בְּעָלִי בְּעָלֵי עַּלְי בְּעָלֵי עַלְי בְּעָלֵי עַלְי בְּעָלִי בְעָלִי בְּעָלִי בְעָלִי בְּעָלִי בְעָלִי בְּעָלִי בְעָלִי בְּעָלִי בְּעָלִי בְּעָלִי בְעָלִי בְּעָלִי בְעָלִי בְּעָלִי בְּעָלִי בְעָלִי בְּעָלִי בְעָלִי בְּעָלִי בְּעָלִי בְּעָלִי בְּעָלִי בְעָלִי בְּעָלִי בְּעִלְי בְעִלְי בְעִלְי בְּעִלְי בְעִלְי בְּעָלִי בְּעִלְי בְּעָלִי בְעִלְי בְעִלְי בְעִלְי בְעִלְי בְּעִלְי בְּעִלְי בְעִלְי בְעִלְי בְּעִלְי בְעִלְי בְעִי בְעִי בְעִלְי בְעִלְי בְעִי בְּעִי בְעִי בְּעִי בְּעִי בְּעִי בְּעִי בְעִי בְעִי בְעִי בְּעִי ב

The last line in Dan's blessing from Jacob states, אַרְּיָהָי הְּיָהָי ְּהַיְּיִה קְּיִיהִי ְּהַוֹּהְ ְּהְיִיה ְּהָיִיהְ ְּהָיִּה ְּהָיִיה ְּהָיִהְיִּה ְּהָיִיה ְּהָיִה ְּהָיה ְּהָה ְּה long suffering told in Revelation 7 to remember the life of Joseph, how he was faithful, long suffering, forgiving, and merciful, and most importantly, he was a savior of the world as a type of messiah. The things that we learn about the tribe of Dan and Joseph here in relation to the book of Revelation are very important and illustrate for us why studying Torah is so important for our lives, especially for understanding all of Scripture! The Torah speaks to the salvation of God and of His Messiah Yeshua! We even see Yeshua's (ישׁוּע) name right here in the blessing, הְּיִּהְיִּהְ ְּהַיְּיִה ְּהְיִּה ְּיִהְיִה ְּהְיִּה ְיִּהְיִּה ְּיִה ְּיִּה ְּיִרְיִי ְּהְוֹּה Ord! Now, should we ask ourselves why it is so important that we believe in Yeshua as the NT text states we should? Certainly, faith in Yeshua as the Savior Messiah of God is taught from the very beginning of the pages of Scripture!

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Dan and Ephraim not mentioned in Revelation, פרשת ויחי, Parashat Vayechi, Bits of Torah Truths - Digging Deeper - MATSATI.COM Teachi...

rare earth elements using patent pending sorbents. His research expertise has focused on operandocharacterization using Infrared, Raman, and UV-Vis spectroscopy to observe the nature of the catalytic
active sites and reaction intermediates under realistic reaction conditions, allowing direct correlation of
molecular/electronic structures with catalyst performance during Gas-Solid / Liquid-Solid Adsorption and
Photocatalytic Processes with real time online analysis of reaction products using ICP-MS and mass
spectrometry. His current work involves a multi-disciplinary approach to developing, understanding, and
improving the catalytic gasification of coal and methane, high temperature chemical looping combustion,
and the catalytic decomposition and gasification of biomass and coal using novel microwave reactor. He has
been studying the Hebrew Scriptures and the Torah for 20+ years and sharing what he has learned. The
studies developed for MATSATI.COM are freely to be used by everyone, to God be the Glory!

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