

## Bible Teaching Resources

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# What You Need to Know About ISAAC & JACOB

## Part 1

### STUDY NUMBER ONE - GENESIS 24:1-33

### NOTES

v. 1 Abraham was now old and well advanced in years, and the Lord had blessed him in every way.

v. 2 He said to the chief servant in his household, the one in charge of all that he had, "Put your hand under my thigh.

v. 3 I want you to swear by the Lord, the God of heaven and the God of earth, that you will not get a wife for my son from the daughters of the Canaanites, among whom I am living,

v. 4 but will go to my country and my own relatives and get a wife for my son Isaac."

v. 5 The servant asked him, "What if the woman is unwilling to come back with me to this land? Shall I then take your son back to the country you came from?"

v. 6 "Make sure that you do not take my son back there," Abraham said.

v. 7 "The Lord, the God of heaven, who brought me out of my father's household and my native land and who spoke to me and promised me on oath, saying, 'To your offspring I will give this land'—he will send his angel before you so that you can get a wife for my son from there.

v. 8 If the woman is unwilling to come back with you, then you will be released from this oath of mine. Only do not take my son back there."

v. 9 So the servant put his hand under the thigh of his master Abraham and swore an oath to him concerning this matter.

v. 10 Then the servant took ten of his master's camels and left, taking with him all kinds of good things from his master. He set out for Aram Naharaim and made his way to the town of Nahor.

v. 11 He had the camels kneel down near the well outside the town; it was toward evening, the time the women go out to draw water.

v. 12 Then he prayed, "O Lord, God of my master Abraham, give me success today, and show kindness to my master Abraham.

v. 13 See, I am standing beside this spring, and the daughters of the townspeople are coming out to draw water.

v. 14 May it be that when I say to a girl, 'Please let down your jar that I may have a drink,' and she says, 'Drink, and I'll water your camels too'—let her be the one you have chosen for your servant Isaac. By this I will know that you have shown kindness to my master."

v. 15 Before he had finished praying, Rebekah came out with her jar on her shoulder. She was the daughter of Bethuel son of Milcah, who was the wife of Abraham's brother Nahor.

v. 16 The girl was very beautiful, a virgin; no man had ever lain with her. She went down to the spring, filled her jar and came up again.

v. 17 The servant hurried to meet her and said, "Please give me a little water from your jar."

v. 18 "Drink, my lord," she said, and quickly lowered the jar to her hands and gave him a drink.

v. 19 After she had given him a drink, she said, "I'll draw water for your camels too, until they have finished drinking."

v. 20 So she quickly emptied her jar into the trough, ran back to the well to draw more water, and drew enough for all his camels.

v. 21 Without saying a word, the man watched her closely to learn whether or not the Lord had made his journey successful.

v. 22 When the camels had finished drinking, the man took out a gold nose ring weighing a beka and two gold bracelets weighing ten shekels.

v. 23 Then he asked, "Whose daughter are you? Please tell me, is there room in your father's house for us to spend the night?"

v. 24 She answered him, "I am the daughter of Bethuel, the son that Milcah bore to Nahor."

v. 25 And she added, "We have plenty of straw and fodder, as well as room for you to spend the night."

v. 26 Then the man bowed down and worshiped the Lord,

v. 27 saying, "Praise be to the Lord, the God of my master Abraham, who has not abandoned his kindness and faithfulness to my master. As for me, the Lord has led me on the journey to the house of my master's relatives."

v. 28 The girl ran and told her mother's household about these things.

v. 29 Now Rebekah had a brother named Laban, and he hurried out to the man at the spring.

v. 30 As soon as he had seen the nose ring, and the bracelets on his sister's arms, and had heard Rebekah tell what the man said to her, he went out to the man and found him standing by the camels near the spring.

v. 31 "Come, you who are blessed by the Lord," he said. "Why are you standing out here? I have prepared the house and a place for the camels."

v. 32 So the man went to the house, and the camels were unloaded. Straw and fodder were brought for the camels, and water for him and his men to wash their feet.

v. 33 Then food was set before him, but he said, "I will not eat until I have told you what I have to say." "Then tell us," [Laban] said.

**QUESTIONS:**

1. Read Genesis 24:1-33 and in your own words pull out the main thought of this passage.

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2. Answer the questions Why and How Abraham becomes an illustration of a man who finishes well?

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3. What three things has the Lord done for Abraham, according to verse 7?

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4. According to verse 7, what will the Lord do to insure a successful mission for the servant?

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5. What two things does the servant pray for in verse 12?

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6. What two things does the servant ask of the Lord in guiding him to the girl that the Lord would have for Isaac? (See verse 14)

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7. How quick was the Lord to answer his prayer, according to verse 15?  
(Also see Isaiah 65:24)

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8. Outline the servant's proper response to what the Lord has done in verses 26 & 27.

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9. Which verse in the study has meant the most to you?

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10. What lesson have you learned from this study?

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### **LESSONS FROM THE PASSAGE:**

What are some of the lessons we can learn from this particular study?

LESSON #1: Abraham serves as a perfect illustration of the joy of aging well. “The Lord had blessed him in every way” (verse 1).

LESSON #2: Abraham was blessed by an unconditional covenant that involved the seed and the land, the miraculous birth of Isaac, the forgiveness of sin when he failed, and Jehovah-Jirah, the Lord who provides a sacrifice.

LESSON #3: Abraham’s secret was unquestioned obedience, faithful intercession, and fellowship with his Lord.

LESSON #4: Abraham is taking care of business before he gets the call from the home office. David did a similar thing in providing everything that Solomon would need for the building of the temple.

LESSON #5: Abraham’s faith in the project of getting a wife for Isaac is demonstrated in verse 7: “. . . he [the Lord] will send his angel before you so that you can get a wife for my son from there.”

LESSON #6: The Lord was faithful to lead the servant and his entourage right to Abraham’s relatives.

LESSON #7: The servant, when he arrives at the destination, prays: “. . . give me success today, and show kindness to my master Abraham” (verse 12).

LESSON #8: The Lord is eager to respond to our petitions. The text says: “Before he had finished praying, Rebekah came out with her jar on her shoulder” (verse 15).

LESSON #9: Rebekah gave him a drink and watered the camels and the servant, without saying a word, “watched her closely to learn whether or not the Lord had made his journey successful” (verse 21).

LESSON #10: It’s one thing to pray but it is another thing to express gratitude through praise and the servant teaches us that: “Then the man bowed down and worshiped the Lord, saying, ‘Praise be to the Lord, the God of my master Abraham, who has not abandoned his kindness and faithfulness to my master. As for me, the Lord has led me on the journey to the house of my master’s relatives’” (verses 26-27).

LESSON #11: The servant is like our Savior in that personal things can wait, the mission takes priority: “Then food was set before him, but he said, ‘I will not eat until I have told you what I have to say’” (verse 33).

### **ADDITIONAL NOTES:**

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### **STUDY NUMBER TWO - GENESIS 24:34-67**

### **NOTES**

v. 34 So he said, “I am Abraham’s servant.

v. 35 The Lord has blessed my master abundantly, and he has become wealthy. He has given him sheep and cattle, silver and gold, menservants and maidservants, and camels and donkeys.

v. 36 My master’s wife Sarah has borne him a son in her old age, and he has given him everything he owns.

v. 37 And my master made me swear an oath, and said, ‘You must not get a wife for my son from the daughters of the Canaanites, in whose land I live,  
v. 38 but go to my father’s family and to my own clan, and get a wife for my son.’

v. 39 “Then I asked my master, ‘What if the woman will not come back with me?’

v. 40 “He replied, ‘The Lord, before whom I have walked, will send his angel with you and make your journey a success, so that you can get a wife for my son from my own clan and from my father’s family.

v. 41 Then, when you go to my clan, you will be released from my oath even if they refuse to give her to you—you will be released from my oath.’

v. 42 “When I came to the spring today, I said, ‘O Lord, God of my master Abraham, if you will, please grant success to the journey on which I have come.

v. 43 See, I am standing beside this spring; if a maiden comes out to draw water and I say to her, "Please let me drink a little water from your jar,"

v. 44 and if she says to me, "Drink, and I'll draw water for your camels too," let her be the one the Lord has chosen for my master's son.'

v. 45 "Before I finished praying in my heart, Rebekah came out, with her jar on her shoulder. She went down to the spring and drew water, and I said to her, 'Please give me a drink.'

v. 46 "She quickly lowered her jar from her shoulder and said, 'Drink, and I'll water your camels too.' So I drank, and she watered the camels also.

v. 47 "I asked her, 'Whose daughter are you?' "She said, 'The daughter of Bethuel son of Nahor, whom Milcah bore to him.' "Then I put the ring in her nose and the bracelets on her arms,

v. 48 and I bowed down and worshiped the Lord. I praised the Lord, the God of my master Abraham, who had led me on the right road to get the granddaughter of my master's brother for his son.

v. 49 Now if you will show kindness and faithfulness to my master, tell me; and if not, tell me, so I may know which way to turn."

v. 50 Laban and Bethuel answered, "This is from the Lord; we can say nothing to you one way or the other.

v. 51 Here is Rebekah; take her and go, and let her become the wife of your master's son, as the Lord has directed."

v. 52 When Abraham's servant heard what they said, he bowed down to the ground before the Lord.

v. 53 Then the servant brought out gold and silver jewelry and articles of clothing and gave them to Rebekah; he also gave costly gifts to her brother and to her mother.

v. 54 Then he and the men who were with him ate and drank and spent the night there. When they got up the next morning, he said, "Send me on my way to my master."

v. 55 But her brother and her mother replied, "Let the girl remain with us ten days or so; then you may go."

v. 56 But he said to them, "Do not detain me, now that the Lord has granted success to my journey. Send me on my way so I may go to my master."

v. 57 Then they said, "Let's call the girl and ask her about it."

v. 58 So they called Rebekah and asked her, "Will you go with this man?" "I will go," she said.

v. 59 So they sent their sister Rebekah on her way, along with her nurse and Abraham's servant and his men.

v. 60 And they blessed Rebekah and said to her, "Our sister, may you increase to thousands upon thousands; may your offspring possess the gates of their enemies."

v. 61 Then Rebekah and her maids got ready and mounted their camels and went back with the man. So the servant took Rebekah and left.

v. 62 Now Isaac had come from Beer Lahai Roi, for he was living in the Negev.

v. 63 He went out to the field one evening to meditate, and as he looked up, he saw camels approaching.

v. 64 Rebekah also looked up and saw Isaac. She got down from her camel

v. 65 and asked the servant, "Who is that man in the field coming to meet us?" "He is my master," the servant answered. So she took her veil and covered herself.

v. 66 Then the servant told Isaac all he had done.

**NOTES**

v. 67 Isaac brought her into the tent of his mother Sarah, and he married Rebekah. So she became his wife, and he loved her; and Isaac was comforted after his mother's death.

**QUESTIONS:**

1. Read Genesis 24:34-67 and in your own words pull out the main thought of this passage.

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2. Summarize what the servant says about his master Abraham in verses 35 & 36.

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3. Summarize the servant's mission, according to verse 38.

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4. Summarize the servant's prayer in verses 42-44.

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5. How eager is the Lord to answer the servant's prayer, according to verse 45? Compare with Isaiah 65:24.

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6. How do Laban and Bethuel respond to the servant's message, according to verse 50?

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7. How eager is the servant to return to his master, according to verses 54 & 56?

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8. How does Rebekah respond to the family's question in verse 58?

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9. Which verse in the study has meant the most to you?

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10. What lesson have you learned from this study?

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### **LESSONS FROM THE PASSAGE:**

What are some of the lessons we can learn from this particular study?

LESSON #1: What an unselfish, sacrificial servant we have seen in Eliezer of Damascus.

LESSON #2: The Lord is in the business of blessing His faithful followers. Abraham's life proves that.

LESSON #3: Abraham's final act as a faithful servant was to get a wife from his family to preserve the purity of the covenant that the Lord had made with him earlier.

LESSON #4: When we are traveling in the center of the will of our Father, He has promised His peace and His presence to be our portion.

LESSON #5: Abraham's servant teaches us the priority of prayer and praise as a part and parcel of our walk with God.

LESSON #6: The servant's witness is "Before I finished praying in my heart, Rebekah came out" (verse 45).

LESSON #7: "Before they call I will answer; while they are still speaking I will hear" (Isaiah 65:24 NIV).

LESSON #8: The servant's testimony of praise is recorded in verse 48: "and I bowed down and worshiped the Lord. I praised the Lord, the God of my master Abraham, who had led me on the right road to get the granddaughter of my master's brother for his son."

LESSON #9: The testimony of Laban and Bethuel is: “This is from the Lord; we can say nothing to you one way or the other” (verse 50).

LESSON #10: Once again Abraham’s servant “bowed down to the ground before the Lord” in worship and praise (verse 52).

LESSON #11: The passionate request of the servant is seen the next morning when he says: “Send me on my way to my master” (verse 54).

LESSON #12: The servant is much like Jesus who said: “I must work the works of Him who sent Me while it is day; *the* night is coming when no one can work” (John 9:4 NKJV). The servant says: “Do not detain me” (verse 56).

LESSON #13: The question to Rebekah from her family is: “Will you go with this man?” And her response is: “I will go” (verse 58).

LESSON #14: Isaac illustrates the words of the psalmist in Psalm 1:2: “But his delight is in the law of the Lord, and on his law he meditates day and night” (NIV).

LESSON #15: “Then the servant told Isaac all he had done” (verse 66). And we would respond with the deepest wish of our hearts that we would hear from the Lord of glory ourselves when we reach Him at the end of the journey: “Well done thou good and faithful servant, enter into the joys I have prepared for thee.”

### **ADDITIONAL NOTES:**

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**STUDY NUMBER THREE - GENESIS 25:19-34****NOTES**

v. 19 This is the account of Abraham's son Isaac. Abraham became the father of Isaac,

v. 20 and Isaac was forty years old when he married Rebekah daughter of Bethuel the Aramean from Paddan Aram and sister of Laban the Aramean.

v. 21 Isaac prayed to the Lord on behalf of his wife, because she was barren. The Lord answered his prayer, and his wife Rebekah became pregnant.

v. 22 The babies jostled each other within her, and she said, "Why is this happening to me?" So she went to inquire of the Lord.

v. 23 The Lord said to her, "Two nations are in your womb, and two peoples from within you will be separated; one people will be stronger than the other, and the older will serve the younger."

v. 24 When the time came for her to give birth, there were twin boys in her womb.

v. 25 The first to come out was red, and his whole body was like a hairy garment; so they named him Esau.

v. 26 After this, his brother came out, with his hand grasping Esau's heel; so he was named Jacob. Isaac was sixty years old when Rebekah gave birth to them.

v. 27 The boys grew up, and Esau became a skillful hunter, a man of the open country, while Jacob was a quiet man, staying among the tents.

v. 28 Isaac, who had a taste for wild game, loved Esau, but Rebekah loved Jacob.

v. 29 Once when Jacob was cooking some stew, Esau came in from the open country, famished.

v. 30 He said to Jacob, "Quick, let me have some of that red stew! I'm famished!" (That is why he was also called Edom.)

v. 31 Jacob replied, "First sell me your birthright."

v. 32 "Look, I am about to die," Esau said. "What good is the birthright to me?"

v. 33 But Jacob said, "Swear to me first." So he swore an oath to him, selling his birthright to Jacob.

v. 34 Then Jacob gave Esau some bread and some lentil stew. He ate and drank, and then got up and left. So Esau despised his birthright.

**QUESTIONS:**

1. Read Genesis 25:19-34 and in your own words pull out the main thought of this passage.

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2. What did Isaac ask of the Lord in verse 21?

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3. What did the Lord tell Rebekah in verse 23?

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4. What were the twins' names that were born to Rebekah?

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5. Describe the differences between the two boys, according to verse 27.

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6. Describe the parental relationship to the two boys, according to verse 28.

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7. Describe what took place in Jacob's acquisition of the birthright from Esau.

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8. What was the significance of the birthright?

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9. Which verse in the study has meant the most to you?

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10. What lesson have you learned from this study?

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**LESSONS FROM THE PASSAGE:**

What are some of the lessons we can learn from this particular study?

LESSON #1: Isaac and Rebekah form a contrast to their offspring Jacob, by being willing to wait for God to fulfill His promise.

LESSON #2: God always gives exceeding abundantly. There are two children given in answer to their prayer.

LESSON #3: God is always faithful to fulfill His promises.

LESSON #4: Parental favoritism creates problems with the children.

LESSON #5: Never try to help God to fulfill His promise by human methods.

LESSON #6: The tragedy of developing the physical without the spiritual is seen in Esau and his life.

LESSON #7: Faith and patience go together in the child of God.

LESSON #8: Esau lived for the physical and temporary. He lived with no thought for the spiritual.

LESSON #9: God's love did not begin because of what we were and it will continue in spite of what we are. It is unconditional and eternal.

LESSON #10: Don't make major decisions under the stress of the moment.

**ADDITIONAL NOTES:**

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**STUDY NUMBER FOUR - GENESIS 26:1-35****NOTES**

v. 1 Now there was a famine in the land—besides the earlier famine of Abraham’s time—and Isaac went to Abimelech king of the Philistines in Gerar.

v. 2 The Lord appeared to Isaac and said, “Do not go down to Egypt; live in the land where I tell you to live.

v. 3 Stay in this land for a while, and I will be with you and will bless you. For to you and your descendants I will give all these lands and will confirm the oath I swore to your father Abraham.

v. 4 I will make your descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky and will give them all these lands, and through your offspring all nations on earth will be blessed,

v. 5 because Abraham obeyed me and kept my requirements, my commands, my decrees and my laws.”

v. 6 So Isaac stayed in Gerar.

v. 7 When the men of that place asked him about his wife, he said, “She is my sister,” because he was afraid to say, “She is my wife.” He thought, “The men of this place might kill me on account of Rebekah, because she is beautiful.”

v. 8 When Isaac had been there a long time, Abimelech king of the Philistines looked down from a window and saw Isaac caressing his wife Rebekah.

v. 9 So Abimelech summoned Isaac and said, “She is really your wife! Why did you say, ‘She is my sister?’” Isaac answered him, “Because I thought I might lose my life on account of her.”

v. 10 Then Abimelech said, “What is this you have done to us? One of the men might well have slept with your wife, and you would have brought guilt upon us.”

v. 11 So Abimelech gave orders to all the people: “Anyone who molests this man or his wife shall surely be put to death.”

v. 12 Isaac planted crops in that land and the same year reaped a hundredfold, because the Lord blessed him.

v. 13 The man became rich, and his wealth continued to grow until he became very wealthy.

v. 14 He had so many flocks and herds and servants that the Philistines envied him.

v. 15 So all the wells that his father’s servants had dug in the time of his father Abraham, the Philistines stopped up, filling them with earth.

v. 16 Then Abimelech said to Isaac, “Move away from us; you have become too powerful for us.”

v. 17 So Isaac moved away from there and encamped in the Valley of Gerar and settled there.

v. 18 Isaac reopened the wells that had been dug in the time of his father Abraham, which the Philistines had stopped up after Abraham died, and he gave them the same names his father had given them.

v. 19 Isaac’s servants dug in the valley and discovered a well of fresh water there.

v. 20 But the herdsmen of Gerar quarreled with Isaac’s herdsmen and said, “The water is ours!” So he named the well Esek, because they disputed with him.

v. 21 Then they dug another well, but they quarreled over that one also; so he named it Sitnah.

**NOTES**

v. 22 He moved on from there and dug another well, and no one quarreled over it. He named it Rehoboth, saying, "Now the Lord has given us room and we will flourish in the land."

v. 23 From there he went up to Beersheba.

v. 24 That night the Lord appeared to him and said, "I am the God of your father Abraham. Do not be afraid, for I am with you; I will bless you and will increase the number of your descendants for the sake of my servant Abraham."

v. 25 Isaac built an altar there and called on the name of the Lord. There he pitched his tent, and there his servants dug a well.

v. 26 Meanwhile, Abimelech had come to him from Gerar, with Ahuzzath his personal adviser and Phicol the commander of his forces.

v. 27 Isaac asked them, "Why have you come to me, since you were hostile to me and sent me away?"

v. 28 They answered, "We saw clearly that the Lord was with you; so we said, 'There ought to be a sworn agreement between us'—between us and you. Let us make a treaty with you

v. 29 that you will do us no harm, just as we did not molest you but always treated you well and sent you away in peace. And now you are blessed by the Lord."

v. 30 Isaac then made a feast for them, and they ate and drank.

v. 31 Early the next morning the men swore an oath to each other. Then Isaac sent them on their way, and they left him in peace.

v. 32 That day Isaac's servants came and told him about the well they had dug. They said, "We've found water!"

v. 33 He called it Shibah, and to this day the name of the town has been Beersheba.

v. 34 When Esau was forty years old, he married Judith daughter of Beeri the Hittite, and also Basemath daughter of Elon the Hittite.

v. 35 They were a source of grief to Isaac and Rebekah.

**QUESTIONS:**

1. Read Genesis 26:1-35 and in your own words pull out the main thought of this passage.

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2. What did the Lord say to Isaac, according to verses 2 & 3?

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3. Why was Abraham blessed, according to verse 5?

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4. Summarize what Isaac did wrong in verses 7-9 and how it affected his relationships.

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5. What did the Lord do for Isaac, according to verses 12-14?

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6. Trace Isaac’s water well projects beginning in verse 18 and going down to verse 33.

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7. How did the citizens of the land respond to Isaac in verses 28 & 29?

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8. What did Esau do wrong, according to verse 34? What was the response of Isaac and Rebekah?

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9. Which verse in the study has meant the most to you?

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10. What lesson have you learned from this study?

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**LESSONS FROM THE PASSAGE:**

What are some of the lessons we can learn from this particular study?

LESSON #1: The Lord often uses famines or natural disasters in our lives to get our attention and to see whether or not we will trust Him in our time of need.

LESSON #2: The Lord cares about His children when they are about to make a mistake because He said to Isaac: “Do not go down to Egypt” (verse 2).

LESSON #3: When we are obedient to the Lord's direction, He has promised us His presence: "I will be with you" (verse 3).

LESSON #4: Abraham's legacy is given by the Lord: "[He] obeyed me and kept my requirements, my commands, my decrees and my laws" (verse 5).

LESSON #5: Isaac turns to the sins of his father when he lies about Rebekah and their relationship.

LESSON #6: How tragic to be rebuked by a pagan king for our sin.

LESSON #7: When Isaac's lying had been brought to the surface he was then in a position for the Lord to provide blessing and the Lord did just that. "Isaac planted crops in that land and the same year reaped a hundredfold, because the Lord blessed him" (verse 12).

LESSON #8: Isaac was a meek and gentle man in his relationships with the citizens of this foreign country.

LESSON #9: When Isaac crossed the borders into the land by going to Beersheba, the Lord appeared to him and said: "I am the God of your father Abraham. Do not be afraid, for I am with you" (verse 24).

LESSON #10: "Isaac built an altar there and called on the name of the Lord" (verse 25).

LESSON #11: Has anyone ever said to you: "We saw clearly that the Lord was with you" (verse 28)?

LESSON #12: Esau teaches us the tragedy of being unequally yoked together with unbelievers. (See 2 Corinthians 6:14)

**ADDITIONAL NOTES:**

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**STUDY NUMBER FIVE - GENESIS 27:1-46****NOTES**

v. 1 When Isaac was old and his eyes were so weak that he could no longer see, he called for Esau his older son and said to him, “My son.” “Here I am,” he answered.

v. 2 Isaac said, “I am now an old man and don’t know the day of my death.

v. 3 Now then, get your weapons—your quiver and bow—and go out to the open country to hunt some wild game for me.

v. 4 Prepare me the kind of tasty food I like and bring it to me to eat, so that I may give you my blessing before I die.”

v. 5 Now Rebekah was listening as Isaac spoke to his son Esau. When Esau left for the open country to hunt game and bring it back,

v. 6 Rebekah said to her son Jacob, “Look, I overheard your father say to your brother Esau,

v. 7 ‘Bring me some game and prepare me some tasty food to eat, so that I may give you my blessing in the presence of the Lord before I die.’

v. 8 Now, my son, listen carefully and do what I tell you:

v. 9 Go out to the flock and bring me two choice young goats, so I can prepare some tasty food for your father, just the way he likes it.

v. 10 Then take it to your father to eat, so that he may give you his blessing before he dies.”

v. 11 Jacob said to Rebekah his mother, “But my brother Esau is a hairy man, and I’m a man with smooth skin.

v. 12 What if my father touches me? I would appear to be tricking him and would bring down a curse on myself rather than a blessing.”

v. 13 His mother said to him, “My son, let the curse fall on me. Just do what I say; go and get them for me.”

v. 14 So he went and got them and brought them to his mother, and she prepared some tasty food, just the way his father liked it.

v. 15 Then Rebekah took the best clothes of Esau her older son, which she had in the house, and put them on her younger son Jacob.

v. 16 She also covered his hands and the smooth part of his neck with the goatskins.

v. 17 Then she handed to her son Jacob the tasty food and the bread she had made.

v. 18 He went to his father and said, “My father.” “Yes, my son,” he answered. “Who is it?”

v. 19 Jacob said to his father, “I am Esau your firstborn. I have done as you told me. Please sit up and eat some of my game so that you may give me your blessing.”

v. 20 Isaac asked his son, “How did you find it so quickly, my son?” “The Lord your God gave me success,” he replied.

v. 21 Then Isaac said to Jacob, “Come near so I can touch you, my son, to know whether you really are my son Esau or not.”

v. 22 Jacob went close to his father Isaac, who touched him and said, “The voice is the voice of Jacob, but the hands are the hands of Esau.”

v. 23 He did not recognize him, for his hands were hairy like those of his brother Esau; so he blessed him.

v. 24 “Are you really my son Esau?” he asked. “I am,” he replied.

v. 25 Then he said, “My son, bring me some of your game to eat, so that I may give you my blessing.” Jacob brought it to him and he ate; and he brought some wine and he drank.

v. 26 Then his father Isaac said to him, “Come here, my son, and kiss me.”

v. 27 So he went to him and kissed him. When Isaac caught the smell of his clothes, he blessed him and said, “Ah, the smell of my son is like the smell of a field that the Lord has blessed.

v. 28 May God give you of heaven's dew and of earth's richness—an abundance of grain and new wine.

v. 29 May nations serve you and peoples bow down to you. Be lord over your brothers, and may the sons of your mother bow down to you. May those who curse you be cursed and those who bless you be blessed.”

v. 30 After Isaac finished blessing him and Jacob had scarcely left his father's presence, his brother Esau came in from hunting.

v. 31 He too prepared some tasty food and brought it to his father. Then he said to him, “My father, sit up and eat some of my game, so that you may give me your blessing.”

v. 32 His father Isaac asked him, “Who are you?” “I am your son,” he answered, “your firstborn, Esau.”

v. 33 Isaac trembled violently and said, “Who was it, then, that hunted game and brought it to me? I ate it just before you came and I blessed him—and indeed he will be blessed!”

v. 34 When Esau heard his father's words, he burst out with a loud and bitter cry and said to his father, “Bless me—me too, my father!”

v. 35 But he said, “Your brother came deceitfully and took your blessing.”

v. 36 Esau said, “Isn't he rightly named Jacob? He has deceived me these two times: He took my birthright, and now he's taken my blessing!” Then he asked, “Haven't you reserved any blessing for me?”

v. 37 Isaac answered Esau, “I have made him lord over you and have made all his relatives his servants, and I have sustained him with grain and new wine. So what can I possibly do for you, my son?”

v. 38 Esau said to his father, “Do you have only one blessing, my father? Bless me too, my father!” Then Esau wept aloud.

v. 39 His father Isaac answered him, “Your dwelling will be away from the earth's richness, away from the dew of heaven above.

v. 40 You will live by the sword and you will serve your brother. But when you grow restless, you will throw his yoke from off your neck.”

v. 41 Esau held a grudge against Jacob because of the blessing his father had given him. He said to himself, “The days of mourning for my father are near; then I will kill my brother Jacob.”

v. 42 When Rebekah was told what her older son Esau had said, she sent for her younger son Jacob and said to him, “Your brother Esau is consoling himself with the thought of killing you.

v. 43 Now then, my son, do what I say: Flee at once to my brother Laban in Haran.

v. 44 Stay with him for a while until your brother's fury subsides.

v. 45 When your brother is no longer angry with you and forgets what you did to him, I'll send word for you to come back from there. Why should I lose both of you in one day?”

v. 46 Then Rebekah said to Isaac, “I'm disgusted with living because of these Hittite women. If Jacob takes a wife from among the women of this land, from Hittite women like these, my life will not be worth living.”

**QUESTIONS:**

1. Read Genesis 27:1-46 and in your own words pull out the main thought of this passage.

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2. What does Isaac request of Esau in the first verses of chapter 27?

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3. Who was listening to the conversation of Isaac and Esau, and what is her response?

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4. What is Jacob's response to his father's question in verse 20?

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5. How does Isaac respond to this whole plan to trick Esau out of the blessing?

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6. Describe the blessing that is given to Jacob.

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7. What happens as soon as Isaac finishes the blessing of Jacob?

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8. How does Esau feel about losing the blessing, according to verse 41?

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9. Which verse in the study has meant the most to you?

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10. What lesson have you learned from this study?

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**LESSONS FROM THE PASSAGE:**

What are some of the lessons we can learn from this particular study?

LESSON #1: There is the bartering of divine privilege for carnal gratification.

LESSON #2: Isaac is trembling greatly because he is pitting himself against God's purpose.

LESSON #3: Beware of doing evil that good may come.

LESSON #4: Seek grace to prevent natural affections over-riding love for God and His revealed will.

LESSON #5: There is a principle, "Whatsoever a man soweth that shall he also reap." Jacob's ultimate exile and Rebekah's death only bear this out.

LESSON #6: It is impossible to thwart God's ultimate purpose. (See Isaiah 46:10)

LESSON #7: Jacob cooperates with his mother in prematurely taking his destiny into his own hands. (See Proverbs 16:9)

**ADDITIONAL NOTES:**

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**STUDY NUMBER SIX - GENESIS 28:1-22****NOTES**

v. 1 So Isaac called for Jacob and blessed him and commanded him: “Do not marry a Canaanite woman.

v. 2 Go at once to Paddan Aram, to the house of your mother’s father Bethuel. Take a wife for yourself there, from among the daughters of Laban, your mother’s brother.

v. 3 May God Almighty bless you and make you fruitful and increase your numbers until you become a community of peoples.

v. 4 May he give you and your descendants the blessing given to Abraham, so that you may take possession of the land where you now live as an alien, the land God gave to Abraham.”

v. 5 Then Isaac sent Jacob on his way, and he went to Paddan Aram, to Laban son of Bethuel the Aramean, the brother of Rebekah, who was the mother of Jacob and Esau.

v. 6 Now Esau learned that Isaac had blessed Jacob and had sent him to Paddan Aram to take a wife from there, and that when he blessed him he commanded him, “Do not marry a Canaanite woman,”

v. 7 and that Jacob had obeyed his father and mother and had gone to Paddan Aram.

v. 8 Esau then realized how displeasing the Canaanite women were to his father Isaac;

v. 9 so he went to Ishmael and married Mahalath, the sister of Nebaioth and daughter of Ishmael son of Abraham, in addition to the wives he already had.

v. 10 Jacob left Beersheba and set out for Haran.

v. 11 When he reached a certain place, he stopped for the night because the sun had set. Taking one of the stones there, he put it under his head and lay down to sleep.

v. 12 He had a dream in which he saw a stairway resting on the earth, with its top reaching to heaven, and the angels of God were ascending and descending on it.

v. 13 There above it stood the Lord, and he said: “I am the Lord, the God of your father Abraham and the God of Isaac. I will give you and your descendants the land on which you are lying.

v. 14 Your descendants will be like the dust of the earth, and you will spread out to the west and to the east, to the north and to the south. All peoples on earth will be blessed through you and your offspring.

v. 15 I am with you and will watch over you wherever you go, and I will bring you back to this land. I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you.”

v. 16 When Jacob awoke from his sleep, he thought, “Surely the Lord is in this place, and I was not aware of it.”

v. 17 He was afraid and said, “How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God; this is the gate of heaven.”

v. 18 Early the next morning Jacob took the stone he had placed under his head and set it up as a pillar and poured oil on top of it.

v. 19 He called that place Bethel, though the city used to be called Luz.

v. 20 Then Jacob made a vow, saying, “If God will be with me and will watch over me on this journey I am taking and will give me food to eat and clothes to wear

v. 21 so that I return safely to my father’s house, then the Lord will be my God

v. 22 and this stone that I have set up as a pillar will be God's house, and of all that you give me I will give you a tenth." |

**QUESTIONS:**

1. Read Genesis 28:1-22 and in your own words pull out the main thought of this passage.

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2. What does Isaac command Jacob to do in the first three verses of our study?

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3. What wish does he express for Jacob in verse 4?

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4. What is Esau's response to Isaac's blessing of Jacob?

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5. Describe the dream that Jacob had and the message from the Lord.

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6. What promise does the Lord give Jacob in verse 15?

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7. What is Jacob's response to this vision?

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8. What vow does Jacob make to the Lord in the concluding verses?

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9. Which verse in the study has meant the most to you?

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10. What lesson have you learned from this study?

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**LESSONS FROM THE PASSAGE:**

What are some of the lessons we can learn from this particular study?

LESSON #1: God brought and gave His blessings to Jacob, independent of his own human efforts.

LESSON #2: Esau’s human efforts look good on the outside but were not pleasing to God. Man looks on the outward, God looks on the heart!

LESSON #3: God is standing at the top of the stairs and the stairs represent Jesus Christ spanning the separation between a Holy God and sinful man.

LESSON #4: God’s promise of His presence, protection, preservation, and His promise of fulfillment are all given to us as well.

LESSON #5: Jacob’s fear was over past guilt in his life.

LESSON #6: Be sure and mark well the place of your conversion to alleviate future doubt.

LESSON #7: Do not make the mistake of making vows to God.

**ADDITIONAL NOTES:**

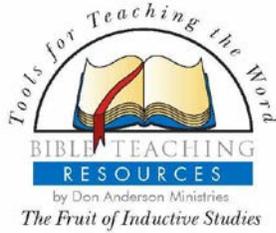
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# What You Need to Know About ISAAC & JACOB

## Part 2

### STUDY NUMBER SEVEN - GENESIS 29:1-35

### NOTES

29:v. 1 Then Jacob continued on his journey and came to the land of the eastern peoples.

v. 2 There he saw a well in the field, with three flocks of sheep lying near it because the flocks were watered from that well. The stone over the mouth of the well was large.

v. 3 When all the flocks were gathered there, the shepherds would roll the stone away from the well's mouth and water the sheep. Then they would return the stone to its place over the mouth of the well.

v. 4 Jacob asked the shepherds, "My brothers, where are you from?" "We're from Haran," they replied.

v. 5 He said to them, "Do you know Laban, Nahor's grandson?" "Yes, we know him," they answered.

v. 6 Then Jacob asked them, "Is he well?" "Yes, he is," they said, "and here comes his daughter Rachel with the sheep."

v. 7 "Look," he said, "the sun is still high; it is not time for the flocks to be gathered. Water the sheep and take them back to pasture."

v. 8 "We can't," they replied, "until all the flocks are gathered and the stone has been rolled away from the mouth of the well. Then we will water the sheep."

v. 9 While he was still talking with them, Rachel came with her father's sheep, for she was a shepherdess.

v. 10 When Jacob saw Rachel daughter of Laban, his mother's brother, and Laban's sheep, he went over and rolled the stone away from the mouth of the well and watered his uncle's sheep.

v. 11 Then Jacob kissed Rachel and began to weep aloud.

v. 12 He had told Rachel that he was a relative of her father and a son of Rebekah. So she ran and told her father.

v. 13 As soon as Laban heard the news about Jacob, his sister's son, he hurried to meet him. He embraced him and kissed him and brought him to his home, and there Jacob told him all these things.

v. 14 Then Laban said to him, "You are my own flesh and blood." After Jacob had stayed with him for a whole month,

v. 15 Laban said to him, "Just because you are a relative of mine, should you work for me for nothing? Tell me what your wages should be."

v. 16 Now Laban had two daughters; the name of the older was Leah, and the name of the younger was Rachel.

v. 17 Leah had weak eyes, but Rachel was lovely in form, and beautiful.

v. 18 Jacob was in love with Rachel and said, "I'll work for you seven years in return for your younger daughter Rachel."

v. 19 Laban said, "It's better that I give her to you than to some other man. Stay here with me."

v. 20 So Jacob served seven years to get Rachel, but they seemed like only a few days to him because of his love for her.

v. 21 Then Jacob said to Laban, "Give me my wife. My time is completed, and I want to lie with her."

v. 22 So Laban brought together all the people of the place and gave a feast.

v. 23 But when evening came, he took his daughter Leah and gave her to Jacob, and Jacob lay with her.

v. 24 And Laban gave his servant girl Zilpah to his daughter as her maidservant.

v. 25 When morning came, there was Leah! So Jacob said to Laban, "What is this you have done to me? I served you for Rachel, didn't I? Why have you deceived me?"

v. 26 Laban replied, "It is not our custom here to give the younger daughter in marriage before the older one.

v. 27 Finish this daughter's bridal week; then we will give you the younger one also, in return for another seven years of work."

v. 28 And Jacob did so. He finished the week with Leah, and then Laban gave him his daughter Rachel to be his wife.

v. 29 Laban gave his servant girl Bilhah to his daughter Rachel as her maidservant.

v. 30 Jacob lay with Rachel also, and he loved Rachel more than Leah. And he worked for Laban another seven years.

v. 31 When the Lord saw that Leah was not loved, he opened her womb, but Rachel was barren.

v. 32 Leah became pregnant and gave birth to a son. She named him Reuben, for she said, "It is because the Lord has seen my misery. Surely my husband will love me now."

v. 33 She conceived again, and when she gave birth to a son she said, "Because the Lord heard that I am not loved, he gave me this one too." So she named him Simeon.

v. 34 Again she conceived, and when she gave birth to a son she said, "Now at last my husband will become attached to me, because I have borne him three sons." So he was named Levi.

v. 35 She conceived again, and when she gave birth to a son she said, "This time I will praise the Lord." So she named him Judah. Then she stopped having children.

**QUESTIONS:**

1. Read Genesis 29:1-35 and in your own words pull out the main thought of this passage.

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2. Describe the scene in the opening verses of Genesis 29.

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3. Who does Jacob meet at the well?

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4. What does Jacob do for Rachel?

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5. Describe the working relationship between Laban and Jacob.

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6. How does Jacob feel about Rachel, according to verse 20?

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7. How does Laban trick Jacob after he served his time for Rachel?

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8. What does Jacob do in light of Laban's actions, according to verse 28?

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9. Which verse in the study has meant the most to you?

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10. What lesson have you learned from this study?

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**LESSONS FROM THE PASSAGE:**

What are some of the lessons we can learn from this particular study?

LESSON #1: We see the joy of being right with God as Jacob journeys toward Haran.  
“He lifted up his feet.”

LESSON #2: We see God’s guiding hand upon Jacob through the wilderness and desert area to the exact location where the Lord wants him to be. “The steps of a good man are ordered by the Lord” (Psalm 37:23, 24). “Trust in the Lord with all your heart, lean not unto your own understanding, in all your ways acknowledge him and he will direct your paths” (Proverbs 3:5, 6).

LESSON #3: God uses people in our lives to discipline us and to show us ourselves so that we can come to a true hatred of those things in our lives which are not pleasing to the Lord.

LESSON #4: Jacob learns three lessons through this disciplining experience: 1) submission; 2) rights; and 3) waiting.

LESSON #5: Jacob should have prayed and asked for the Lord’s wisdom in each of these experiences.

LESSON #6: Whatsoever a man soweth that shall he also reap.

**ADDITIONAL NOTES:**

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**STUDY NUMBER EIGHT - GENESIS 30:1-43****NOTES**

30:v. 1 When Rachel saw that she was not bearing Jacob any children, she became jealous of her sister. So she said to Jacob, "Give me children, or I'll die!"

v. 2 Jacob became angry with her and said, "Am I in the place of God, who has kept you from having children?"

v. 3 Then she said, "Here is Bilhah, my maidservant. Sleep with her so that she can bear children for me and that through her I too can build a family."

v. 4 So she gave him her servant Bilhah as a wife. Jacob slept with her,

v. 5 and she became pregnant and bore him a son.

v. 6 Then Rachel said, "God has vindicated me; he has listened to my plea and given me a son." Because of this she named him Dan.

v. 7 Rachel's servant Bilhah conceived again and bore Jacob a second son.

v. 8 Then Rachel said, "I have had a great struggle with my sister, and I have won." So she named him Naphtali.

v. 9 When Leah saw that she had stopped having children, she took her maidservant Zilpah and gave her to Jacob as a wife.

v. 10 Leah's servant Zilpah bore Jacob a son.

v. 11 Then Leah said, "What good fortune!" So she named him Gad.

v. 12 Leah's servant Zilpah bore Jacob a second son.

v. 13 Then Leah said, "How happy I am! The women will call me happy." So she named him Asher.

v. 14 During wheat harvest, Reuben went out into the fields and found some mandrake plants, which he brought to his mother Leah. Rachel said to Leah, "Please give me some of your son's mandrakes."

v. 15 But she said to her, "Wasn't it enough that you took away my husband? Will you take my son's mandrakes too?" "Very well," Rachel said, "he can sleep with you tonight in return for your son's mandrakes."

v. 16 So when Jacob came in from the fields that evening, Leah went out to meet him. "You must sleep with me," she said. "I have hired you with my son's mandrakes." So he slept with her that night.

v. 17 God listened to Leah, and she became pregnant and bore Jacob a fifth son.

v. 18 Then Leah said, "God has rewarded me for giving my maidservant to my husband." So she named him Issachar.

v. 19 Leah conceived again and bore Jacob a sixth son.

v. 20 Then Leah said, "God has presented me with a precious gift. This time my husband will treat me with honor, because I have borne him six sons." So she named him Zebulun.

v. 21 Some time later she gave birth to a daughter and named her Dinah.

v. 22 Then God remembered Rachel; he listened to her and opened her womb.

v. 23 She became pregnant and gave birth to a son and said, "God has taken away my disgrace."

v. 24 She named him Joseph, and said, "May the Lord add to me another son."

v. 25 After Rachel gave birth to Joseph, Jacob said to Laban, "Send me on my way so I can go back to my own homeland.

v. 26 Give me my wives and children, for whom I have served you, and I will be on my way. You know how much work I've done for you."

v. 27 But Laban said to him, "If I have found favor in your eyes, please stay. I have learned by divination that the Lord has blessed me because of you."

v. 28 He added, "Name your wages, and I will pay them."

v. 29 Jacob said to him, "You know how I have worked for you and how your livestock has fared under my care.

v. 30 The little you had before I came has increased greatly, and the Lord has blessed you wherever I have been. But now, when may I do something for my own household?"

v. 31 "What shall I give you?" he asked. "Don't give me anything," Jacob replied. "But if you will do this one thing for me, I will go on tending your flocks and watching over them:

v. 32 Let me go through all your flocks today and remove from them every speckled or spotted sheep, every dark-colored lamb and every spotted or speckled goat. They will be my wages.

v. 33 And my honesty will testify for me in the future, whenever you check on the wages you have paid me. Any goat in my possession that is not speckled or spotted, or any lamb that is not dark-colored, will be considered stolen."

v. 34 "Agreed," said Laban. "Let it be as you have said."

v. 35 That same day he removed all the male goats that were streaked or spotted, and all the speckled or spotted female goats (all that had white on them) and all the dark-colored lambs, and he placed them in the care of his sons.

v. 36 Then he put a three-day journey between himself and Jacob, while Jacob continued to tend the rest of Laban's flocks.

v. 37 Jacob, however, took fresh-cut branches from poplar, almond and plane trees and made white stripes on them by peeling the bark and exposing the white inner wood of the branches.

v. 38 Then he placed the peeled branches in all the watering troughs, so that they would be directly in front of the flocks when they came to drink. When the flocks were in heat and came to drink,

v. 39 they mated in front of the branches. And they bore young that were streaked or speckled or spotted.

v. 40 Jacob set apart the young of the flock by themselves, but made the rest face the streaked and dark-colored animals that belonged to Laban. Thus he made separate flocks for himself and did not put them with Laban's animals.

v. 41 Whenever the stronger females were in heat, Jacob would place the branches in the troughs in front of the animals so they would mate near the branches,

v. 42 but if the animals were weak, he would not place them there. So the weak animals went to Laban and the strong ones to Jacob.

v. 43 In this way the man grew exceedingly prosperous and came to own large flocks, and maidservants and menservants, and camels and donkeys.

### **QUESTIONS:**

1. Read Genesis 30:1-43 and in your own words pull out the main thought of this passage.

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2. What problem confronts Jacob and Rachel in verses 1 & 2?

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3. What action does Rachel take to solve her dilemma in the next verses?

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4. How does Leah respond to Rachel?

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5. What does God do to Rachel, according to verses 22 & 23?

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6. What name does Rachel give to her first son, and what is the significance of that name?

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7. What request does Jacob make of Laban in verses 25 & 26?

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8. How does Laban respond to Jacob's proposal, according to verse 27?

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9. Which verse in the study has meant the most to you?

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10. What lesson have you learned from this study?

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**LESSONS FROM THE PASSAGE:**

What are some of the lessons we can learn from this particular study?

LESSON #1: God uses our circumstances to train us and prepare us for fruitfulness.

LESSON #2: God's wisdom in having one woman for one man in marriage.

LESSON #3: Children are a gift from the Lord.

LESSON #4: Human efforts can never accomplish God's ultimate purpose.

LESSON #5: Our love and preferences sometimes do not equal God's will.

LESSON #6: God, in His own time, remembered Rachel and made her fruitful.

**ADDITIONAL NOTES:**


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**STUDY NUMBER NINE - GENESIS 31:1-55****NOTES**

31:v. 1 Jacob heard that Laban's sons were saying, "Jacob has taken everything our father owned and has gained all this wealth from what belonged to our father."

v. 2 And Jacob noticed that Laban's attitude toward him was not what it had been.

v. 3 Then the Lord said to Jacob, "Go back to the land of your fathers and to your relatives, and I will be with you."

v. 4 So Jacob sent word to Rachel and Leah to come out to the fields where his flocks were.

v. 5 He said to them, "I see that your father's attitude toward me is not what it was before, but the God of my father has been with me.

v. 6 You know that I've worked for your father with all my strength,

v. 7 yet your father has cheated me by changing my wages ten times.

However, God has not allowed him to harm me.

v. 8 If he said, 'The speckled ones will be your wages,' then all the flocks gave birth to speckled young; and if he said, 'The streaked ones will be your wages,' then all the flocks bore streaked young.

v. 9 So God has taken away your father's livestock and has given them to me.

v. 10 "In breeding season I once had a dream in which I looked up and saw that the male goats mating with the flock were streaked, speckled or spotted.

v. 11 The angel of God said to me in the dream, 'Jacob.' I answered, 'Here I am.'

v. 12 And he said, 'Look up and see that all the male goats mating with the flock are streaked, speckled or spotted, for I have seen all that Laban has been doing to you.'

v. 13 I am the God of Bethel, where you anointed a pillar and where you made a vow to me. Now leave this land at once and go back to your native land.'"

v. 14 Then Rachel and Leah replied, "Do we still have any share in the inheritance of our father's estate?"

v. 15 Does he not regard us as foreigners? Not only has he sold us, but he has used up what was paid for us.

v. 16 Surely all the wealth that God took away from our father belongs to us and our children. So do whatever God has told you."

v. 17 Then Jacob put his children and his wives on camels,

v. 18 and he drove all his livestock ahead of him, along with all the goods he had accumulated in Paddan Aram, to go to his father Isaac in the land of Canaan.

v. 19 When Laban had gone to shear his sheep, Rachel stole her father's household gods.

v. 20 Moreover, Jacob deceived Laban the Aramean by not telling him he was running away.

v. 21 So he fled with all he had, and crossing the River, he headed for the hill country of Gilead.

v. 22 On the third day Laban was told that Jacob had fled.

v. 23 Taking his relatives with him, he pursued Jacob for seven days and caught up with him in the hill country of Gilead.

v. 24 Then God came to Laban the Aramean in a dream at night and said to him, "Be careful not to say anything to Jacob, either good or bad."

v. 25 Jacob had pitched his tent in the hill country of Gilead when Laban overtook him, and Laban and his relatives camped there too.

v. 26 Then Laban said to Jacob, "What have you done? You've deceived me, and you've carried off my daughters like captives in war.

v. 27 Why did you run off secretly and deceive me? Why didn't you tell me, so I could send you away with joy and singing to the music of tambourines and harps?"

v. 28 You didn't even let me kiss my grandchildren and my daughters good-bye. You have done a foolish thing.

v. 29 I have the power to harm you; but last night the God of your father said to me, 'Be careful not to say anything to Jacob, either good or bad.'

v. 30 Now you have gone off because you longed to return to your father's house. But why did you steal my gods?"

v. 31 Jacob answered Laban, "I was afraid, because I thought you would take your daughters away from me by force.

v. 32 But if you find anyone who has your gods, he shall not live. In the presence of our relatives, see for yourself whether there is anything of yours here with me; and if so, take it." Now Jacob did not know that Rachel had stolen the gods.

v. 33 So Laban went into Jacob's tent and into Leah's tent and into the tent of the two maidservants, but he found nothing. After he came out of Leah's tent, he entered Rachel's tent.

v. 34 Now Rachel had taken the household gods and put them inside her camel's saddle and was sitting on them. Laban searched through everything in the tent but found nothing.

v. 35 Rachel said to her father, "Don't be angry, my lord, that I cannot stand up in your presence; I'm having my period." So he searched but could not find the household gods.

v. 36 Jacob was angry and took Laban to task. "What is my crime?" he asked Laban. "What sin have I committed that you hunt me down?"

v. 37 Now that you have searched through all my goods, what have you found that belongs to your household? Put it here in front of your relatives and mine, and let them judge between the two of us.

v. 38 "I have been with you for twenty years now. Your sheep and goats have not miscarried, nor have I eaten rams from your flocks.

v. 39 I did not bring you animals torn by wild beasts; I bore the loss myself. And you demanded payment from me for whatever was stolen by day or night.

v. 40 This was my situation: The heat consumed me in the daytime and the cold at night, and sleep fled from my eyes.

v. 41 It was like this for the twenty years I was in your household. I worked for you fourteen years for your two daughters and six years for your flocks, and you changed my wages ten times.

v. 42 If the God of my father, the God of Abraham and the Fear of Isaac, had not been with me, you would surely have sent me away empty-handed. But God has seen my hardship and the toil of my hands, and last night he rebuked you."

v. 43 Laban answered Jacob, "The women are my daughters, the children are my children, and the flocks are my flocks. All you see is mine. Yet what can I do today about these daughters of mine, or about the children they have borne?"

v. 44 Come now, let's make a covenant, you and I, and let it serve as a witness between us."

v. 45 So Jacob took a stone and set it up as a pillar.

v. 46 He said to his relatives, "Gather some stones." So they took stones and piled them in a heap, and they ate there by the heap.

v. 47 Laban called it Jegar Sahadutha, and Jacob called it Galeed.

v. 48 Laban said, "This heap is a witness between you and me today." That is why it was called Galeed.

v. 49 It was also called Mizpah, because he said, "May the Lord keep watch between you and me when we are away from each other.

v. 50 If you mistreat my daughters or if you take any wives besides my daughters, even though no one is with us, remember that God is a witness between you and me."

v. 51 Laban also said to Jacob, "Here is this heap, and here is this pillar I have set up between you and me.

v. 52 This heap is a witness, and this pillar is a witness, that I will not go past this heap to your side to harm you and that you will not go past this heap and pillar to my side to harm me.

v. 53 May the God of Abraham and the God of Nahor, the God of their father, judge between us." So Jacob took an oath in the name of the Fear of his father Isaac.

v. 54 He offered a sacrifice there in the hill country and invited his relatives to a meal. After they had eaten, they spent the night there.

**NOTES**

v. 55 Early the next morning Laban kissed his grandchildren and his daughters and blessed them. Then he left and returned home.

**QUESTIONS:**

1. Read Genesis 31:1-55 and in your own words pull out the main thought of this passage.

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2. What message does Jacob receive from the Lord, according to verse 3?

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3. Describe Jacob's and Laban's relationship, according to verses 5-9.

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4. How do Rachel and Leah respond to the message of the Lord which has been given to Jacob, according to verses 14-16?

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5. Where is Jacob heading with all of his possessions and family, according to verse 18?

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6. Describe Laban's response to their departure.

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7. What had Rachel done that caused Laban to search all of their belongings?

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8. How does Jacob respond to Laban, according to verses 36-42?

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9. Which verse in the study has meant the most to you?

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10. What lesson have you learned from this study?

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**LESSONS FROM THE PASSAGE:**

What are some of the lessons we can learn from this particular study?

LESSON #1: The indicators for a new direction in the will of God are described in these verses: 1) there is the inward indicator which is the desire on the part of the one being led; 2) there is the outward indicator and that is the circumstances that surround us; and 3) there is the upward indicator and that is God speaking clearly to us through His Word.

LESSON #2: Oneness with your wife is a safeguard in knowing His will.

LESSON #3: God did not allow Laban to hurt Jacob because Jacob was in the center of God's will.

LESSON #4: God is faithful to prosper when we are willing to trust Him and do it His way.

LESSON #5: Keep yourself from idols.

LESSON #6: Bitter and resentful feelings will often come to the surface at a time of confrontation.

LESSON #7: God has seen my affliction and the toil of my hands, so He rendered judgment last night.

**ADDITIONAL NOTES:**

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**STUDY NUMBER TEN - GENESIS 32:1-32****NOTES**

32:v. 1 Jacob also went on his way, and the angels of God met him.

v. 2 When Jacob saw them, he said, "This is the camp of God!" So he named that place Mahanaim.

v. 3 Jacob sent messengers ahead of him to his brother Esau in the land of Seir, the country of Edom.

v. 4 He instructed them: "This is what you are to say to my master Esau: 'Your servant Jacob says, I have been staying with Laban and have remained there till now.

v. 5 I have cattle and donkeys, sheep and goats, menservants and maidservants. Now I am sending this message to my lord, that I may find favor in your eyes.'"

v. 6 When the messengers returned to Jacob, they said, "We went to your brother Esau, and now he is coming to meet you, and four hundred men are with him."

v. 7 In great fear and distress Jacob divided the people who were with him into two groups, and the flocks and herds and camels as well.

v. 8 He thought, "If Esau comes and attacks one group, the group that is left may escape."

v. 9 Then Jacob prayed, "O God of my father Abraham, God of my father Isaac, O Lord, who said to me, 'Go back to your country and your relatives, and I will make you prosper,'

v. 10 I am unworthy of all the kindness and faithfulness you have shown your servant. I had only my staff when I crossed this Jordan, but now I have become two groups.

v. 11 Save me, I pray, from the hand of my brother Esau, for I am afraid he will come and attack me, and also the mothers with their children.

v. 12 But you have said, 'I will surely make you prosper and will make your descendants like the sand of the sea, which cannot be counted.'"

v. 13 He spent the night there, and from what he had with him he selected a gift for his brother Esau:

v. 14 two hundred female goats and twenty male goats, two hundred ewes and twenty rams,

v. 15 thirty female camels with their young, forty cows and ten bulls, and twenty female donkeys and ten male donkeys.

v. 16 He put them in the care of his servants, each herd by itself, and said to his servants, "Go ahead of me, and keep some space between the herds."

v. 17 He instructed the one in the lead: "When my brother Esau meets you and asks, 'To whom do you belong, and where are you going, and who owns all these animals in front of you?'

v. 18 then you are to say, 'They belong to your servant Jacob. They are a gift sent to my lord Esau, and he is coming behind us.'"

v. 19 He also instructed the second, the third and all the others who followed the herds: "You are to say the same thing to Esau when you meet him.

v. 20 And be sure to say, 'Your servant Jacob is coming behind us.'"

For he thought, "I will pacify him with these gifts I am sending on ahead; later, when I see him, perhaps he will receive me."

v. 21 So Jacob's gifts went on ahead of him, but he himself spent the night in the camp.

v. 22 That night Jacob got up and took his two wives, his two maidservants and his eleven sons and crossed the ford of the Jabbok.

**NOTES**

v. 23 After he had sent them across the stream, he sent over all his possessions.

v. 24 So Jacob was left alone, and a man wrestled with him till daybreak.

v. 25 When the man saw that he could not overpower him, he touched the socket of Jacob's hip so that his hip was wrenched as he wrestled with the man.

v. 26 Then the man said, "Let me go, for it is daybreak." But Jacob replied, "I will not let you go unless you bless me."

v. 27 The man asked him, "What is your name?" "Jacob," he answered.

v. 28 Then the man said, "Your name will no longer be Jacob, but Israel, because you have struggled with God and with men and have overcome."

v. 29 Jacob said, "Please tell me your name." But he replied, "Why do you ask my name?" Then he blessed him there.

v. 30 So Jacob called the place Peniel, saying, "It is because I saw God face to face, and yet my life was spared."

v. 31 The sun rose above him as he passed Peniel, and he was limping because of his hip.

v. 32 Therefore to this day the Israelites do not eat the tendon attached to the socket of the hip, because the socket of Jacob's hip was touched near the tendon.

**QUESTIONS:**

1. Read Genesis 32:1-32 and in your own words pull out the main thought of this passage.

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2. What happened to Jacob in verse 1?

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3. What preparations does Jacob make in the meeting of Esau?

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4. What report does Jacob receive from his servants, and how does he respond, according to verses 6 & 7?

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5. What does Jacob do in verses 9-12?

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6. What preparations does Jacob make for meeting Esau in verses 13-20?

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7. Describe what happens to Jacob in verses 24-30.

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8. What mark does Jacob bear as a result of his wrestling match, according to verse 31?

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9. Which verse in the study has meant the most to you?

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10. What lesson have you learned from this study?

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**LESSONS FROM THE PASSAGE:**

What are some of the lessons we can learn from this particular study?

LESSON #1: At the hour of Jacob’s need the angels met him. “But my God shall supply all your needs according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus” (Philippians 4:19).

LESSON #2: It is the Father’s will that we come to Him and as a servant ask of Him in prayer, “What wilt thou have me to do? Speak Lord for thy servant heareth.”

LESSON #3: It is not the Father’s desire to bless our plans as we pray.

LESSON #4: It is good to remind the Lord of His promises in the time of crises.

LESSON #5: The promises and the blessings will not be acquired through human effort.

LESSON #6: God may have to touch us physically when we fail to respond to Him spiritually.

LESSON #7: God helps the helpless.

LESSON #8: Jacob is now learning to do it God’s way.

**ADDITIONAL NOTES:**


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**STUDY NUMBER ELEVEN - GENESIS 33:1-20****NOTES**

33:v. 1 Jacob looked up and there was Esau, coming with his four hundred men; so he divided the children among Leah, Rachel and the two maidservants.

v. 2 He put the maidservants and their children in front, Leah and her children next, and Rachel and Joseph in the rear.

v. 3 He himself went on ahead and bowed down to the ground seven times as he approached his brother.

v. 4 But Esau ran to meet Jacob and embraced him; he threw his arms around his neck and kissed him. And they wept.

v. 5 Then Esau looked up and saw the women and children. "Who are these with you?" he asked. Jacob answered, "They are the children God has graciously given your servant."

v. 6 Then the maidservants and their children approached and bowed down.

v. 7 Next, Leah and her children came and bowed down. Last of all came Joseph and Rachel, and they too bowed down.

v. 8 Esau asked, "What do you mean by all these droves I met?" "To find favor in your eyes, my lord," he said.

v. 9 But Esau said, "I already have plenty, my brother. Keep what you have for yourself."

v. 10 "No, please!" said Jacob. "If I have found favor in your eyes, accept this gift from me. For to see your face is like seeing the face of God, now that you have received me favorably.

v. 11 Please accept the present that was brought to you, for God has been gracious to me and I have all I need." And because Jacob insisted, Esau accepted it.

v. 12 Then Esau said, "Let us be on our way; I'll accompany you."

v. 13 But Jacob said to him, "My lord knows that the children are tender and that I must care for the ewes and cows that are nursing their young. If they are driven hard just one day, all the animals will die.

v. 14 So let my lord go on ahead of his servant, while I move along slowly at the pace of the droves before me and that of the children, until I come to my lord in Seir."

v. 15 Esau said, "Then let me leave some of my men with you." "But why do that?" Jacob asked. "Just let me find favor in the eyes of my lord."

v. 16 So that day Esau started on his way back to Seir.

v. 17 Jacob, however, went to Succoth, where he built a place for himself and made shelters for his livestock. That is why the place is called Succoth.

v. 18 After Jacob came from Paddan Aram, he arrived safely at the city of Shechem in Canaan and camped within sight of the city.

**NOTES**

v. 19 For a hundred pieces of silver, he bought from the sons of Hamor, the father of Shechem, the plot of ground where he pitched his tent.  
v. 20 There he set up an altar and called it El Elohe Israel.

**QUESTIONS:**

1. Read Genesis 33:1-20 and in your own words pull out the main thought of this passage.

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2. Why was Jacob so afraid of Esau and his 400 men? Summarize history between them.

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3. What is the significance of putting his family in the order he did in verse 2?

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4. How did Esau respond to Jacob, according to verse 4?

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5. How does Jacob refer to his family, according to verse 5?

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6. Why does Jacob decline Esau's offer to accompany him, according to verse 13?

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7. When Jacob and Esau parted, where did they each go, according to verses 16-19?

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8. What does Jacob do, according to verse 20?

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9. Which verse in the study has meant the most to you?

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10. What lesson have you learned from this study?

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**LESSONS FROM THE PASSAGE:**

What are some of the lessons we can learn from this particular study?

LESSON #1: Jacob is reaping what he has sown in the past.

LESSON #2: What conflicts we create for ourselves when we act in the flesh rather than waiting on God.

LESSON #3: The awesome power of forgiveness is seen in the reconciliation of Jacob and Esau.

LESSON #4: The humility of Jacob prepares the way for resolution of the conflict.

LESSON #5: Children are a gift from the Lord.

LESSON #6: Jacob brought gifts to find favor in Esau's eyes.

LESSON #7: Gift-giving and receiving can pave the way for reconciliation.

LESSON #8: Contentment is expressed by Jacob in the phrase: "God has been gracious to me and I have all that I need" (verse 11).

LESSON #9: More than anything Jacob just wanted favor in the eyes of Esau.

LESSON #10: As an act of worship, Jacob sets up an altar.

**ADDITIONAL NOTES:**


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**STUDY NUMBER TWELVE - GENESIS 35:1-29****NOTES**

35:v. 1 Then God said to Jacob, “Go up to Bethel and settle there, and build an altar there to God, who appeared to you when you were fleeing from your brother Esau.”

v. 2 So Jacob said to his household and to all who were with him, “Get rid of the foreign gods you have with you, and purify yourselves and change your clothes.

v. 3 Then come, let us go up to Bethel, where I will build an altar to God, who answered me in the day of my distress and who has been with me wherever I have gone.”

v. 4 So they gave Jacob all the foreign gods they had and the rings in their ears, and Jacob buried them under the oak at Shechem.

v. 5 Then they set out, and the terror of God fell upon the towns all around them so that no one pursued them.

v. 6 Jacob and all the people with him came to Luz (that is, Bethel) in the land of Canaan.

v. 7 There he built an altar, and he called the place El Bethel, because it was there that God revealed himself to him when he was fleeing from his brother.

v. 8 Now Deborah, Rebekah’s nurse, died and was buried under the oak below Bethel. So it was named Allon Bacuth.

v. 9 After Jacob returned from Paddan Aram, God appeared to him again and blessed him.

v. 10 God said to him, “Your name is Jacob, but you will no longer be called Jacob; your name will be Israel.” So he named him Israel.

v. 11 And God said to him, “I am God Almighty; be fruitful and increase in number. A nation and a community of nations will come from you, and kings will come from your body.

v. 12 The land I gave to Abraham and Isaac I also give to you, and I will give this land to your descendants after you.”

v. 13 Then God went up from him at the place where he had talked with him.

v. 14 Jacob set up a stone pillar at the place where God had talked with him, and he poured out a drink offering on it; he also poured oil on it.

v. 15 Jacob called the place where God had talked with him Bethel.

v. 16 Then they moved on from Bethel. While they were still some distance from Ephrath, Rachel began to give birth and had great difficulty.

v. 17 And as she was having great difficulty in childbirth, the midwife said to her, “Don’t be afraid, for you have another son.”

v. 18 As she breathed her last—for she was dying—she named her son Ben-Oni. But his father named him Benjamin.

**NOTES**

v. 19 So Rachel died and was buried on the way to Ephrath (that is, Bethlehem).

v. 20 Over her tomb Jacob set up a pillar, and to this day that pillar marks Rachel's tomb.

v. 21 Israel moved on again and pitched his tent beyond Migdal Eder.

v. 22 While Israel was living in that region, Reuben went in and slept with his father's concubine Bilhah, and Israel heard of it. Jacob had twelve sons:

v. 23 The sons of Leah: Reuben the firstborn of Jacob, Simeon, Levi, Judah, Issachar and Zebulun.

v. 24 The sons of Rachel: Joseph and Benjamin.

v. 25 The sons of Rachel's maidservant Bilhah: Dan and Naphtali.

v. 26 The sons of Leah's maidservant Zilpah: Gad and Asher. These were the sons of Jacob, who were born to him in Paddan Aram.

v. 27 Jacob came home to his father Isaac in Mamre, near Kiriath Arba (that is, Hebron), where Abraham and Isaac had stayed.

v. 28 Isaac lived a hundred and eighty years.

v. 29 Then he breathed his last and died and was gathered to his people, old and full of years. And his sons Esau and Jacob buried him.

**QUESTIONS:**

1. Read Genesis 35:1-29 and in your own words pull out the main thought of this passage.

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2. What message does Jacob receive from God in verse 1?

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3. What does Jacob command his family to do as a result of this word from the Lord?

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4. Where does Jacob go and what does he do according to verses 6 & 7?

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5. What message does Jacob receive from the Lord in verses 10-12?

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6. What is Jacob's response to this message from the Lord, according to verses 14 & 15?

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7. What happens to Rachel in verses 16-19?

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8. What is the name of the son born to Rachel in her death?

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9. Which verse in the study has meant the most to you?

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10. What lesson have you learned from this study?

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**LESSONS FROM THE PASSAGE:**

What are some of the lessons we can learn from this particular study?

LESSON #1: God is ever calling us to Bethel to our meeting with Him. From the garden of Eden it has been Adam, "Where are you?"

LESSON #2: Restoration to fellowship involves casting out the idols experiencing the cleansing of the Spirit through confession and the changing of our garments for His robe of righteousness.

LESSON #3: A man in fellowship is more concerned about the person than he is the place.

LESSON #4: There are no rebukes upon return, only promises.

LESSON #5: Sorrow is used as a part of the training process to make us more godly.

LESSON #6: A lot of sorrow in our lives is explained because we love what we should not.

**ADDITIONAL NOTES:**

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