

In The Beginning

Jacob seeks a wife

The God of Abraham becomes the God of Jacob... Gen.28

Rebekah faces a new challenge. What is it and what's her plan? 27:41-45

Esau plans to murder Jacob for his deception. She plans to send Jacob away till he forgets.

How does she arrange for this to happen? 27:46; 28:1-5

She convinces Isaac to send Jacob back to Laban to ensure a proper wife...

How does Esau react to this? 28:6-9

He tries to win favor from Isaac by taking another wife, this one from Abraham, Ishmael.

Describe the situation with Jacob in vs.10-15. What does this repeat?

Jacob's ladder is a dream where God repeats the Abrahamic covenant to Jacob.

List a few of the good reactions Jacob has to this event. vs.16-22

Fear of the Lord, set up an anointed memorial, called on the Lord, and Lord was his God.

Instead of asking for great riches and power, what does Jacob request? vs.20-21 See Job.13:15

Just the "essentials", food, clothing, and peace. This was Jacob's faith demonstrated.

Jacob and his wives... Gen.29-30:12

Jacob, arriving at Laban's, makes his choice for a bride. Who? Why? Comment? 29:13-17

He chooses Rachel over her sister Leah because of her beauty. Never sought the Lord...

What does he quickly agree to for terms of marriage? vs.18-20

He agrees to the wages of a slave. 7 years (note "1 week"), in exchange for Rachel.

But God has chosen Leah. How does Jacob experience the other side of deception? vs.21-30

Laban deceives him by substituting Leah for Rachel! Jacob substituted for Esau! Hmmm

Finding the deception, instead of accepting this as God's choice, what does he do? vs.25-30

He works another 7 years for Rachel. Now has two wives. Tradition, yes. God's choice, NO

How does the Lord respond to Jacob's favoritism to Rachel? vs.30-35

Rachel is barren and Leah is bearing many sons to Jacob.

And, of course, Rachel "retaliates" by doing what? 30:1-4

Gives her handmaid, Bilhah, to Jacob like Sarah had given Hagar... 3 wives...

And, of course, Leah also "retaliates" by doing what? 30:9-12

She gives her handmaid, Zilpah, to Jacob, like Sarah, like Rachel, ... 4 wives...

The silence of Scripture here does NOT mean God condones this behavior. There was much unnecessary strife in Jacob's household. Why would God choose a man like Jacob? Eph. 2:8-9

No one is worthy. No one is good enough. But God's grace, in Christ, is enough!