

The Whole Truth

Lesson #3

Introduction: Third section of the Pentateuch

- Pre-history (sovereign call of God)
- Abraham narrative (embraced call of God)

Today—The Jacob narrative (conflicted call of God)

(Genesis 25:19-36:43)

I. Strife Foretold and Initiated (25:19-34)

A. Isaac and Rebekah (25:28)

1. Isaac 40 when married (20)
2. Prays for her barrenness (21a)
3. She conceives (21b)
4. Struggle and the Word from the Lord

But the children struggled together within her; and she said, "If all is well, why am I like this?" So she went to inquire of the Lord. 23 And the Lord said to her: "Two nations are in your womb, Two peoples shall be separated from your body; One people shall be stronger than the other, And the older shall serve the younger." Genesis 25:22-23 NKJV

5. Birth

So when her days were fulfilled for her to give birth, indeed there were twins in her womb. 25 And the first came out red. He was like a hairy garment all over; so they called his name Esau. 26 Afterward his brother came out, and his hand took hold of Esau's heel; so his name was called Jacob. Isaac was sixty years old when she bore them. Genesis 25:24-26 NKJV

6. Jacob mild, stayed indoors—Rebekah's favorite
7. Esau—skilled hunter—Isaac's favorite

B. Birthright sold for a bowl of red stew (29-34)—Immediate or deferred blessing is the choice

1. Jacob knew what he wanted
2. Did his mother give him a heads-up or word from God?

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II. Isaac's Only Chapter (26)

- A. Famine in Beer-lahai-roi—traveled to Gerar
- B. Told not to go to Egypt—dwelt in Gerar
- C. Lied about Rebekah to Abimelech

Now it came to pass, when he had been there a long time, that Abimelech king of the Philistines looked through a window, and saw, and there was Isaac, showing endearment to Rebekah his wife. 9 Then Abimelech called Isaac and said, "Quite obviously she is your wife; so how could you say, 'She is my sister'?" Isaac said to him, "Because I said, 'Lest I die on account of her.'" 10 And Abimelech said, "What is this you have done to us? One of the people might soon have lain with your wife, and you would have brought guilt on us." 11 So Abimelech charged all his people, saying, "He who touches this man or his wife shall surely be put to death." 12 Then Isaac sowed in that land, and reaped in the same year a hundredfold; and the Lord blessed him. Genesis 26:8-12 NKJV

- D. Isaac prospered—kicked out of Gerar
- E. Promise re-iterated to Isaac (see 26:24, 25)

III. Blessing Stolen (27:1-45)

- A. Esau told to prepare for blessing by Isaac (1-4)

1. Blessing is so powerful—words matter
2. Laying on of hands—generation to generation

- B. The scheme of Rebekah (5-17)—see v. 5-6
- C. Jacob deceives Isaac (8-29)
- D. Isaac grieves with Esau (30-40)

IV. Jacob's Flight (27:41-28:9)

- A. Esau hated Jacob but will wait until his father dies to kill him (27:41)
- B. Rebekah warns Jacob (27:42-45) and tells him to flee

1. Go to my brother Laban
2. Until his anger subsides

- C. Isaac blesses Jacob and sends him away (28:1-5)
- D. Esau rebels (28:6-9)

V. Jacob at Bethel (28:10-22)

A. Encounter takes place at a “non-place” but it is a crucial place (10, 11)

B. The dream (12-15)

1. Ladder with angels ascending and descending
2. Earth not beyond God’s reach—He can protect from the enemy

C. The promise

Behold, I am with you and will keep you wherever you go, and will bring you back to this land; for I will not leave you until I have done what I have spoken to you." Genesis 28:15 NKJV

D. The altar (16-19)

E. The vow (20-22)

VI. Jacob and His Stay with Laban (29:1-31:55)

A. Meets Laban and his daughters (Rachel and Leah) and enters into a contract (29:1-19)

B. Laban deceives Jacob (29:20-30)

C. Jacob’s offspring (29:31-30:24)

1. Leah—Reuben, Simeon, Levi, Judah, Issachar, Zebulun
2. Bilhah (Rachel’s handmaid)—Dan, Naphtali
3. Zilpah (Leah’s handmaid)—Gad, Asher
4. Rachel—Joseph, (Benjamin later)

D. Jacob wants to leave (thinking of family?)

And it came to pass, when Rachel had borne Joseph, that Jacob said to Laban, "Send me away, that I may go to my own place and to my country. 26 Give me my wives and my children for whom I have served you, and let me go; for you know my service which I have done for you." 27 And Laban said to him, "Please stay, if I have found favor in your eyes, for I have learned by experience that the Lord has blessed me for your sake." 28 Then he said, "Name me your wages, and I will give it." Genesis 30:25-28 NKJV

1. Give me speckled and spotted sheep and brown ones—goats too
2. If I have one not spotted or speckled—I stole it
3. But God blessed him—becomes more prosperous than Laban

E. Jacob leaves (Chapter 31)

1. Knows Laban is angry
2. Rachel steals her father's idols
3. Laban overtook angry—couldn't find idol
4. Made a pact to separate

READ: Genesis 31:44-55

Now therefore, come, let us make a covenant, you and I, and let it be a witness between you and me." 45 So Jacob took a stone and set it up as a pillar. 46 Then Jacob said to his brethren, "Gather stones." And they took stones and made a heap, and they ate there on the heap. 47 Laban called it Jegar Sabadutha, but Jacob called it Galeed. 48 And Laban said, "This heap is a witness between you and me this day." Therefore its name was called Galeed, 49 also Mizpah, because he said, "May the Lord watch between you and me when we are absent one from another. 50 If you afflict my daughters, or if you take other wives besides my daughters, although no man is with us — see, God is witness between you and me!" 51 Then Laban said to Jacob, "Here is this heap and here is this pillar, which I have placed between you and me. 52 This heap is a witness, and this pillar is a witness, that I will not pass beyond this heap to you, and you will not pass beyond this heap and this pillar to me, for harm. 53 The God of Abraham, the God of Nabor, and the God of their father judge between us." And Jacob swore by the Fear of his father Isaac. 54 Then Jacob offered a sacrifice on the mountain, and called his brethren to eat bread. And they ate bread and stayed all night on the mountain. 55 And early in the morning Laban arose, and kissed his sons and daughters and blessed them. Then Laban departed and returned to his place. Genesis 31:44-55 NKJV

VII. Jacob and Esau Reconcile (32:1-33:17)

A. Sends messengers to Esau to plan a meeting (32:1-6)—2 decades have passed—he has been with Laban

B. Jacob's long night (32:7-32)

1. Gives himself up
2. Deception must go
3. He needs God
4. Forever changed—hip dislocated

Then Jacob was left alone; and a Man wrestled with him until the breaking of day. 25 Now when He saw that He did not prevail against him, He touched the socket of his hip; and the

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socket of Jacob's hip was out of joint as He wrestled with him. 26 And He said, "Let Me go, for the day breaks." But he said, "I will not let You go unless You bless me!" 27 So He said to him, "What is your name?" He said, "Jacob." 28 And He said, "Your name shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel; for you have struggled with God and with men, and have prevailed." 29 Then Jacob asked, saying, "Tell me Your name, I pray." And He said, "Why is it that you ask about My name?" And He blessed him there. 30 So Jacob called the name of the place Peniel: "For I have seen God face to face, and my life is preserved." 31 Just as he crossed over Peniel the sun rose on him, and he limped on his hip. Genesis 32:24-31 NKJV

- a. Wrestling seemingly with God
- b. No ordinary man
- c. No ordinary god
- d. No ordinary creator
- e. When morning comes, God is gone, but so is Jacob

C. Renaming (33:1-12)

Then Esau said, "Let us take our journey; let us go, and I will go before you." 13 But Jacob said to him, "My lord knows that the children are weak, and the flocks and herds which are nursing are with me. And if the men should drive them hard one day, all the flock will die. 14 Please let my lord go on ahead before his servant. I will lead on slowly at a pace which the livestock that go before me, and the children, are able to endure, until I come to my lord in Seir." 15 And Esau said, "Now let me leave with you some of the people who are with me." But he said, "What need is there? Let me find favor in the sight of my lord." 16 So Esau returned that day on his way to Seir. 17 And Jacob journeyed to Succoth, built himself a house, and made booths for his livestock. Therefore the name of the place is called Succoth. Genesis 33:12-16 NKJV

VIII. Defilement of Dinah (33:18-34:31)

A. Begins with Jacob coming to the land of Schechem

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B. Dinah, Jacob's daughter violated

Then Jacob came safely to the city of Shechem, which is in the land of Canaan, when he came from Padan Aram; and he pitched his tent before the city. 19 And he bought the parcel of land, where he had pitched his tent, from the children of Hamor, Shechem's father, for one hundred pieces of money. 20 Then he erected an altar there and called it El Elobe Israel. 34 Now Dinah the daughter of Leah, whom she had borne to Jacob, went out to see the daughters of the land. 2 And when Shechem the son of Hamor the Hivite, prince of the country, saw her, he took her and lay with her, and violated her. 3 His soul was strongly attracted to Dinah the daughter of Jacob, and he loved the young woman and spoke kindly to the young woman. 4 So Shechem spoke to his father Hamor, saying, "Get me this young woman as a wife." Genesis 33:18-34:4 NKJV

C. Her brothers make a deal

READ: 34:11-17

Then Shechem said to her father and her brothers, "Let me find favor in your eyes, and whatever you say to me I will give. 12 Ask me ever so much dowry and gift, and I will give according to what you say to me; but give me the young woman as a wife." 13 But the sons of Jacob answered Shechem and Hamor his father, and spoke deceitfully, because he had defiled Dinah their sister. 14 And they said to them, "We cannot do this thing, to give our sister to one who is uncircumcised, for that would be a reproach to us. 15 But on this condition we will consent to you: If you will become as we are, if every male of you is circumcised, 16 then we will give our daughters to you, and we will take your daughters to us; and we will dwell with you, and we will become one people. 17 But if you will not heed us and be circumcised, then we will take our daughter and be gone." Genesis 34:11-17 NKJV

D. On 3rd day Simeon and Levi plundered the city and killed them

IV. Final Portion of Jacob's Narrative (35:1-36:13)

A. Benjamin born—Rachel dies

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B. Isaac dies

C. Genealogy of Esau

Conclusion:

Adam (One man) a promised seed

Wicked World

Flood

- One man—Noah
- One son—Shem
- One man—Abraham
- Isaac
- Jacob—12 tribes
- Joseph (Judah story)