

OT-OV

Lesson 58

1. Last week I taught in part the Doctrine of Jacob; when time expired we were about to review Jacob's trip to Bethel where he would receive a name change.

2. I want to review some of that learned and then continue our analysis of a chiseler who became a prince.

3. In Hebrew the name Ya'aqob means "heel catcher," "trickster," or "supplanter."

4. Jacob was the younger twin son of Isaac and Rebekah.

5. Jacob spent a great deal of time in Mesopotamia (Gen 28-30). We studied this sojourn last week.

5.1 As noted when the full impact of Rebekah and Jacob's plot was uncovered, Jacob was sent away to his relatives in Haran.

5.2 In route from Beersheba Jacob, as a weary, troubled, and sinful fugitive, spent his first night near the ancient Canaanite sanctuary of Luz, later to be called Bethel.

5.3 In a night vision God revealed Himself to this wanderer as the God of his father. God also reminded Jacob that Abraham's promises were his.

5.3.1 God also renewed the covenant blessings, appointed him to a universal mission, and assured him of divine guidance and a prosperous life, Jacob responded with a personal vow renaming the place Bethel. Gen 28:10-15

5.4 Jacob arrived in his mother's homeland where he met Rachel at the well and it was love at first sight. Gen 29:4-14

5.5 Jacob's love for Rachel resulted in his slave like employment with Laban. Jacob worked to gain her as wife for seven years.

5.6 Eleven children were born to Jacob in Mesopotamia. Gen 29:31-35:15. Later near Bethel Rachel gave birth to Benjamin; she died in child birth and was buried on the way to Bethlehem. Gen 35:16-19

6. Twenty years had elapsed since Jacob had deceived Isaac and stolen Esau's blessing.

7. As Jacob drew near to the land of his heart, an angelic band met him (Gen 32:9-2), assuring him once again of God's protection as if to welcome and congratulate him on his auspicious return.

8. Jacob's meeting with Esau is recorded in (Gen 33:1-16).
9. Amid the tangled mess of human actions, Jacob recognized the need of the Lord's hand. He not only won God's favor, but Esau's.
10. Jacob's life in Palestine (the second time) is described in Gen 33:17-45:5.
11. Esau went to Seir and there sired a nation (Gen 33:16); the fulfillment of the promise of Gen 25:23; 27:39-40.
12. Jacob resided in Canaan. He was now indeed the patriarch.
13. Jacob remained east of Jordan and camped near Succoth; then to Shechem where he purchased ground and reconstructed an altar. (Gen 33:17-20).
14. Now for new material and point 15.
15. Under God's order, he went to Bethel and there he built an altar to God and made all those in his party rid themselves of their idols. Gen 35:1-7

Gen 35:1 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."

Gen 35:2 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.

Gen 35:3 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."

Gen 35:4 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.

Gen 35:5 Then they set out, and the terror of God fell upon the towns all around them so that no one pursued them.

Gen 35:6 Jacob and all the people with him came to Luz (that is, Bethel) in the land of Canaan.

Gen 35:7 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.

15.1 God at Bethel changes Jacob's name to Israel and reiterates parts of the Abrahamic Covenant; the unconditional covenants are given to Israel, a Prince, not Jacob a chiseler.
Gen 35:9-15

Gen 35:9 After Jacob returned from Paddan Aram, God appeared to him again and blessed him.

Gen 35:10 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.

Gen 35:11 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.

Gen 35:12 The land I gave to Abraham and Isaac I also give to you, and I will give this land to your descendants after you."

Gen 35:13 Then God went up from him at the place where he had talked with him.

Gen 35:14 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.

Gen 35:15 Jacob called the place where God had talked with him Bethel.

16. Jacob and his company drifted southward, and during this journey Jacob's beloved Rachel died in childbirth (during the birth of Benjamin) and was buried on the way to Ephratah (Bethlehem, Gen 35:16-20).

Gen 35:16 Then they moved on from Bethel. While they were still some distance from Ephratah, Rachel began to give birth and had great difficulty.

Gen 35:17 And as she was having great difficulty in childbirth, the midwife said to her, "Don't be afraid, for you have another son."

Gen 35:18 As she breathed her last-- for she was dying-- she named her son Ben-Oni. But his father named him Benjamin.

Gen 35:19 So Rachel died and was buried on the way to Ephratah at Bethlehem.

Gen 35:20 Over her tomb Jacob set up a pillar, and to this day that pillar marks Rachel's tomb.

17. Jacob joined Esau at Mamre (Hebron) and there laid their father away in the cave of Machpelah, the family sepulcher. (Gen 35:27-29; 49:30-31)

Gen 35:27 Jacob came home to his father Isaac in Mamre, near Kiriath Arba (that is, Hebron), where Abraham and Isaac had stayed.

Gen 35:28 Isaac lived a hundred and eighty years.

Gen 35:29 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.

Gen 49:30 the cave in the field of Machpelah, near Mamre in Canaan, which Abraham bought as a burial place from Ephron the Hittite, along with the field.

Gen 49:31 There Abraham and his wife Sarah were buried, there Isaac and his wife Rebekah were buried, and there I buried Leah.

18. Jacob's latter years demonstrated the Scriptural admonishment "whatsoever a man soweth that shall he also reap."

19. Domestic trials tracked down Jacob in the sunset of his life. First, there was severe conflict between his rash sons Simeon and Levi with the sons of Hamor at Shechem over the matter of Dinah. (Gen 34:1-31)

Gen 34:1 Now Dinah, the daughter Leah had borne to Jacob, went out to visit the women of the land.

Gen 34:2 When Shechem son of Hamor the Hivite, the ruler of that area, saw her, he took her and violated her.

Gen 34:3 His heart was drawn to Dinah daughter of Jacob, and he loved the girl and spoke tenderly to her.

Gen 34:4 And Shechem said to his father Hamor, "Get me this girl as my wife."

Gen 34:5 When Jacob heard that his daughter Dinah had been defiled, his sons were in the fields with his livestock; so he kept quiet about it until they came home.

Gen 34:6 Then Shechem's father Hamor went out to talk with Jacob.

Gen 34:7 Now Jacob's sons had come in from the fields as soon as they heard what had happened. They were filled with grief and fury, because Shechem had done a disgraceful thing in Israel by lying with Jacob's daughter-- a thing that should not be done.

Gen 34:8 But Hamor said to them, "My son Shechem has his heart set on your daughter. Please give her to him as his wife.

Gen 34:9 Intermarry with us; give us your daughters and take our daughters for yourselves.

Gen 34:10 You can settle among us; the land is open to you. Live in it, trade in it, and acquire property in it."

Gen 34:11 Then Shechem said to Dinah's father and brothers, "Let me find favor in your eyes, and I will give you whatever you ask.

Gen 34:12 Make the price for the bride and the gift I am to bring as great as you like, and I'll pay whatever you ask me. Only give me the girl as my wife."

Gen 34:13 Because their sister Dinah had been defiled, Jacob's sons replied deceitfully as they spoke to Shechem and his father Hamor.

Gen 34:14 They said to them, "We can't do such a thing; we can't give our sister to a man who is not circumcised. That would be a disgrace to us.

Gen 34:15 We will give our consent to you on one condition only: that you become like us by circumcising all your males.

Gen 34:16 Then we will give you our daughters and take your daughters for ourselves. We'll settle among you and become one people with you.

Gen 34:17 But if you will not agree to be circumcised, we'll take our sister and go."

Gen 34:18 Their proposal seemed good to Hamor and his son Shechem.

Gen 34:19 The young man, who was the most honored of all his father's household, lost no time in doing what they said, because he was delighted with Jacob's daughter...

Gen 34:25 Three days later, while all of them were still in pain, two of Jacob's sons, Simeon and Levi, Dinah's brothers, took their swords and attacked the unsuspecting city, killing every male.

Gen 34:26 They put Hamor and his son Shechem to the sword and took Dinah from Shechem's house and left.

Gen 34:27 The sons of Jacob came upon the dead bodies and looted the city where their sister had been defiled.

Gen 34:28 They seized their flocks and herds and donkeys and everything else of theirs in the city and out in the fields.

Gen 34:29 They carried off all their wealth and all their women and children, taking as plunder everything in the houses.

Gen 34:30 Then Jacob said to Simeon and Levi, "You have brought trouble on me by making me a stench to the Canaanites and Perizzites ...

20. Joseph, Jacob's favorite son, was snatched away and gray-haired Jacob was overwhelmed with grief. (Gen 37:34)

Gen 37:34 Then Jacob tore his clothes, put on sackcloth and mourned for his son many days.

20.1 Last of all the aged patriarch was forced to expatriate himself to Egypt in order to preserve his own life and the life of his family. (Gen 46:1-7)

Gen 46:1 So Israel set out with all that was his, and when he reached Beersheba, he offered sacrifices to the God of his father Isaac.

Gen 46:2 And God spoke to Israel in a vision at night and said, "Jacob! Jacob!" "Here I am," he replied.

Gen 46:3 "I am God, the God of your father," he said. "Do not be afraid to go down to Egypt, for I will make you into a great nation there.

Gen 46:4 I will go down to Egypt with you, and I will surely bring you back again. And Joseph's own hand will close your eyes."

Gen 46:5 Then Jacob left Beersheba, and Israel's sons took their father Jacob and their children and their wives in the carts that Pharaoh had sent to transport him.

Gen 46:6 They also took with them their livestock and the possessions they had acquired in Canaan, and Jacob and all his offspring went to Egypt.

Gen 46:7 He took with him to Egypt his sons and grandsons and his daughters and granddaughters-- all his offspring.

21. The final years of Jacob.

21.1 These years in Egypt (Gen 46:6-50:13) are intertwined in the storied life of Joseph. (Gen 37-50)

21.2 When seven years of famine gripped the land of Canaan, Jacob and his sons went down to Egypt.

21.3 Along the way, at Beersheba he was assured of God's favor (Gen 46:3).

21.4 Joseph arranged for Jacob and his company to settle in the land of Goshen where he remained until his death. At the age 130 he had an audience with the Pharaoh and blessed him. (Gen 47:7-10)

Gen 47:7 Then Joseph brought his father Jacob in and presented him before Pharaoh. After Jacob blessed Pharaoh,

Gen 47:8 Pharaoh asked him, "How old are you?"

Gen 47:9 And Jacob said to Pharaoh, "The years of my pilgrimage are a hundred and thirty. My years have been few and difficult, and they do not equal the years of the pilgrimage of my fathers."

Gen 47:10 Then Jacob blessed Pharaoh and went out from his presence.

21.5 At his death the Egyptians paid him great homage. His sons, led by Joseph, the prime minister of Egypt, carried his body back to Canaan and buried him at Machpelah.

21.6 Jacob is a typical example of God's redeeming grace. In himself he was a coarse, selfish, scheming, and passionate rogue with a capacity for business.

21.7 But he had time in his heart for God. His nature was sensitive to the touch of the Lord and capable of great development.

21.8 He dreamed dreams and had visions; angels visited him and he prayed. He coveted the best gifts; he developed fixed religious principles; and he finally became steady in his habits.

21.9 But Jacob's life was fraught with conflict. The struggle in his soul was a long and fierce one - but grace conquered and Jacob became Israel the one who "persists with God."

22. The use of "Jacob" in the Scriptures.

22.1 The name "Jacob" appears many times in the Bible.

22.1.2 "Jacob" occurs as a marked child of favor in Mal 1:2-5 and Rom 9:10-17.

Mal 1:2 "I have loved you," says the LORD. "But you ask, 'How have you loved us?' "Was not Esau Jacob's brother?" the LORD says. "Yet I have loved Jacob,

Mal 1:3 but Esau I have hated, and I have turned his mountains into a wasteland and left his inheritance to the desert jackals."

Mal 1:4 Edom may say, "Though we have been crushed, we will rebuild the ruins." But this is what the LORD Almighty says: "They may build, but I will demolish. They will be called the Wicked Land, a people always under the wrath of the LORD.

Mal 1:5 You will see it with your own eyes and say, 'Great is the LORD--even beyond the borders of Israel!'

Rom 9:10 Not only that, but Rebekah's children had one and the same father, our father Isaac.

Rom 9:11 Yet, before the twins were born or had done anything good or bad-- in order that God's purpose in election might stand:

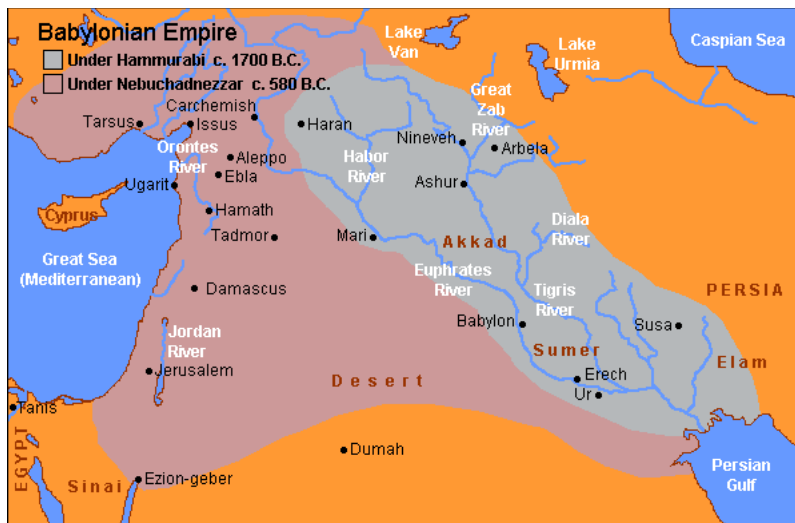
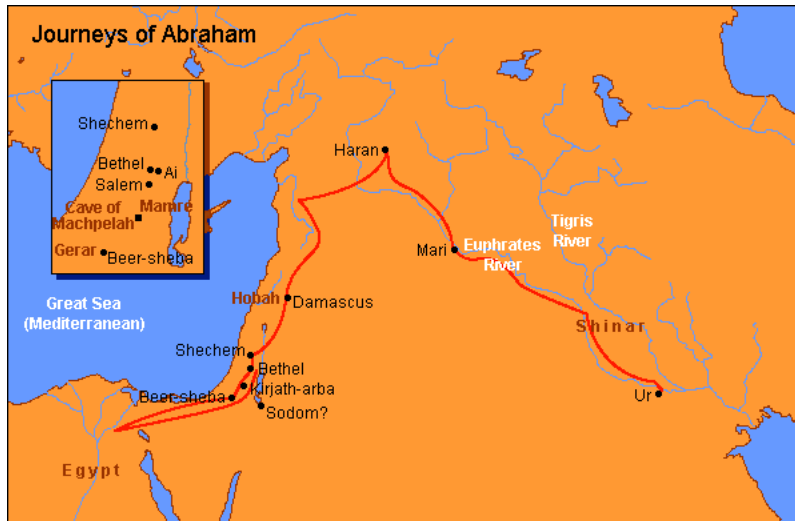
Rom 9:12 not by works but by him who calls-- she was told, "The older will serve the younger."

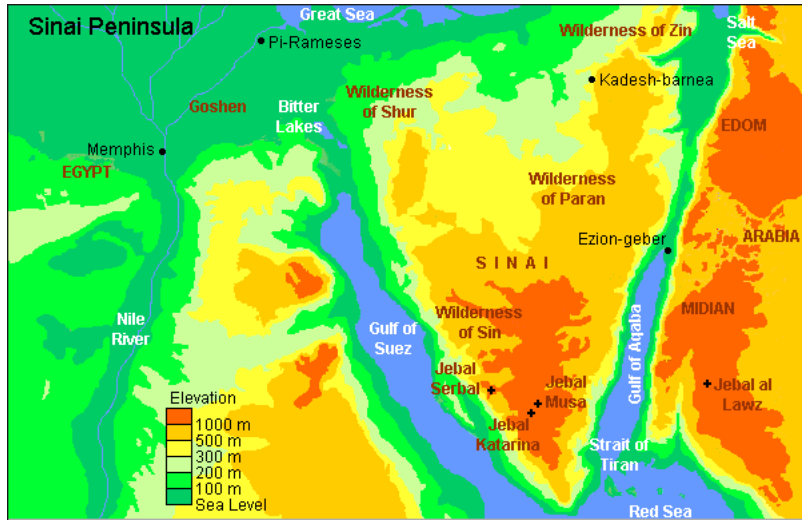
Rom 9:13 Just as it is written: "Jacob I loved, but Esau I hated."

Rom 9:14 What then shall we say? Is God unjust? Not at all!

Rom 9:15 For he says to Moses, "I will have mercy on whom I have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I have compassion."

23. Before we leave this lesson, let me provide three maps for your perusal.





End Lesson