

The Lives of Jacob & Joseph

Life of Jacob

Genesis 30:1-8

Vs. 8 "Twists of God I have twisted in the same fight with Leah"

Life of Jacob

Genesis 30:9-21



Life of Jacob

Genesis 30:22-25

1. *Jacob tricks Isaac out of Esau's deathbed blessing*
 2. *Runs for his life up North to his grandfather Abraham's family*
 3. *Serves higher purpose even beyond staying alive – finds Rachel*
 4. *On the way he encounters God and has a kind of conversion experience*
 5. *Serves 7 years for Rachel, gets tricked into marrying Leah*
 6. *Gets Rachel too, plus the 2 maidservants, now has 11 sons and a daughter*
 7. *Serves Laban 20 years*
-

Life of Jacob

Genesis 30:22-25

Background:

1. According to Hebrew Law the slave whose employer had given him a wife had to leave his wife and children with the Master if he wanted to leave

2. If he doesn't want to leave, then he has to remain a servant

3. Laban had of course not purchased Jacob but he is still a stranger in a foreign land with no property

He is not a full legal member of that community and is thus a dependent

Life of Jacob

Genesis 30:26-36

1) Remove the dark colored sheep and multicolored (patches & strips) goats

2) If Laban finds colored sheep/patchy goats he will know they are stolen

3) Laban accepts, perhaps simply because there are probably so few he knows Jacob is losing in this deal...right up Laban's alley

4) Next step was to remove his flocks 3 days travel just to ENSURE there was no chance of funny business

5) On top of that he has his own sons watch what is now Jacob's

Life of Jacob

Genesis 30:37-43



Life of Jacob

Final Observation:

1. So easy to see Jacob's faults and miss his faith

a) Vs. 25 = WHY Jacob wants to go home

- i. He has had a conversion experience at Bethel
- ii. God is now HIS GOD
- iii. He knows and TELLS Laban God is the reason he has been successful
- iv. He is obtaining his inner peace and satisfaction from WITHIN...he knows he is loved by God and God has his best interests in mind
- v. And thus he knows he is part of something larger than himself

b) Vs. 30 = "The LORD has blessed you"

Life of Jacob

Final Observation:

1. So easy to see Jacob's faults and miss his faith

Mistakes in the process don't cancel out faith to God
THEY ARE ECLIPSED by our faith

Life of Jacob

Final Observation:

1. So easy to see Jacob's faults and miss his faith

2. Internal happiness is never driven by outside "things", it is driven by experiencing the love of God internally
