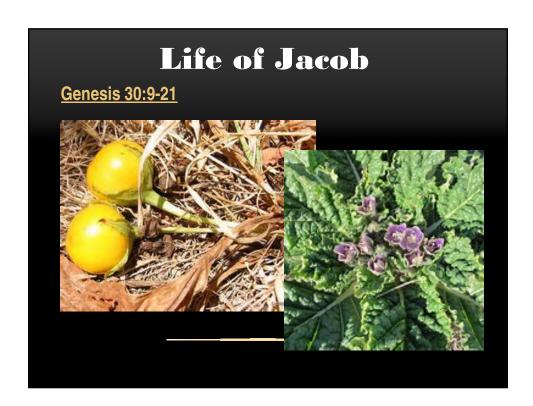
The Lives of Jacob & Joseph

Life of Jacob

Genesis 30:1-8

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



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

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

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"

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