

God's Blessing according to His Word

Genesis 31:38 This twenty years *have I been* with thee; thy ewes and thy she goats have not cast their young, and the rams of thy flock have I not eaten.

Genesis 31:39 That which was torn *of beasts* I brought not unto thee; I bare the loss of it; of my hand didst thou require it, *whether* stolen by day, or stolen by night.

Genesis 31:40 *Thus* I was; in the day the drought consumed me, and the frost by night; and my sleep departed from mine eyes.

Genesis 31:41 Thus have I been twenty years in thy house; I served thee fourteen years for thy two daughters, and six years for thy cattle: and thou hast changed my wages ten times.

In chapters 29 - 31 we find the story of Jacob's twenty year journey away from home at age 77. These years were spent in Haran, the land of Padan-aram, at the house of Jacob's uncle Laban. Along the journey, at Bethel, God had promised to be with Jacob, prosper him, and bring him back to Canaan.

As we look at these years, we find that Jacob was much different than when he was younger, he humbled himself and was straightforward with his uncle, and these years were prosperous years for Jacob and his family. We will see Jacob experience trials and tribulations as any servant of God has today, but able go through it with "joy unspeakable and full of glory." ([1 Peter 1](#))

Jacob did receive bad treatment from his uncle Laban, but he had a vision, and we will find that it was **all in God's purpose to multiply Jacob and bless him - because the Word of God had spoken it**. Did Jacob believe the Word of God? Yes, and God will do the same for us if we are obedient and "Hold forth the Word of Life", no matter what the circumstances may dictate. ([Philippians 2:12-16](#))

Philippians 2:9 Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name:

Philippians 2:10 That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of *things* in heaven, and *things* in earth, and *things* under the earth;

Philippians 2:11 And *that* every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ *is* Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Philippians 2:12 Wherefore, my beloved, as ye have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling.

Philippians 2:13 For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of *his* good pleasure.

Philippians 2:14 Do all things without murmurings and disputings:

Philippians 2:15 That ye may be blameless and harmless, the sons of God, without rebuke, in the midst of a crooked and perverse nation, among whom ye shine as lights in the world;

Philippians 2:16 Holding forth the word of life; that I may rejoice in the day of Christ, that I have not run in vain, neither laboured in vain.

Philippians 2:17 Yea, and if I be offered upon the sacrifice and service of your faith, I joy, and rejoice with you all.

Philippians 2:18 For the same cause also do ye joy, and rejoice with me.

Remember what the LORD told Jacob on the way to Haran? – Remember Jacob's Ladder?

Genesis 28:13 And, behold, the LORD stood above it, and said, I *am* the LORD God of Abraham thy father, and the God of Isaac: the land whereon thou liest, to thee will I give it, and to thy seed;

Genesis 28:14 And thy seed shall be as the dust of the earth, and thou shalt spread abroad to the west, and to the east, and to the north, and to the south: and in thee and in thy seed shall all the families of the earth be blessed.

Genesis 28:15 And, behold, I *am* with thee, and will keep thee in all *places* whither thou goest, and will bring thee again into this land; for I will not leave thee, until I have done *that* which I have spoken to thee of.

Genesis 28:16 And Jacob awaked out of his sleep, and he said, Surely the LORD is in this place; and I knew *it* not.

Genesis 28:17 And he was afraid, and said, How dreadful *is* this place! this *is* none other but the house of God, and this *is* the gate of heaven.

Genesis 28:18 And Jacob rose up early in the morning, and took the stone that he had put *for* his pillows, and set it up *for* a pillar, and poured oil upon the top of it.

Genesis 28:19 **And he called the name of that place Beth-el:** but the name of that city *was called* Luz at the first.

Genesis 28:20 And Jacob vowed a vow, saying, If God will be with me, and will keep me in this way that I go, and will give me bread to eat, and raiment to put on,

Genesis 28:21 So that I come again to my father's house in peace; then shall the LORD be my God:

Genesis 28:22 And this stone, which I have set *for* a pillar, shall be God's house: and of all that thou shalt give me I will surely give the tenth unto thee.

Jacob arrives in Padan-aram

Genesis 29:1 Then Jacob went on his journey, and came into the land of the people of the east.

Genesis 29:2 And he looked, and behold a well in the field, and, lo, there *were* three flocks of sheep lying by it; for out of that well they watered the flocks: and a great stone *was* upon the well's mouth.

Genesis 29:3 And thither were all the flocks gathered: and they rolled the stone from the well's mouth, and watered the sheep, and put the stone again upon the well's mouth in his place.

Genesis 29:4 And Jacob said unto them, My brethren, whence *be* ye? And they said, Of Haran *are* we.

Genesis 29:5 And he said unto them, Know ye Laban the son of Nahor? And they said, We know *him*.

Genesis 29:6 And he said unto them, *Is* he well? And they said, *He is* well: and, behold, Rachel his daughter cometh with the sheep.

Genesis 29:7 And he said, Lo, *it is* yet high day, neither *is it* time that the cattle should be gathered together: water ye the sheep, and go *and feed them*.

Genesis 29:8 And they said, We cannot, until all the flocks be gathered together, and *till* they roll the stone from the well's mouth; then we water the sheep.

Rachel comes with her father's sheep

Genesis 29:9 And while he yet spake with them, Rachel came with her father's sheep: for she kept them.

Genesis 29:10 And it came to pass, when Jacob saw Rachel the daughter of Laban his mother's brother, and the sheep of Laban his mother's brother, that Jacob went near, and rolled the stone from the well's mouth, and watered the flock of Laban his mother's brother.

Genesis 29:11 And Jacob kissed Rachel, and lifted up his voice, and wept.

Genesis 29:12 And Jacob told Rachel that he *was* her father's brother, and that he *was* Rebekah's son: and she ran and told her father.

Laban runs to meet Jacob, Jacob works for Laban for 7 years to wed Rachel

Genesis 29:13 And it came to pass, when Laban heard the tidings of Jacob his sister's son, that he ran to meet him, and embraced him, and kissed him, and brought him to his house. And he told Laban all these things.

Genesis 29:14 And Laban said to him, Surely thou *art* my bone and my flesh. And he abode with him the space of a month.

Genesis 29:15 And Laban said unto Jacob, Because thou *art* my brother, shouldest thou therefore serve me for nought? tell me, what *shall thy wages be?*

Genesis 29:16 And Laban had two daughters: the name of the elder *was* Leah, and the name of the younger *was* Rachel.

Genesis 29:17 Leah *was* tender eyed; but Rachel *was* beautiful and well favoured.

Genesis 29:18 And Jacob loved Rachel; and said, I will serve thee seven years for Rachel thy younger daughter.

Genesis 29:19 And Laban said, *It is* better that I give her to thee, than that I should give her to another man: abide with me.

Genesis 29:20 And Jacob served seven years for Rachel; and they seemed unto him *but* a few days, for the love he had to her.

Laban Betrays Jacob

Genesis 29:21 And Jacob said unto Laban, Give *me* my wife, for my days are fulfilled, that I may go in unto her.

Genesis 29:22 And Laban gathered together all the men of the place, and made a feast.

Genesis 29:23 And it came to pass in the evening, that he took Leah his daughter, and brought her to him; and he went in unto her.

Genesis 29:24 And Laban gave unto his daughter Leah Zilpah his maid *for* an handmaid.

Genesis 29:25 And it came to pass, that in the morning, behold, it *was* Leah: and he said to Laban, What *is* this thou hast done unto me? did not I serve with thee for Rachel? wherefore then hast thou beguiled me?

Genesis 29:26 And Laban said, It must not be so done in our country, to give the younger before the firstborn.

Genesis 29:27 Fulfil her week, and we will give thee this also for the service which thou shalt serve with me yet seven other years.

Genesis 29:28 And Jacob did so, and fulfilled her week: and he gave him Rachel his daughter to wife also.

Genesis 29:29 And Laban gave to Rachel his daughter Bilhah his handmaid to be her maid.

Genesis 29:30 And he went in also unto Rachel, and he loved also Rachel more than Leah, and served with him yet seven other years.

Leah gives Jacob sons – Reuben, Simeon, Levi, Judah

Genesis 29:31 And when the LORD saw that Leah *was* hated, he opened her womb: but Rachel *was* barren.

Genesis 29:32 And Leah conceived, and bare a son, and she called his name Reuben: for she said, Surely the LORD hath looked upon my affliction; now therefore my husband will love me.

Genesis 29:33 And she conceived again, and bare a son; and said, Because the LORD hath heard that I *was* hated, he hath therefore given me this *son* also: and she called his name Simeon.

Genesis 29:34 And she conceived again, and bare a son; and said, Now this time will my husband be joined unto me, because I have born him three sons: therefore was his name called Levi.

Genesis 29:35 And she conceived again, and bare a son: and she said, Now will I praise the LORD: therefore she called his name Judah; and left bearing.

Jacob had four sons by Leah		
Reuben	"Behold a son"	Leah Receiving God's Favor
Simeon	"Hearing"	God Heard Leah's Prayers
Levi	"Attachment"	Leah's Desire That Jacob Be Attached To Her
Judah	"Praise"	Leah's Way Of Praising God

Rachel has a conversation with Jacob about her being barren

Genesis 30:1 And when Rachel saw that she bare Jacob no children, Rachel envied her sister; and said unto Jacob, Give me children, or else I die.

Genesis 30:2 And Jacob's anger was kindled against Rachel: and he said, *Am* I in God's stead, who hath withheld from thee the fruit of the womb?

Rachel receives children through Bilhah: Dan, Naphtali

Genesis 30:3 And she said, Behold my maid Bilhah, go in unto her; and she shall bear upon my knees, that I may also have children by her.

Genesis 30:4 And she gave him Bilhah her handmaid to wife: and Jacob went in unto her.

Genesis 30:5 And Bilhah conceived, and bare Jacob a son.

Genesis 30:6 And Rachel said, God hath judged me, and hath also heard my voice, and hath given me a son: therefore called she his name Dan.

Genesis 30:7 And Bilhah Rachel's maid conceived again, and bare Jacob a second son.

Genesis 30:8 And Rachel said, With great wrestlings have I wrestled with my sister, and I have prevailed: and she called his name Naphtali.

Jacob Has Two Sons By Rachel's Maid, Bilhah		
Dan	"Justice"	God Heard Rachel And Justified Her In Jacob's Eyes
Naphtali	"Wrestlings"	Rachel's Rivalry With Her Sister

Leah has sons through Zilpah: Gad, Asher

Genesis 30:9 When Leah saw that she had left bearing, she took Zilpah her maid, and gave her Jacob to wife.

Genesis 30:10 And Zilpah Leah's maid bare Jacob a son.

Genesis 30:11 And Leah said, A troop cometh: and she called his name Gad.

Genesis 30:12 And Zilpah Leah's maid bare Jacob a second son.

Genesis 30:13 And Leah said, Happy am I, for the daughters will call me blessed: and she called his name Asher.

Jacob Has Two Sons By Leah's Maid, Zilpah		
Gad	"Fortunate"	Leah's Good Fortune From God
Asshur	"Happy"	Leah has the joy as one blessed of God

Leah conceives again: Issachar, Zebulun, and a daughter Dinah

Genesis 30:14 And Reuben went in the days of wheat harvest, and found mandrakes in the field, and brought them unto his mother Leah. Then Rachel said to Leah, Give me, I pray thee, of thy son's mandrakes.

Genesis 30:15 And she said unto her, *Is it* a small matter that thou hast taken my husband? and wouldest thou take away my son's mandrakes also? And Rachel said, Therefore he shall lie with thee to night for thy son's mandrakes.

Genesis 30:16 And Jacob came out of the field in the evening, and Leah went out to meet him, and said, Thou must come in unto me; for surely I have hired thee with my son's mandrakes. And he lay with her that night.

Genesis 30:17 And God hearkened unto Leah, and she conceived, and bare Jacob the fifth son.

Genesis 30:18 And Leah said, God hath given me my hire, because I have given my maiden to my husband: and she called his name Issachar.

Genesis 30:19 And Leah conceived again, and bare Jacob the sixth son.

Genesis 30:20 And Leah said, God hath endued me *with* a good dowry; now will my husband dwell with me, because I have born him six sons: and she called his name Zebulun.

Genesis 30:21 And afterwards she bare a daughter, and called her name Dinah.

Jacob Has Two Sons and a Daughter By Leah		
Issachar	"Reward"	Leah took this as a reward from God
Zebulan	"Dwelling"	Leah took this as a Testimony from God of Jacob dwelling with her
Dinah	"Judgment"	

God remembered Rachel

Genesis 30:22 And God remembered Rachel, and God hearkened to her, and opened her womb.

Genesis 30:23 And she conceived, and bare a son; and said, God hath taken away my reproach:

Genesis 30:24 And she called his name Joseph; and said, The LORD shall add to me another son.

Jacob Has a son by Rachel		
Joseph	"To add"	God Gave Her Another Son

Jacob's Service Covenant With Laban for Cattle

Genesis 30:25 And it came to pass, when Rachel had born Joseph, that Jacob said unto Laban, Send me away, that I may go unto mine own place, and to my country.

Genesis 30:26 Give me my wives and my children, for whom I have served thee, and let me go: for thou knowest my service which I have done thee.

Genesis 30:27 And Laban said unto him, I pray thee, if I have found favour in thine eyes, tarry: for I have learned by experience that the LORD hath blessed me for thy sake.

Genesis 30:28 And he said, Appoint me thy wages, and I will give it.

Genesis 30:29 And he said unto him, Thou knowest how I have served thee, and how thy cattle was with me.

Genesis 30:30 For it was little which thou hadst before I came, and it is now increased unto a multitude; and the LORD hath blessed thee since my coming: and now when shall I provide for mine own house also?

Genesis 30:31 And he said, What shall I give thee? And Jacob said, Thou shalt not give me any thing: if thou wilt do this thing for me, I will again feed and keep thy flock:

Genesis 30:32 I will pass through all thy flock to day, removing from thence all the speckled and spotted cattle, and all the brown cattle among the sheep, and the spotted and speckled among the goats: and of such shall be my hire.

Genesis 30:33 So shall my righteousness answer for me in time to come, when it shall come for my hire before thy face: every one that is not speckled and spotted among the goats, and brown among the sheep, that shall be counted stolen with me.

Genesis 30:34 And Laban said, Behold, I would it might be according to thy word.

Timeline - Abraham did not die until his grandson, Jacob, was 15 years old

1. Abraham was 100 years old when Isaac was born (Abraham 140 at Isaac and Rebekah's marriage.)

Genesis 21:5 And Abraham was an hundred years old, when his son Isaac was born unto him.

2. Abraham was 175 years when he died (Jacob and Esau were 15 years old)

Genesis 25:7 And these *are* the days of the years of Abraham's life which he lived, an hundred threescore and fifteen years.

3. Isaac was 40 years old when he married Rebekah

Genesis 25:20 And Isaac was forty years old when he took Rebekah to wife, the daughter of Bethuel the Syrian of Padan-aram, the sister to Laban the Syrian.

4. Isaac was 60 years old when Jacob and Esau were born (Abraham was 160 years old)

Genesis 25:26 And after that came his brother out, and his hand took hold on Esau's heel; and his name was called Jacob: and Isaac *was* threescore years old when she bare them.

5. Isaac was 180 years old at his death (Jacob and Esau were 120 years old)

Genesis 35:27 And Jacob came unto Isaac his father unto Mamre, unto the city of Arbah, which *is* Hebron, where Abraham and Isaac sojourned.

Genesis 35:28 And the days of Isaac were an hundred and fourscore years.

Genesis 35:29 And Isaac gave up the ghost, and died, and was gathered unto his people, *being* old and full of days: and his sons Esau and Jacob buried him.

Jacob spent 20 years at Laben's house

6. Jacob was 130 years old when he took 70 souls (his family) to Egypt

Genesis 47:5 And Pharaoh spake unto Joseph, saying, Thy father and thy brethren are come unto thee: **Genesis 47:6** The land of Egypt *is* before thee; in the best of the land make thy father and brethren to dwell; in the land of Goshen let them dwell: and if thou knowest *any* men of activity among them, then make them rulers over my cattle.

7. How old was Jacob the two times he left Canaan? (Once to Harran, then to Egypt)

We have to go forward in time to Jacob's 2nd departure (to Egypt) and we find:

- a. Jacob was 130 years old when he arrived in Egypt from Canaan ([Genesis 47:7-9](#))
- b. Now we have to go back in time to find his first departure from Canaan to Harran:

Remember Jacob was 130 years old when he took 70 souls (his family) to Egypt

Genesis 47:7 And Joseph brought in Jacob his father, and set him before Pharaoh: and Jacob blessed Pharaoh.

Genesis 47:8 And Pharaoh said unto Jacob, How old *art* thou?

Genesis 47:9 And Jacob said unto Pharaoh, **The days of the years of my pilgrimage are an hundred and thirty years:** few and evil have the days of the years of my life been, and have not attained unto the days of the years of the life of my fathers in the days of their pilgrimage.

But Jacob left the land of Canaan twice.

1. Was after fleeing to Harran on his mother Rebekah's advice to live with her brother Laban.
2. Was when he took his family to Egypt during a famine.

The first isn't directly stated. You have to calculate a few events backwards to figure it

2. The second trip is easy. It clearly states that Jacob was 130 years old when he went to Egypt. ([Genesis 47:9](#)) He remained in Egypt until he died at 147, when his body was returned to Hebron in Canaan.

- a. **The first trip to Harran takes some math.** When reading Genesis for specific event times, it can be sometimes be a little complicated. For instance, at the beginning of Genesis 25, Abraham dies. However, later in the chapter Jacob and Esau are born, but it is an easy calculation to see that Jacob and Esau were 15 years old before Abraham died.
- b. **Jacob was born when Isaac was 60.** ([Genesis 25:26](#)) Jacob had a son named Joseph, who became his favorite, making his brothers jealous.
- c. **Genesis 37:2, Joseph was 17 years old,** and sometime thereafter his brothers sold him into slavery to passing Midianites. (After the oldest convinced them not to kill him outright.)
- d. **Genesis 41:46 Joseph was 30 years old** and after this there were 7 good years of plenty in Egypt followed by 7 years of famine conditions. ([Genesis 41:28-30](#))
- e. Jacob came down to Egypt in the second year of the famine. ([Genesis 45:6](#)) So, **Joseph was 39 when he was reunited with his father.**
- f. **Remember, Jacob is 130 years old at this time.** From this we can calculate that **Jacob was 91 when Joseph was born.**
- g. **We know Jacob was in Harran for 14 years when Joseph was born.** ([Genesis 30:25,26](#)) [This includes 7 years of working for his uncle to get his wife Rachel ([Genesis 29:18](#)), and then another 7 years after being first tricked into marrying her older sister first. ([Genesis 29:27](#)). And remember 6 years more for the herd. (20 Years in Harran)]

1. So, Jacob was 77 when he left Canaan the first time for Harran (91- 14)

19_Genesis

