

Genesis – Family: “Waves of Deception” Pt 2

Genesis 29:31-30:24

June 28th, 2020

Pastor Jim Laxson

GOOD MORNING

Property Update: Look & See

NEXT WEEK!: June 28th, Pray Cottonwood

6-7:30 pm at Cottonwood Community Center
[behind Holiday Market]

Response to Bldg/Fund Report

Ave @ /week > @ yrs for 2nd pkg

PRAYER

Military, President

Unrest in our nation's cities

1st Responders: Fire, Law Enforcement, Medical

Sick & Infirm

Encouraged, Challenged, Blessed > Blessing

The focus of Genesis now moves from a single son-heir within a family to the multiple sons

who will be known as “the children of Israel” and the rapid expansion from “a family” to a nation”.

Context: Jacob, the deceiver, has been deceived.

- ✓ *Not only do we see “waves of deception” but also the main fruit of deception - bitterness, wrath, anger, clamor, slander, and malice” rather than the choice of forgiveness and harmony.*
- ✓ *It continues for centuries to come as deception begets more deception, sin begets more sin.*

Genesis 29:31 -35 **Names have significance - worship, commemoration**
unloved > hated > rejected or neglected, considered an adversary
Adonai opened her womb

✓ *Rueben > lit. “look, a son” > perhaps he will love me now*

✓ *Simeon > lit. “hearing” > the LORD has heard me*

✓ *Levi > lit. Attachment > this time he will be attached to me*

✓ *Judah > lit. “praise” > I will praise the LORD*

Leah begins to find her comfort in the LORD



Ch.30:1-2 "Give me children, or else I die!"

- ✓ Recognizes that Leah is providing children
- ✓ The jealousy and envy bring a greater competition

Jacob recognizes that it is the Lord who is in control

- ✓ It is neither his (Jacob's or Rachel's) fault
 - It is God

Vs.3-8 Rachel's response: Go to the Lord? NOT

- ✓ Here's my maid - take her!

THIS ONLY EXACERBATES THE SITUATION

- ✓ Custom is that the children will be the "mistresses" not the maids
- ✓ Jacob concurs - HELLO!!!!
 - Bilhah conceives > Dan > lit. "justice"
 - [God has vindicated Rachel]
 - #2 (or 6) Naphtali > lit. "wrestling" w/prevailing

Vs.9-13 Leah's response: Take my maid, Zilpah!"

- ✓ Gad > lit. fortunate or lucky >
- ✓ Asher > lit. happy > others will call me happy (successful)

Vs.14-16

Rueben > potentially now a preteen

- ✓ Mandrakes > herb of the belladonna family
 - Considered an aphrodisiac (sexual desire exciter)

Rachel barter for some mandrakes with Jacob's visitations

Leah intercepts Jacob as he returns!!!

- ✓ "I bought you tonight!"

Vs.17-21 Leah conceives again

- ✓ Issachar > lit. reward > remuneration/wages
- ✓ Zebulun > lit. dwelling > perhaps he will dwell with me

STOP for a second: All the family is watching this melee/brawl

- ✓ The kids
- ✓ The maids
- ✓ Jacob
- ✓ The grandparents > Laban and his family
 - Probably a bit of laughter behind the scenes

V. 21 > only one girl



mentioned in this process >

Dinah

Vs. 22-24 "Then God remembered Rachel . . ."
". . . and God gave heed to her . . ."
". . . and opened her womb."

Grace, compassion, mercy

- ✓ Grace > giving her what she does not deserve
- ✓ Compassion > meeting her at her deepest point of need
- ✓ Mercy > not giving her what she does deserve

God gives her a child > Joseph >

lit. He has taken away my reproach

OR

May the Lord add ~ give me another son

This was not via the mandrakes - it was God's compassion

- The LOVE quad-rangle - vying for Jacob's love and family position
All in one's own strength and own wisdom - FALACY!

What might seem to be 'Paradise' to foolish some in our present day, is actually a family fraught with competition, anger, envy, malice and deception. Needless to say, no one stood for righteousness; no one thought beyond their own insecurities and desires ~ and an acidic environment was the result.

Oh, the grace of God! His marvelous wonders of taking our shortcomings and accepting us as we are - but not willing to leave us as we are! A faithful compassion that, in con-contrast to our self-centeredness, touches our lives with mercy and grace . . . and our response? Some continue in compromise, some unyielding against Him, too few in hum-ble gratitude commit to Him. Someone has said,

"Many will go a long way with Christ,
only a few will go all the way."

Perhaps it is one's understanding of ALL that He has done?

Look at Luke 7:36-47 ~ meditate on the issue
as it applies in your life.

What part of this passage "caught your attention"?

Is God saying something to you? What is it?

How will you respond?