

WEDNESDAY NIGHT BIBLE CLASS
FEBRUARY 15, 2023
GENESIS 28.6-22

INTRODUCTION:

1. Before Jacob is sent out to his uncle Laban's house, Isaac blesses him.
 - a) **GENESIS 28.3:** *"May God Almighty bless you"* Lit., the powerful One. (cf. Gen. 17.1)
 - b) **GENESIS 28.3:** *"Make you fruitful and multiply"* (cf. Gen. 17.2-7)
 - c) **GENESIS 28.4:** *"That you may inherit the land"* (cf. Gen. 17.8)
2. Genesis 28 tells us about the wives that were taken by Jacob and Esau.

I. THE WIVES OF ESAU

- A. In our reading, Esau made two observations.
 1. **GENESIS 28.6:** *"Esau saw that Isaac had blessed Jacob and sent him away"*
 - a) "Saw" carries the idea of examination and inspection.
 - b) **GENESIS 28.6:** Esau gave consideration to the blessing given to Jacob.
 - c) **GENESIS 28.6:** Esau gave consideration to the command given to Jacob.
 - d) **GENESIS 28.7:** Esau gave consideration to the obedience of Jacob.
 2. **GENESIS 28.8:** *"Esau saw that the daughters of Canaan did not please his father"*
 - a) Did Esau see the turmoil that he caused and feel responsible? Did he believe that he was the reason why Jacob was blessed and sent away. (Gen. 26.34,35; 27.46)
 - b) REMINDER: The Canaanites were wicked and idolatrous. (Deut. 7.3,4)
- B. Because of what he observed between Isaac and Jacob, Esau sought a third wife.
 1. **GENESIS 28.9:** *"So Esau went to Ishmael and took Mahalath the daughter of Ishmael, Abraham's son, the sister of Nebajoth, to be his wife in addition to the wives he had."*
 2. The wives of Esau are named in Genesis 26.34, 28.9, and 36.2,3. [Chart]
 3. Why did Esau marry the daughter of Ishmael? Possibly because she the descendant of Abraham. Yet this further shows not being mindful of Israel's future.
 - a) Ishmael and his lineage were not given the promises of God. (Gen. 17.18,19)
 - b) God has *"cast out this bondwoman and her son"* (Gen. 21.9-13)

II. THE WIVES OF JACOB

- A. On his way to Pan Aram (Laban), Jacob had a dream.
 1. **GENESIS 28.10-12:** *"he lay down in that place to sleep. Then he dreamed"*
 - a) God frequently spoke to people through dreams. (Num. 12.4-6)
 - b) Does God speak to us through dreams? (Heb. 1.1,2)
 2. **GENESIS 28.12:** Jacob saw a ladder with angels ascending and descending.
 - a) The ladder symbolizes the connection of God with His creation. (cf. Jer. 32.19)
 - b) The angels are God's messengers. (Ps. 103.20; Heb. 1.14; John 1.51)
 3. **GENESIS 28.13-15:** God reveals Himself to Jacob.
 - a) He reveals to Jacob His person. (Gen. 28.13)
 - b) He reiterates to Jacob His promises. (Gen. 28.14)
 - c) He reassures Jacob of His presence. (Gen. 28.15)
- B. Jacob awakes and reacts to his dream.
 1. **GENESIS 28.16,17:** Jacob was in awe of the land.
 2. **GENESIS 28.18,19:** Jacob sanctifies the land.
 3. **GENESIS 28.20-22:** Jacob makes a vow to God.