

WEDNESDAY NIGHT BIBLE CLASS
MARCH 15, 2023
GENESIS 30:25-43

INTRODUCTION:

1. The promise of eternal life through Jesus was not made to Abraham in Genesis 12. It was made “*before time began*” (Titus 1.2; cf. Matt. 25.34; Acts 15.18).
2. God did not play a passive role but was actively involved in every step of His plan of salvation. (Gen. 30.2,6,17,18,20-24)
3. Everyone could see God’s active role...including Laban. (Gen. 21.22; 26.28; 39.1,2)

I. THERE IS AN AGREEMENT

A. The agreement is made.

1. The reason why Jacob wanted to leave. (Gen. 30.25,26)
 - a) **GENESIS 30.25:** Returning to his home was promised by his mother, by God, and was the desire of his own heart. (Gen. 27.45; 28.15; Gen. 30.30; 31.30)
 - b) **GENESIS 30.27:** Jacob had fulfilled his promise. (Gen. 29.18-20; 26-30)
2. The reason why Laban wanted Jacob to stay. (Gen. 30.27-30)
 - a) **GENESIS 30.27,28:** God has blessed Laban because of Jacob. (Gen. 26.24).
 - b) **GENESIS 30.29,30:** How has God blessed Laban?
3. Jacob agrees to stay according to the terms he set. (Gen. 30.31-34)
 - a) **GENESIS 30.31-33:** “*the speckled and spotted sheep...these shall be my wages*”
 - b) **GENESIS 30.34:** Why did Laban agree to Jacob’s proposal?

B. The agreement is fulfilled.

1. **GENESIS 30.35:** Laban removed all the speckled and spotted sheep and lambs.
2. **GENESIS 30.36:** “*three days journey between himself and Jacob*” Why?

II. THE PROSPERITY OF JACOB

A. Jacob used a peculiar breeding method.

1. **GENESIS 30.37:** Jacob placed small branched which he peeled in the troughs.
2. **GENESIS 30.38:** “*And since they bred when they came to drink*” Jacob put the small branches in the troughs as an aid in reproduction.
3. **GENESIS 30.39,40:** When they bred, “*brought forth striped, speckled, and spotted*”
4. **GENESIS 30.41-43:** Jacob only used this breeding method on the strong among the flock to produce strong spotted offspring.

B. Why did this breeding method work?

1. GENETICS: There were spotted and speckled among the herd. (Gen. 30.32)
 - a) In genetics, there are recessive and dominant genes. (ex., red hair, cleft chin, dimples, straight hair, blue eyes).
 - b) If the recessive gene is present in both parents, it can appear in the children.
 - c) That there were spotted and speckled among the herd indicates that the recessive gene was present among Laban’s flock.
2. MEDICINE: The branches poplar, almond, and chestnut trees had medicinal properties.
 - a) Jacob put these branches into the watering troughs. (Gen. 30.37,38)
 - b) **GENESIS 30.38:** “*so that they should conceive when they came to drink*” (ESV)
 - c) The benefits include anti-inflammatory, urinary health, and increased reproduction.
3. PROVIDENCE: God was involved in this process. (Gen. 31.7-9-12)