

THE STUDY OF

# GENESIS

“IN THE BEGINNING GOD CREATED  
THE HEAVENS AND THE EARTH.”

# Silence, Sin, and Shechem

## Genesis 34:1-31

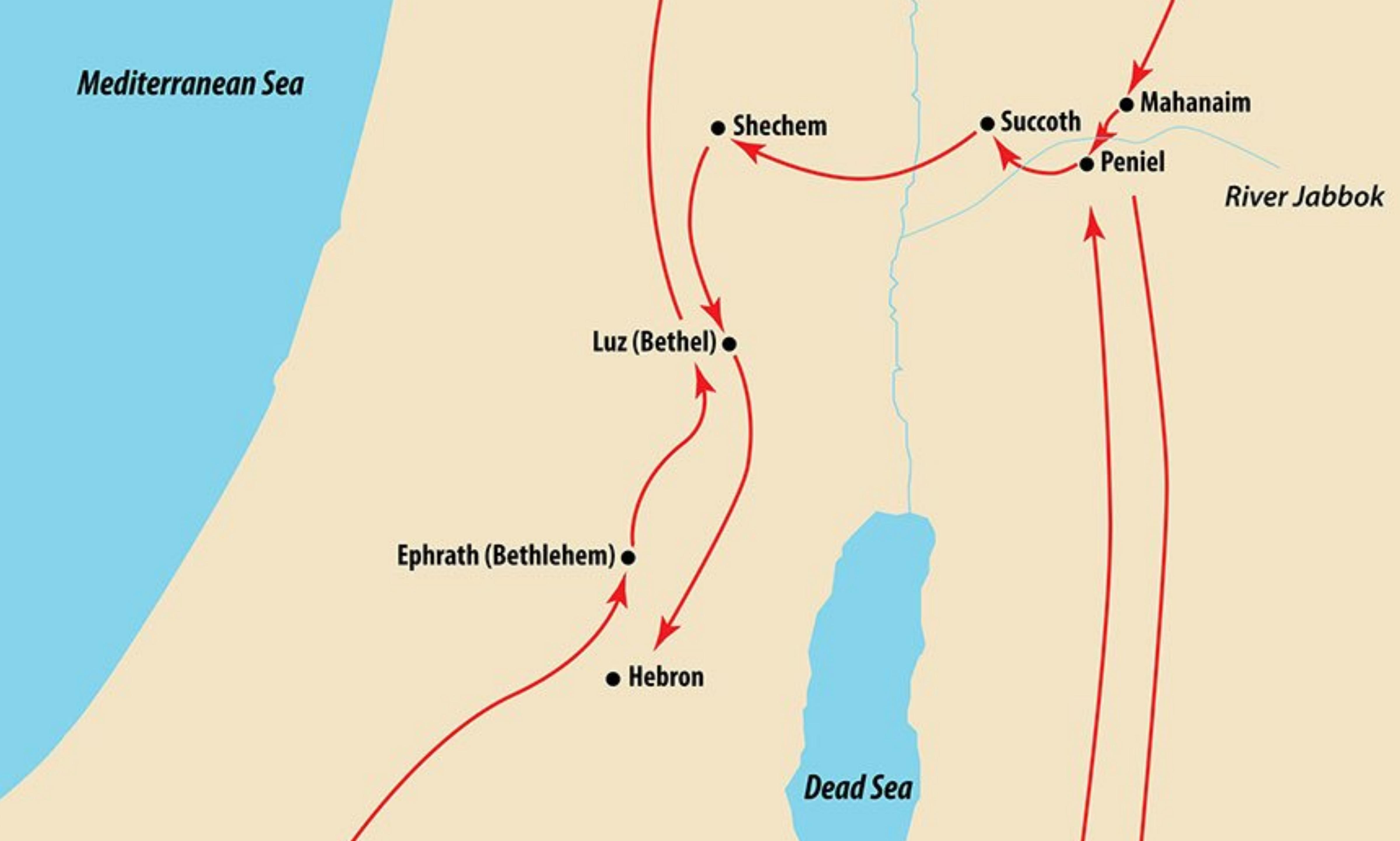


# THE REDEMPTION STORY: FROM GENESIS TO JESUS

- The Bible is one beautiful story of Jesus and redemption (Ephesians 1:7-10)
- Scripture presents a purposeful narrative revealing God's redemptive plan (2 Timothy 3:16-17)

# Big Picture

- Redeemer/Seed Hunt Gen. 3:15;  
12:1-3 (There is one Hero... Jesus)
- Past promises point to future  
faithfulness, different times - same  
Lord
- Continuity – From Abraham to Christ  
(Heb 11:13-16; Gal 3:29)





## v.1-4 — Dinah

1. Dinah goes out to “see the women of the land” → covenant boundary crossed (cf. Gen 24:3; 28:1; Deut 7:3)
2. Hivites were descendants of Ham through Canaan (Gen 10:17)

3. Shechem “saw... took... lay with...  
humiliated” → seizure/violation  
language (Gen 34:2)

4. Culture: unattended women  
vulnerable in Canaan (cf. Ruth 2:8–9)

5. Shechem claims “love,” yet treats her as property—“get me this girl” (Gen 34:3-4)

6. True love seeks to give, not take (1 Cor 13:4-7)



## v.5-7 — Grace Runs Faster Than Fear

1. Jacob Silent, Sons Enraged (v. 5-7)
2. Jacob hears and “held his peace” → leadership failure (v. 5)
3. Sons are “indignant and very angry” — an outrage in Israel (v. 7)

4. Brothers carried marriage duties in A.N.E. culture (cf. Gen 24:50–60)
5. When heads fail to lead, sin fills the void (Eph 5:25; Eph 6:4)



## v.8-12 – The Evil Bargain

1. Hamor proposes intermarriage + commerce (v.8–10)
2. “Name your price” cannot erase disgrace (v.12)
3. Danger: covenant family becoming “one people” with Canaan (v. 16, 22)

4. OT Echo: Babel's false unity (Gen 11:6)

5. NT: Do not be unequally yoked (2 Cor 6:14–17)



## v.13-17 - Religion Weaponized

1. Sons answer deceitfully (v. 13)
2. Covenant sign (Gen 17:10–11) used as a weapon
3. Intended for separation—turned into assimilation
4. NT: Using godliness for gain (1 Tim 6:5); zeal without knowledge (Rom 10:2)



## v.18-24 – City at the Gate

1. Decision made at the gate = public authority (v. 20; cf. Ruth 4:1–2)
2. Motive exposed: “their livestock will be ours” (v. 23)
3. Prosperity without repentance
4. NT: What profits a man to gain the world? (Mark 8:36)



## v.25-26— Massacre, Not Justice

1. 3rd day weakness exploited (v. 25)
2. Simeon & Levi kill all males → vengeance not justice
3. NT: “Vengeance is Mine” (Rom 12:19);  
Wrath/anger of man doesn’t produce  
God’s righteousness (James 1:20)



## v.27-31 - No prayer, grief, repentance

1. Sons plunder wealth and households  
(v. 27-28)
2. Take wives and little ones—replicating  
the very violation (v. 29)
3. Jacob fears for his reputation (v. 30)

4. Sons reply: “Should he treat our sister like a prostitute?” (v. 31)

5. NT: Overcome evil with good, not evil with evil (Rom 12:21) Walk worthy of your calling (Eph 4:1); don’t live as Gentiles do (Eph 4:17–24)



# Cost of Fear, Pride, and Justification

1. God's Verdict & Aftermath (Gen 49:5–7; Exod 32:26–28)
2. Later judgment on Simeon & Levi (Gen 49:5–7)

3. Both scattered:

- a. Simeon absorbed (Josh tribal allotments)
- b. Levi scattered yet redeemed for priesthood ([Exod 32:26–28](#))

4. NT: God redeems consequences without excusing sin ([Gal 6:7–9](#))



## Takeaways -

### 1. Don't stay Silent in the Face of Evil

“Rescue those being led away to death... if you say, ‘We did not know,’ does not He who weighs the heart perceive it?” – Prov

24:11–12

“Have nothing to do with the fruitless deeds of darkness, but rather expose them.” – Eph 5:11

## 2. Don't weaponize or Justify

“The anger of man does not produce the righteousness of God.” – James 1:20

“If I speak... but have not love, I am a noisy gong.” – 1 Cor 13:1

“Let all bitterness, wrath, and anger be put away... be kind, tenderhearted, forgiving.” – Eph 4:31–32

### 3. Mercy Is Greater Than the Mess

Failure is not final when we repent.

Grace pursues what sin destroys.

“It is the kindness of God that leads you to

repentance.” – Rom 2:4 “Where sin

increased, grace abounded all the more.”

– Rom 5:20 “If we are faithless, He

remains faithful.” – 2 Tim 2:13

# Read Ephesians:

You have a new identity in Christ—

*BLESSED!* (Eph. 1-3)... Now live like it

Don't walk as the world does, put off the  
old self and put on the new (Eph. 4)

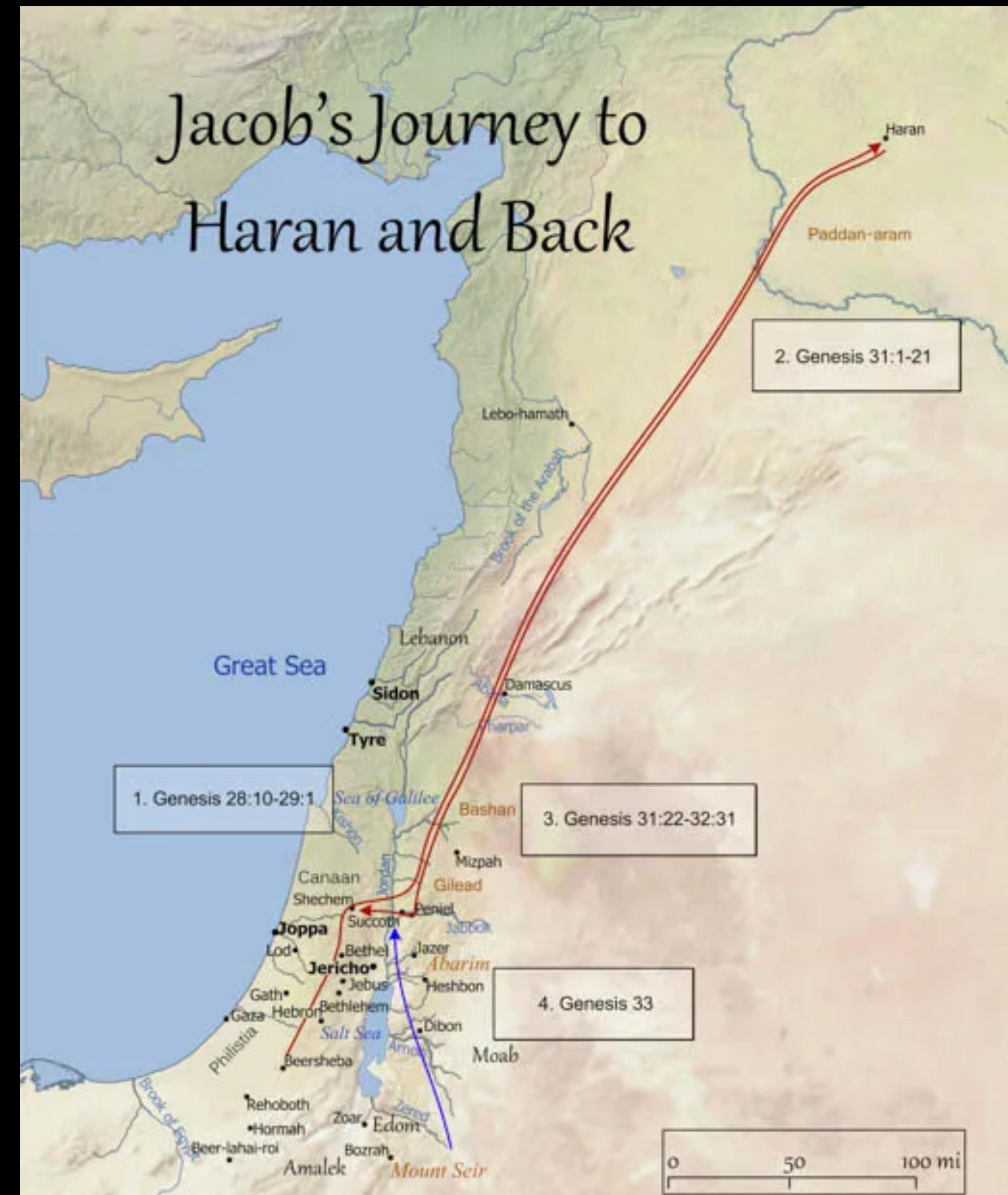
Be imitators of God and walk in love on  
mission with Him (Eph.5-6)



## Resources/ Bibliography:

1. Guzik, David. *Genesis*. David Guzik's Commentaries on the Bible. Santa Barbara, CA: Enduring Word, 2013. <https://enduringword.com/bible-commentary/genesis-34/>.
2. Longman III, Tremper. "Genesis." In *The Baker Illustrated Bible Background Commentary*, edited by J. Scott Duvall and J. Daniel Hays, 109–110. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Books, 2020.
3. Morris, Henry M. *The Genesis Record: A Scientific and Devotional Commentary on the Book of Beginnings*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Book House, 1976.
4. Sailhamer, John H. *The Pentateuch as Narrative: A Biblical–Theological Commentary*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 1992.
5. Sailhamer, John H. *NIV Bible Study Commentary*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 1994.
6. Wiersbe, Warren W. *Wiersbe's Expository Outlines on the Old Testament*. Wheaton, IL: Victor Books, 1993.
7. Leupold, H. C. *Exposition of Genesis*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Book House, 1942.
8. Kidner, Derek. *Genesis: An Introduction and Commentary*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 1967.
9. Barnhouse, Donald Grey. *Genesis: A Devotional Exposition*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 1973.
10. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EPkByFwgEOY>
11. <https://bibleproject.com/videos/genesis-1-11/>

# Jacob's Journey to Haran and Back



# HEAT - THORNS - CROSS - FRUIT

Heat = pressure, trials, difficulty (Ps. 88; James 1:1-15)

Thorns = our sin, flesh response (Eph. 4-6; Heb. 4:14-5:10)

# HEAT - THORNS - CROSS - FRUIT

**Cross** = God's gospel transformative power, changes our focus from self to Jesus, (Rom 1:16; 2 Peter 1:1-11)

**Fruit** = the new right, Holy Spirit, Grace- empowered response to life's struggles. (Ps. 1; Gal 5:22)