



THE STUDY OF

# GENESIS

"IN THE BEGINNING GOD CREATED  
THE HEAVENS AND THE EARTH."



# God Sees the Unseen

Genesis 29:1-35



# 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
- Past promises point to future faithfulness, different times - same Lord
- Continuity — From Abraham to Christ (Heb 11:13–16; Gal 3:29)



# Genesis 29:1-35

## God Sees the Unseen

God uses providence, painful people, and unexpected grace to shape you.





# v.1-14 God Guides Us Even When We Aren't Seeking Him

1. “lifted up his feet” — renewed courage
2. The well: providential intersections  
(Gen. 24; Ex. 2; John 4)
3. Jacob's impulse (29:7)
4. Rachel's perfect timing (29:9)



## v.15-20 — Sister Wives

1. Leah - likely means “wild cow”

Her eyes are described as “rakkot” — meaning “weak,” “dull,” or “lacking sparkle.”



## v.15-20 — Sister Wives

2. Rachel -“ewe,” (fitting for a shepherdess)

“beautiful in form and appearance”  
(29:17)

The same phrase used of:

Sarah (Gen. 12:11); Rebekah (Gen. 24:16);  
Joseph (Gen. 39:6); Esther (Esth. 2:7)



## v.21-30 Pride and Prejudice

1. Jacob Gets Jacobed (Gal. 6:7)
2. Jacob's directness, crudeness, and lack of prayer reveals his mindset
3. "Jacob cries out the same question others asked him: 'What is this you have done?'" (cf. Gen. 3:13; 12:18; 20:9; 26:10)



# God's disciplining: measure for measure

1. Jacob tricked his blind father → Jacob is tricked in the dark.
2. Jacob disguised himself as the older brother → Laban gives the disguised older sister.
3. Jacob pretended to be Esau → Leah pretends to be Rachel.

Galatians 6:7 in narrative form:

“You reap what you sow.”

**This is grace—and correction.**

God is forming Jacob’s character by letting him experience his own sin from the other side.





# **v.31-35** God Sees the Unloved and Works Through the Unexpected

1. Leah is unloved—but God sees

a. Reuben → God sees

b. Simeon → God hears

c. Levi → God attaches

d. Judah → Praise

2. The Messiah comes through Leah



# Takeaways

1. **God guides** us even when we aren't seeking Him  
(Gen. 29:1-4; Psalm 73:23; Prov. 16:9)

Pray that your eyes will be opened, you would turn and recognize His gentle guiding hand



2. **God sanctifies** us through difficult people and circumstances  
(Gen. 29:15–20; Prov. 27:6; Gen. 50:20)

Difficult people: Instead of just praying, “Lord, remove them,” pray, “Lord, refine me through them, change me or the situation”

3. **God uses** painful providence to break our pride and reveal our own sin  
(Gen. 29:21–30; Gal. 6:7; Heb. 12:5–11)

Instead of asking: “Why is this happening?” ask, “Lord, what are You forming in me through this? Show me the areas of my life that need changing”

4. **God sees** the unloved and works  
through the unexpected

(Gen. 29:31–35; Psa. 34:18; Rom. 8:28)

Ask for prayer, get in to the Word, join a  
small group, and preach to your soul:

“God sees me. God hears me. God is  
working in what feels wasted.”

And then — have eyes to see someone  
else who needs to be seen.



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|| לאה (?) Akk. masc. lū, fem. littu, lītu, bull, cow (AHw. 557b, 560a); Arb. la'ātu wild  
cow; Ph. n.m. \*עבדלאת, cun. Abdili'ti (Benz Names 337); Mowinckel Fschr.  
Eissfeldt 2:134; Noth Überl. Pent. 103273; Stamm Frauennamen 329: Leah, daughter of  
Laban, wife of Jacob Gn  
29:16-30:20 31:4, 14, 33 33:1f, 7 34:1 35:23, 26 46:15, 18 49:31 Ru 4:11. [The Hebrew and  
Aramaic Lexicon of the Old Testament](#), p 513
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SamP. rā'el; n.f.; Sept. Ραχηλ, Josephus Ραχήλα (Schalit Namenwörterbuch 100); = || רַחֵל,  
see Noth Überl. 103 (:: Noth Personennamen 10); Stamm Frauennamen 329 = Fschr.  
Stamm 125: Rachel: Gn 29:6-48:7 (37 times) Jr 31:15 Ru 4:11; קְבוֹרַת־רַחֵל Gn 35:20 1S  
10:2, → 3 קְבוֹרָה. The Hebrew and Aramaic Lexicon of the Old Testament, p 1216
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