

Jacob, Rachel & Leah

Scripture readings, prayers, and audio recordings compiled by Andrea Brown with cover art AI generated by Andrea Brown x Pikaso, 2024. proclaimministries.com

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MORNING PRAYER

O Lord, open our lips;
And our mouth
shall shew forth your praise.

O God,
make speed to save us.

O Lord,
make haste to help us.

Glory be to the Father,
and to the Son:
and to the Spirit

As it was in the beginning,
is now, and ever shall be:
world without end.

Amen.

COLLECT

Lord Jesus Christ,
you stretched out your arms of love
on the hard wood of the Cross
that everyone might come
within the reach
of your saving embrace:

So clothe us in your Spirit
that we,
reaching forth our hands in love,
may bring those
who do not know you
to the knowledge and love of you;
for the honor
of your Name.

Amen.

Jacob, Rachel & Leah

PSALM 42

As a deer longs for streams of water,
so I long for you, O God!

2 I thirst for God, for the living God.
I say, "When will I be able to go
and appear in God's presence?"

3 I cannot eat; I weep day and night.
All day long they say to me, "Where is your God?"

4 I will remember and weep.
For I was once walking along
with the great throng to the temple of God,
shouting and giving thanks along with the crowd
as we celebrated the holy festival.

5 Why are you depressed, O my soul?
Why are you upset?
Wait for God!

For I will again give thanks
to my God for his saving intervention.
6 I am depressed, so I will pray to you
while in the region of the upper Jordan,
from Hermon, from Mount Mizar.

7 One deep stream calls out to another
at the sound of your waterfalls;
all your billows and waves overwhelm me.

8 By day the Lord decrees his loyal love,
and by night he gives me a song,
a prayer to the God of my life.

9 I will pray to God, my high ridge:
"Why do you ignore me?"

Why must I walk around mourning
because my enemies oppress me?"

10 My enemies' taunts cut me to the bone,
as they say to me all day long, "Where is your God?"

11 Why are you depressed, O my soul?
Why are you upset?
Wait for God!

For I will again give thanks
to my God for his saving intervention.

CONFESSION

Father in heaven,
we thank you for the freedom
you have given us
through the life, death
and resurrection of your Son.

But we confess today that we often
live like slaves.

Instead of
living like you delight in us,
we avoid you in shame and guilt.

Instead of
receiving your favor as a gift,
we try to earn it with our efforts.

Instead of
accepting your freedom,
we prefer our chains.

Instead of
pursuing your purposes, we cling
to our short-sighted agendas.

Forgive us. Embrace us.
Cleanse us. Heal us.
We ask this in Jesus' name.

Amen.
—

Gracious God,
our sins are too heavy to carry,
too real to hide,
and too deep to undo.

Forgive what our lips
tremble to name,
what our hearts can no longer bear,
and what has become for us
a consuming fire of judgment.

Set us free
from a past that we cannot change;
open to us a future
in which we can be changed;
and grant us grace
to grow more and more
in your likeness and image,

through Jesus Christ,
the light of the world.

Amen.

GENESIS 25-30

25 19 This is the account of Isaac, the son of Abraham. Abraham became the father of Isaac. 20 When Isaac was forty years old, he married Rebekah, the daughter of Bethuel the Aramean from Paddan Aram and sister of Laban the Aramean. 21 Isaac prayed to the Lord on behalf of his wife because she was childless. The Lord answered his prayer, and his wife Rebekah became pregnant. 22 But the children struggled inside her, and she said, "Why is this happening to me?" So she asked the Lord, 23 and the Lord said to her,

"Two nations are in your womb,
and two peoples will be separated from within you.
One people will be stronger than the other,
and the older will serve the younger."

24 When the time came for Rebekah to give birth, there were twins in her womb. 25 The first came out reddish all over, like a hairy garment, so they named him Esau. 26 When his brother came out with his hand clutching Esau's heel, they named him Jacob. Isaac was sixty years old when they were born.

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28 10 Meanwhile Jacob left Beer Sheba and set out for Haran. 11 He reached a certain place where he decided to camp because the sun had gone down. He took one of the stones and placed it near his head. Then he fell asleep in that place 12 and had a dream. He saw a stairway erected on the earth with its top reaching to the heavens. The angels of God were going up and coming down it 13 and the Lord stood at its top. He said, "I am the Lord, the God of your grandfather Abraham and the God of your father Isaac. I will give you and your descendants the ground you are lying on. 14 Your descendants will be like the dust of the earth, and you will spread out to the west, east, north, and south. And so all the families of the earth may receive blessings through you and through your descendants. 15 I am with you! I will protect you wherever you go and will bring you back to this land. I will not leave you until I have done what I promised you!"

18 Early in the morning Jacob took the stone he had placed near his head and set it up as a sacred stone. Then he poured oil on top of it. 19 He called that place Bethel, although the former name of the town was Luz. 20 Then Jacob made a vow, saying, "If God is with me and protects me on this journey I am taking and gives me food to eat and clothing to wear, 21 and I return safely to my father's home, then the Lord will become my God.

AFTERNOON PRAYER

*God of all creation,
full of love and abounding in mercy;
May the whole earth
be filled with your glory.*

*Lord, bless and guide
all ministers of your church;
Clothe them in righteousness
and grant them wisdom.*

*Direct the leaders of our nation;
That they may act in accordance
with your kingdom.*

*Enlarge our own hearts, O Lord,
To love the things that you love*

*May we proclaim your light
In every place where there is darkness.*

*May we proclaim
your Holy Name
In every aspect of our lives.*

*Create in us clean hearts,
O God;
And renew a right spirit
within us.*

*Grant us your peace;
For only in you
can we live in safety.*

*We pray for those in sickness,
grief, persecution, bondage,
fear, or loneliness.*

Lord, have mercy.

Let us offer our own prayers:

29 So Jacob moved on and came to the land of the eastern people. 2 He saw in the field a well with three flocks of sheep lying beside it, because the flocks were watered from that well. Now a large stone covered the mouth of the well. 3 When all the flocks were gathered there, the shepherds would roll the stone off the mouth of the well and water the sheep. Then they would put the stone back in its place over the well's mouth.

...

10 When Jacob saw Rachel, the daughter of his uncle Laban, and the sheep of his uncle Laban, he went over and rolled the stone off the mouth of the well and watered the sheep of his uncle Laban. 11 Then Jacob kissed Rachel and began to weep loudly. 12 When Jacob explained to Rachel that he was a relative of her father and the son of Rebekah, she ran and told her father. 13 When Laban heard this news about Jacob, his sister's son, he rushed out to meet him. He embraced him and kissed him and brought him to his house. Jacob told Laban how he was related to him. 14 Then Laban said to him, "You are indeed my own flesh and blood." So Jacob stayed with him for a month.

15 Then Laban said to Jacob, "Should you work for me for nothing because you are my relative? Tell me what your wages should be." 16 (Now Laban had two daughters; the older one was named Leah, and the younger one Rachel. 17 Leah's eyes were tender, but Rachel had a lovely figure and beautiful appearance.) 18 Since Jacob had fallen in love with Rachel, he said, "I'll serve you seven years in exchange for your younger daughter Rachel."

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21 Finally Jacob said to Laban, "Give me my wife, for my time of service is up. And I want to sleep with her." 22 So Laban invited all the people of that place and prepared a feast. 23 In the evening he brought his daughter Leah to Jacob, and he slept with her. 24 (Laban gave his female servant Zilpah to his daughter Leah to be her servant.)

25 In the morning Jacob discovered it was Leah! So Jacob said to Laban, "What in the world have you done to me? Didn't I work for you in exchange for Rachel? Why have you tricked me?" 26 "It is not our custom here," Laban replied, "to give the younger daughter in marriage before the firstborn.

27 Complete my older daughter's bridal week. Then we will give you the younger one too, in exchange for seven more years of work."

28 Jacob did as Laban said. When Jacob completed Leah's bridal week, Laban gave him his daughter Rachel to be his wife.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven,
Hallowed be thy Name,

Thy kingdom come,
Thy will be done,
On earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our trespasses,
As we forgive those
who trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation,
But deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever.
Amen.

EVENING PRAYER

Be our light
in the darkness, O Lord,

and in your great mercy
defend us from all perils
and dangers of this night;

for the love of your only Son,
our Savior Jesus Christ.

Amen

29 (Laban gave his female servant Bilhah to his daughter Rachel to be her servant.) 30 Jacob slept with Rachel as well. He also loved Rachel more than Leah. Then he worked for Laban for seven more years.

31 When the Lord saw that Leah was unloved, he enabled her to become pregnant while Rachel remained childless. 32 So Leah became pregnant and gave birth to a son. She named him Reuben, for she said, "The Lord has looked with pity on my oppressed condition. Surely my husband will love me now."

...

30 When Rachel saw that she could not give Jacob children, she became jealous of her sister. She said to Jacob, "Give me children or I'll die!" 2 Jacob became furious with Rachel and exclaimed, "Am I in the place of God, who has kept you from having children?" 3 She replied, "Here is my servant Bilhah! Sleep with her so that she can bear children for me and I can have a family through her."

...

22 Then God took note of Rachel. He paid attention to her and enabled her to become pregnant. 23 She became pregnant and gave birth to a son. Then she said, "God has taken away my shame." 24 She named him Joseph, saying, "May the Lord give me yet another son."

JOHN 4

4 3 [Jesus] left Judea and set out once more for Galilee.

4 But he had to pass through Samaria. 5 Now he came to a Samaritan town called Sychar, near the plot of land that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. 6 Jacob's well was there, so Jesus, since he was tired from the journey, sat right down beside the well. It was about noon.

7 A Samaritan woman came to draw water. Jesus said to her, "Give me some water to drink." 8 (For his disciples had gone off into the town to buy supplies.) 9 So the Samaritan woman said to him, "How can you—a Jew—ask me, a Samaritan woman, for water to drink?" (For Jews use nothing in common with Samaritans.) 10 Jesus answered her, "If you had known the gift of God and who it is who said to you, 'Give me some water to drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water." 11 "Sir," the woman said to him, "you have no bucket and the well is deep; where then do you get this living water? 12 Surely you're not greater than our ancestor Jacob, are you? For he gave us this well and drank from it

LISTEN

Same God

-Elevation Worship

Locus Iste

-Anton Bruckner

PONDER

Come, O Thou Traveler Unknown

-Charles Wesley, 1742

*Come, O thou Traveler unknown,
Whom still I hold but cannot see!
My company before is gone,
And I am left alone with Thee;*

*With Thee all night I mean to stay,
And wrestle till the break of day.
I need not tell Thee who I am,
My misery and sin declare;*

...

*My strength is gone, my nature dies,
I sink beneath Thy weighty hand,
Faint to revive, and fall to rise;
I fall, and yet by faith I stand;*

...

*Speak to my heart, in blessings speak,
Be conquered by my instant prayer;
Speak, or Thou never hence shalt move,
And tell me if Thy Name is Love.*

...

*I know Thee, Savior, who Thou art.
Jesus, the feeble sinner's friend;
Nor wilt Thou with the night depart.
But stay and love me to the end,*

*Thy mercies never shall remove;
Thy nature and Thy Name is Love.
The Sun of righteousness on me
Hath rose with healing in His wings,*

*Withered my nature's strength; from Thee
My soul its life and succor brings;
My help is all laid up above;
Thy nature and Thy Name is Love.*

*Contented now upon my thigh
I halt, till life's short journey end;
All helplessness, all weakness, I
On Thee alone for strength depend;*

...

*I leap for joy, pursue my way,
And as a bounding hart fly home,
Through all eternity to prove
Thy nature and Thy Name is Love.*

himself, along with his sons and his livestock.”

13 Jesus replied, “Everyone who drinks some of this water will be thirsty again. 14 But whoever drinks some of the water that I will give him will never be thirsty again, but the water that I will give him will become in him a fountain of water springing up to eternal life.” 15 The woman said to him, “Sir, give me this water, so that I will not be thirsty or have to come here to draw water.” 16 He said to her, “Go call your husband and come back here.” 17 The woman replied, “I have no husband.” Jesus said to her, “Right you are when you said, ‘I have no husband,’ 18 for you have had five husbands, and the man you are living with now is not your husband. This you said truthfully!”

19 The woman said to him, “Sir, I see that you are a prophet. 20 Our fathers worshiped on this mountain, and you people say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem.” 21 Jesus said to her, “Believe me, woman, a time is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. 22 You people worship what you do not know. We worship what we know, because salvation is from the Jews. 23 But a time is coming—and now is here—when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such people to be his worshipers. 24 God is spirit, and the people who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.” 25 The woman said to him, “I know that Messiah is coming” (the one called Christ); “whenever he comes, he will tell us everything.” 26 Jesus said to her, “I, the one speaking to you, am he.”

27 Now at that very moment his disciples came back. They were shocked because he was speaking with a woman. However, no one said, “What do you want?” or “Why are you speaking with her?” 28 Then the woman left her water jar, went off into the town and said to the people, 29 “Come, see a man who told me everything I ever did. Surely he can’t be the Messiah, can he?” 30 So they left the town and began coming to him.

...

39 Now many Samaritans from that town believed in him because of the report of the woman who testified, “He told me everything I ever did.” 40 So when the Samaritans came to him, they began asking him to stay with them. He stayed there two days, 41 and because of his word many more believed. 42 They said to the woman, “No longer do we believe because of your words, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this one really is the Savior of the world.”

Daily Reflection

Begin by **summarizing** what you read in any way you would like: draw, outline, paraphrase, etc. Continue by **reflecting** on the themes we are tracing: God's presence, people, and promises.

Daily Prayer

*try writing a collect

Reflect

What stood out to you from the reading this week?

Describe any thoughts or feelings you had while reading, praying, listening, or looking at art this week.

What did you noticed about God, yourself, and the world?

What are you curious about? What questions, ideas, or texts would you like to explore more?

Respond

What would it look like for you to respond? Remember, response is more than 'application.' It can be almost anything including worship, belief, confession, emotion, and action.

