

Returning to God
The Restoration of Jacob!



We often end up in **much difficulty** and/or **bring much difficulty** to those around us, because we **do not obey His Word** or **go where God tells us to go.**

Genesis 31:13

No matter how far away we are from the Lord, or whatever sinful life we may have, or are involved with, we are **always just one step back** to an intimate relationship with our Lord!

Genesis 35:1

“1. Put away the foreign/strange gods that are among you.”

The word foreign/strange gods, means “gods that are strange to you or from another tribe”

Genesis 35:2

“When you peel back the layers of any sin, idolatry is at the heart of it.”

When you get to the heart of any sin, it is idolatry.

We have loved that sin more than we have loved God.

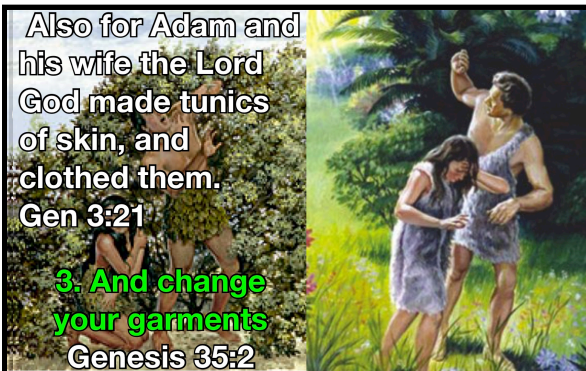
Genesis 35:2

2. Purify/Cleanse yourselves!
Genesis 35:2

Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, And **cleanse me** from my sin. For I acknowledge my transgressions, And my sin is always before me.

Psalms 51:2-3 (NKJV)

Also for Adam and his wife the Lord God made tunics of skin, and clothed them.
Gen 3:21



4. Arise and go up to Bethel; and I will make an altar there to God!
Genesis 35:3

Nevertheless I have this against you, that **you have left your first love.** Remember therefore from where you have fallen; **repent** and **do the first works.**(Repeat) Revelation 2:4-5

The **best thing parents can do** for their children is to be **in God's will themselves.**

A man who **gets right with God** will most likely **see the effect in his family** also.

Genesis 35:3-4

No matter what the circumstances look like, **the safest place to be is in the will of God.**

Genesis 35:5

God doesn't want us to grapple in our sins, or dwell in our past failures, but rather repent from our sins and move to a new life, move forward in obedience with God.

Genesis 35:7

God wants us to remember and live in the great names He gives us.

Genesis 35:9-10



Jacob's heart of worship showed an *attitude of gratitude* towards God.

Genesis 35:14-15

Returning to our first love doesn't mean life becomes easy and comfortable.

Genesis 35:18-20

*If we obey the Lord only for what we get out of it, and not because He is worthy of our love and obedience, then **our hearts and motives are wrong.***

Genesis 35:18-20

Some Christians want only a comfortable life, not a godly life.

Unfortunately, The symbol for many Christians seems to be an easy chair, not a cross.

Genesis 35:18-20

Sin's consequences can plague us long after the sin is committed.

Genesis 35:21-22

We should remember our time is in God's hands.

We may expect a long or short life for others or ourselves and be quite wrong.

Only God knows!

Genesis 35:28-29