



Chapter 27 end

⁴⁶ Then Rebekah said to Isaac, “I loathe my life because of the Hittite women. If Jacob marries one of the Hittite women like these, one of the women of the land, what good will my life be to me?”

- Esau married them when he was **40** – [Genesis 26:34](#) a **TIMESTAMP**
- **Flee to Laban** – The events in this chapter take place possibly 37 years later.

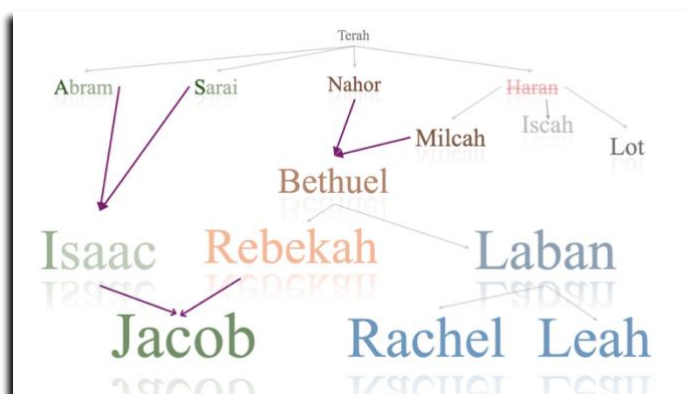
Genesis 28-29

Jacob Sent to Laban

28:1 Then Isaac called Jacob and blessed him and directed him, “You must not take a wife from the Canaanite women. ² Arise, go to Paddan-Aram to the house of Bethuel your mother's father, and take as your wife from there one of the daughters of Laban your mother's brother. ³ **God** Almighty bless you and make you fruitful and multiply you, that you may become a company of peoples.

⁴ May he give the blessing of Abraham to you and to your offspring with you, that you may take possession of **the land** of your sojournings that God gave to Abraham!” ⁵ Thus Isaac sent Jacob away. And he went to Paddan-Aram, to Laban, the son of Bethuel the Aramean, the brother of Rebekah, Jacob's and Esau's mother.

- Canaanite women? – They worshipped false gods.
 - Solomon was led into spiritual error because of the foreign women.
- Bethuel the Aramean



Esau Marries an Ishmaelite

⁶ Now Esau saw that Isaac had blessed Jacob and sent him away to Paddan-Aram to take a wife from there, and that as he blessed him he directed him, “You must not take a wife from the Canaanite women,” ⁷ and that Jacob had obeyed his father and his mother and gone to Paddan-Aram.

⁸ So when Esau saw that the Canaanite women did not please Isaac his father, ⁹ Esau went to Ishmael and took as his wife, besides the wives he had, Mahalath the daughter of Ishmael, Abraham's son, the sister of Nebaioth.

- This could be viewed as Esau trying to make things right. Repentance? Perhaps the start of it?
- Yet he went to a family who was cut off, sent away from the covenant family.
- Ishmael was dead at this point, so it means the family of Ishmael.

Jacob's Dream

¹⁰ Jacob left Beersheba and went toward Haran. ¹¹ And he came to a certain place and stayed there that night, because the sun had set. Taking one of the stones of the place, he put it under his head and lay down in that place to sleep. ¹² And he dreamed, and behold, there was a ladder set



up on the earth, and the top of it reached to heaven. And behold, the angels of God were ascending and descending on it!

- Jacob left Beersheba – According to some, he will never see his mother again.
 - We don't know for sure.
- One of the stones – This wasn't one of those ergonomic "My Pillows" it was a rock God created and it worked because he slept!
- Proverbs 3:24 – ²⁴ If you lie down, you will not be afraid; when you lie down, **your sleep will be sweet.**

¹³ And behold, the LORD stood above it and said, "I am the LORD, the God of Abraham your father and the God of Isaac. The land on which you lie I will give to you and to your offspring. ¹⁴ Your offspring shall be like the dust of the earth, and you shall spread abroad to the west and to the east and to the north and to the south, and in you and your offspring shall all the families of the earth be blessed. ¹⁵ Behold, I am with you and will keep you wherever you go, and will bring you back to this land. For I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you."

- The LORD now appeared to Jacob! Abraham, Isaac, and now Jacob.
 - **I am with you** – not I will be, which is also great! I am with you.
 - Do you know that? If you are in Christ, He is with, around, behind, before, within!
 - John 1:51 – ⁵¹ And **He** said to him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, you will see heaven opened, and the angels of God ascending and descending on the Son of Man."
 - Jesus is the ladder! The gate! The link between Heaven and Earth.



¹⁶ Then Jacob awoke from his sleep and said, “**Surely the LORD is in this place**, and I did not know it.” ¹⁷ **And he was afraid** and said, “**How awesome is this place!** This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven.”

- **Afraid** – Fear usually accompanies a realization of, or encounter with God.
 - Moses was shaking with fear – [Exodus 19:16](#); [Deuteronomy 9:19](#); [Hebrews 12:21](#)
 - Isaiah fell apart – [Isaiah 6:1-5](#)
 - The gravity of an encounter with God is sobering
- Beth-el
- **Surely the LORD is in this place** – Jacob probably thought this place was just run-of-the-mill empty space. Maybe even God-forsaken.
 - He, no doubt, thought he was alone. Maybe even God-forsaken.
 - You might feel alone. Maybe even God-forsaken.
 - If you are in Christ, God is in this place! You might not know it!
 - **Notice:** Jacob’s **knowledge** of what was happening had no bearing on what **was** happening.
 - Same with how we feel sometimes
 - There is much more going on in the spiritual realm than we know
- **How awesome is in this place** – The word “Awesome” is predominantly used for God; however, it is not exclusively used for God.
 - [Deuteronomy 7:21](#) – You shall not be in dread of them, for the Lord your God is in your midst, a great and **awesome** God.
 - [Deuteronomy 10:17](#) – ¹⁷ For the Lord your God is God of gods and Lord of lords, the great, the mighty, and the **awesome** God, who is not partial and takes no bribe.
 - [Daniel 2:31](#) uses an Aramaic word that is sometimes translated “**Aweosome**”



¹⁸ So early in the morning Jacob took the stone that he had put under his head and set it up for a **pillar and poured oil** on the top of it. ¹⁹ He called the name of that place Bethel, but the name of the city was Luz at the first. ²⁰ Then Jacob made a vow, saying, “If God will **be with me** and will **keep me** in this way that I go, and will **give me bread to eat and clothing to wear**, ²¹ so that I come again to my father's house **in peace**, then the LORD shall be my God, ²² and this stone, which I have set up for a pillar, shall be God's house. And of all that you give me **I will give a full tenth to you.**”

- **pillar and poured oil** – Worship!
- Is Jacob trying to make a deal with God? He has much to learn.
 - God will use Uncle Laban to break Jacob down and out of his conniving/ deal making ways.
- Interestingly, this is almost exactly what the Aaronic blessing ([Numbers 6:24-27](#)) says:
 - ²⁴ The Lord **bless** you and **keep** you;
 - ²⁵ the Lord make **his face to shine upon you** and be **gracious** to you;
 - ²⁶ the Lord lift up his countenance upon you **and give you peace**.
- **Full 10th** – This is what Abraham gave Melchizedek ([Genesis 14:17-20](#))



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- **Jon Corson** – tells a story of those old “If you love Jesus, honk” bumper stickers.



- Today we added “Text” to meet Him



- **Jon saw one that said,** “If you love Jesus, Tithe! Anyone can honk!”
- True worship is meaningful action, not just words.
- This is not an appeal to get anyone to tithe; it is an appeal for us to examine ourselves and our worship.
 - Besides, the OT mandate of 10% is really a starting point.
- **Notice:** This principle predates the giving of the law by 400 years.



- God owns it all anyway, so giving Him at least the tenth acknowledges Him as Lord over your treasure.

Jacob Marries Leah and Rachel

29:1 Then Jacob went on his journey and came to the land of the people of the east. ² As he looked, he saw a well in the field, and behold, three flocks of sheep lying beside it, for out of that well the flocks were watered. The stone on the well's mouth was large, ³ and when all the flocks were gathered there, the shepherds would roll the stone from the mouth of the well and water the sheep, and put the stone back in its place over the mouth of the well.

- **Jacob now had Enthusiasm!** – ἐν (en) meaning "in; θεός (theós) meaning "God"
- His journey – 400-500 miles journey

⁴ Jacob said to them, "My brothers, where do you come from?" They said, "We are from Haran." ⁵ He said to them, "Do you know Laban the son of Nahor?" They said, "We know him." ⁶ He said to them, "Is it well with him?" They said, "It is well; and see, Rachel his daughter is coming with the sheep!"

- Keep in mind that he was sent here to find/marry one of Laban's daughters [Genesis 28:2](#)

⁷ He said, "Behold, it is still high day; it is not time for the livestock to be gathered together. Water the sheep and go, pasture them."

- Jacob! Trying to get rid of the shepherds so he could be alone with Rachel.

⁸ But they said, "We cannot until all the flocks are gathered together and the stone is rolled from the mouth of the well; then we water the sheep."

- Apparently, this was a large stone and possibly was moved by more than one shepherd.



- Could these guys also be waiting for Rachel?

⁹ While he was still speaking with them, Rachel came with her father's sheep, for she was a shepherdess. ¹⁰ Now as soon as Jacob saw Rachel the daughter of Laban his mother's brother, and the sheep of Laban his mother's brother, Jacob came near and rolled the stone from the well's mouth and watered the flock of Laban his mother's brother.

- and rolled the stone – this was an exhibition of strength by Jacob.
 - There is something special for us guys when we can impress our wives or girlfriends with feats of strength, and they say, “Wow.”
 - Here Jacob was trying to impress Rachel.
 - This may also send a message to the other guys.
- Watered the flock of Laban – This is what Rebecca did for Abraham’s servant back in [chapter 24](#)

¹¹ Then Jacob kissed Rachel and wept aloud. ¹² And Jacob told Rachel that he was her father's kinsman, and that he was Rebekah's son, and she ran and told her father.

- The realization that God has answered your prayer or guided your steps has brought many men to tears of joy.

¹³ As soon as Laban heard the news about Jacob, his sister's son, he ran to meet him and embraced him and kissed him and brought him to his house. Jacob told Laban all these things, ¹⁴ and Laban said to him, “Surely you are my bone and my flesh!” And he stayed with him a month.

- It’s just starting for Jacob here.
- The big payoff! If you sow shadiness, you will reap it.



- Jacob sowed much shadiness!

¹⁵ Then Laban said to Jacob, “Because you are my kinsman, should you therefore serve me for nothing? Tell me, what shall your wages be?” ¹⁶ Now Laban had two daughters. The name of the older was Leah, and the name of the younger was Rachel. ¹⁷ Leah's eyes were weak, but Rachel was beautiful in form and appearance.

- Leah's eyes were weak – She was hard to look at?
 - Possibly: soft blue eyes—thought a blemish. We don’t know

¹⁸ Jacob loved Rachel. And he said, “I will serve you seven years for your younger daughter Rachel.” ¹⁹ Laban said, “It is better that I give her to you than that I should give her to any other man; stay with me.” ²⁰ So Jacob served seven years for Rachel, and they seemed to him but a few days because of the love he had for her.

- Love can make time fly!

²¹ Then Jacob said to Laban, “Give me my wife that I may go in to her, for my time is completed.” ²² So Laban gathered together all the people of the place and made a feast. ²³ But in the evening he took his daughter Leah and brought her to Jacob, and he went in to her. ²⁴ (Laban gave his female servant Zilpah to his daughter Leah to be her servant.)

²⁵ And in the morning, behold, it was Leah! And Jacob said to Laban, “What is this you have done to me?”

- What is this you have done to me? – You sow shadiness, you will reap it!



Did I not serve with you for Rachel? Why then have you deceived me?" ²⁶ Laban said, "It is not so done in our country, to give the younger before the firstborn. ²⁷ Complete the week of this one, and we will give you the other also in return for serving me another seven years."

²⁸ Jacob did so, and completed her week. Then Laban gave him his daughter Rachel to be his wife. ²⁹ (Laban gave his female servant Bilhah to his daughter Rachel to be her servant.) ³⁰ So Jacob went in to Rachel also, and he loved Rachel more than Leah, and served Laban for another seven years.

Jacob's Children

³¹ When the LORD saw that Leah was hated, he opened her womb, but Rachel was barren.

- the LORD saw – "Husbands, love your wives" [Ephesians 5:25](#)
-
- was hated – Unloved

³² And Leah conceived and bore a son, and she called his name **Reuben**, for she said, "Because the LORD has looked upon my affliction; for now my husband will love me."

- **Reuben** – "behold a son"

³³ She conceived again and bore a son, and said, "Because the LORD has heard that I am hated, he has given me this son also." And she called his name **Simeon**.

- **Simeon** – "heard"

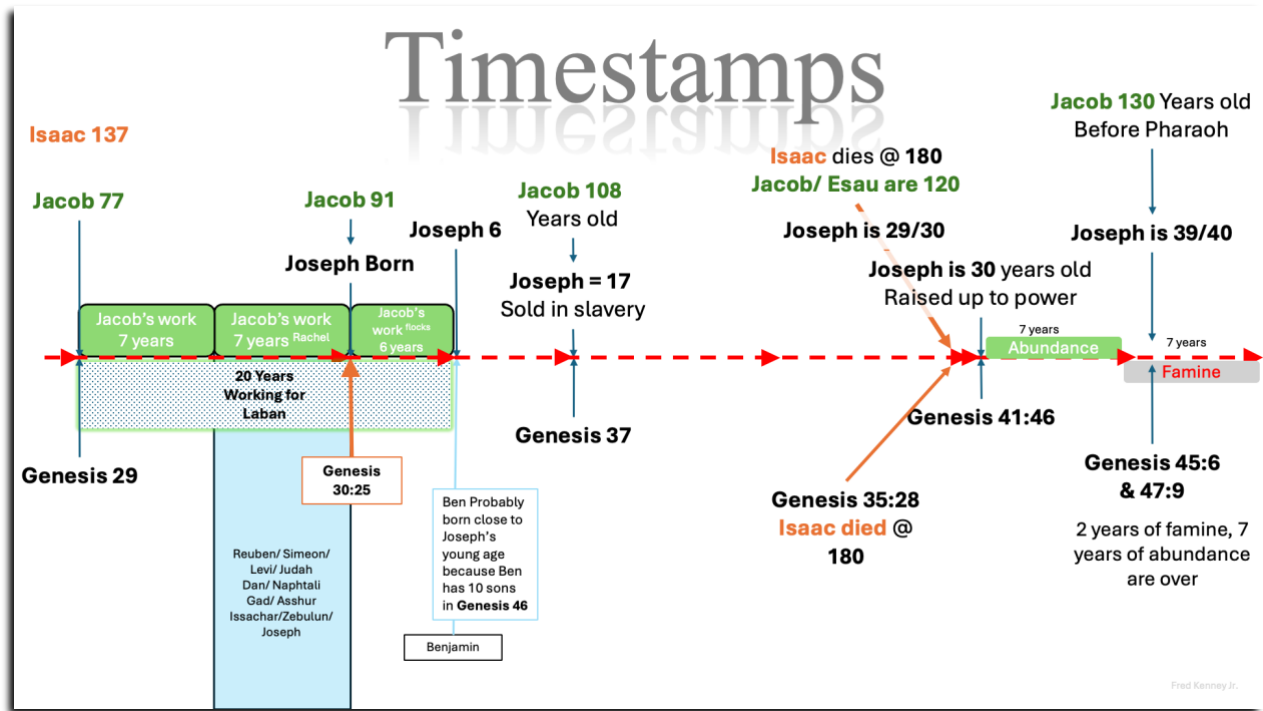
³⁴ Again she conceived and bore a son, and said, "Now this time my husband will be attached to me, because I have borne him three sons." Therefore his name was called **Levi**.

- **Levi** – "joined to"

³⁵ And she conceived again and bore a son, and said, "This time I will **praise** the LORD." Therefore she called his name **Judah**. Then she ceased bearing.

Judah – Praise

Timestamps



Links below:

Timestamps

- **Jacob = 130** years old before Pharaoh. 2 years into the famine – [Genesis 45:6; 47:9](#)
 - **Joseph** was **39/40** at this time
- **Jacob/ Esau = 120** when Isaac dies @ **180** – [Genesis 35:28](#)
 - **Joseph** is **29/30** at this time
- **Jacob = 108** years old when Joseph is sold into slavery – [Genesis 37](#)
 - **Joseph** is **17** at this time
- **Jacob = 97** when he left Laban after 20 years – [Genesis 31](#)



- Joseph was **6** because he was born when Jacob began his last 6 years of work
 - Benjamin was probably close to this period because he has **10** sons in Genesis 46:21, 22 years after Joseph is sold Genesis 37
- Jacob = **91** at the start of his last 6 years of work (after Joseph's birth) – Genesis 30:25
- Jacob = **84** at the marriage of Leah and Rachel
- Jacob = **77** when he traveled to Padan-Aram Genesis 29

The LORD bless you and keep you;

²⁵ the LORD make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you;

²⁶ the LORD lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.