



TRANSFORMING TRUTH

Trends deceive. Traditions enslave. God's Truth transforms.

"ISRAEL: Jacob's New Start"

From the Series,
"Jacob 180"

Genesis 35:1-15

Preached Sunday PM 6/08/14

Meadow Baptist Church

1. Purification for Journey Ahead (1-4)

- a. Purification as worship (1) - "God said to Jacob, "Arise, go up to Bethel and dwell there. Make an altar there to the God who appeared to you when you fled from your brother Esau."
- b. Purification via separation (2) - "So Jacob said to his household and to all who were with him, "Put away the foreign gods that are among you and purify yourselves and change your garments."
- c. Purification with confidence (3) - "Then let us arise and go up to Bethel, so that I may make there an altar to the God who answers me in the day of my distress and has been with me wherever I have gone."
- d. Purification through obedience (4) - "So they gave to Jacob all the foreign gods that they had, and the rings that were in their ears. Jacob hid them under the terebinth tree that was near Shechem."

2. Protection in the Face of Challenges (5-8)

- a. Protection in the presence of enemies (5) - "And as they journeyed, a terror from God fell upon the cities that were around them, so that they did not pursue the sons of Jacob."
- b. Protection in the realm of responsibility (6) - "And Jacob came to Luz (that is, Bethel), which is in the land of Canaan, he and all the people who were with him..."
- c. Protection along the entire spectrum (7-8) - "There he built an altar and called the place El-bethel, because there God had revealed himself to him when he fled

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from his brother. 8 And Deborah, Rebekah's nurse, died, and she was buried under an oak below Bethel. So he called its name Allon-bacuth {oak of weeping}."

An altar of present trust, an altar of past triumph, an altar for future trials ("oak of weeping"; death of Deborah)

3. Provision from The God of Grace (9-15)

- a. God offered His presence (9) - "God appeared to Jacob again, when he came from Paddan-aram, and blessed him."
- b. God employed His power (10) - "And God said to him, "Your name is Jacob; no longer shall your name be called Jacob, but Israel shall be your name." So he called his name Israel."

The renaming of Jacob to Israel is symbolic of God's power to reverse a person's entire life course & change their nature

- c. God affirmed His promises (11-12) - "And God said to him, I am God Almighty: be fruitful and multiply. A nation and a company of nations shall come from you, and kings shall come from your own body. 12 The land that I gave to Abraham and Isaac I will give to you, and I will give the land to your offspring after you."
- d. God reinforced His preeminence (13-15) - "Then God went up from him in the place where he had spoken with him. 14 And Jacob set up a pillar in the place where He had spoken with him, a pillar of stone. He poured out a drink offering on it and poured oil on it. 15 So Jacob called the name of the place where God had spoken with him Bethel."