



Genesis–23

Jacob's plan to double his flocks

Genesis 30: 25-43 (ESV)
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Introduction

By the time Jacob's eleventh son, Joseph, was born, the fourteen years promised to his uncle Laban had finally passed. Jacob then asked Laban to let him return to his homeland, but Laban was reluctant to do so. Since at this time Jacob did not yet have any property of his own, he continued to tend Laban's flocks while increasing his own. Let's take a look at his unique method.

1) Laban's confusion

- Laban, idolater (Gen. 30:5, 27)
- God's relationship with Israel is like a marriage (Ex. 20:3–6)
- Laban's offer and Jacob's response (Gen. 30:28-31)

2) Jacob's plan to double the size of his flocks

- Speckled and spotted sheep and goats (Gen. 30:32-36)
- Jacob's plan (Gen 30:37–42)
- Bible wordplay

3) The hand of God behind the scenes

- Jacob will come to understand later (Gen. 31:11–12)
- God is watching (2 Chronicles 16:9a)

Conclusion

Jacob multiplied his flock in a truly unique way. Jacob thought it was due to his own wisdom and traditional folklore methods, but in fact it was not. Behind every success is God's protection. Not only success, but even failure does not happen without God's permission. Laban was judged for his misdeeds by the living and true God, and his property was transferred to Jacob. Let us remember the work of this living God and be a people who rest in His mighty hands.



Bible verses for this week
Genesis 29: 32-30:24

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