

Series "In The Beginning...God"
"God Prospers"
Genesis 30:25-43
Study-57

We discover that all of Jacob's scheming was unnecessary because it was God who would prosper Jacob in our account and cause the animals to multiply.

Jacob's Interpretation Of His Prosperity: Genesis 31:9

Genesis 29:31-30:24 When it is God's will, for the Procreation of Children

Genesis 30:25-43 given to one another in Prosperity and adversity;

Thought Of Our Passage: "The Blessings Of The Lord Through Prosperity, Is Just That, A Blessing Of God's Grace That Is Undeserved"

- 1. Verses 25-30 Jacob's Provision:**
- 2. Verses 31-34 Jacob's Wages:**
- 3. Verses 35-43 Jacob's Prosperity:**

1. Verses 25-30 Jacob's Provision:

Genesis 30:25 Now it came about when Rachel had borne Joseph,

Context – Jacob has just experienced "Birth Wars" Genesis 29:31-30:24

Jacob's 2 wives, Rachel and Leah, gave their maids as wives; so with 4 wives Jacob now has 11 sons and 1 daughter. **Genesis 30:22-24**

"May the LORD give me another son." This prayer would be answered but it was going to mean that Rachel would have one last child at the cost of her life. **Genesis 35:16-20 (12) Benjamin – "son of my right hand"**

that Jacob said to Laban, "Send me away, that I may go to my own place and to my own country. Jacob after working for his father in-law 14 years. Jacob was tricked into 7 extra years and wants to make a break and move on.

Genesis 30:26 for you yourself know my service which I have rendered you." What a testimony of a good servant Jacob has been **Colossians 3:22-24**

Jacob had to learn to be a servant. That is what life is all about as a Christian learning to be a servant. Jesus said, Matthew 23:11

Verses 27-30 Jacob's Witness: Genesis 30:27 "If now it pleases you, stay with me;

I have divined *"learned by enchantments"* Laban had carried out some divination practices of his own, and consulted some soothsayer seeking the secret of Jacob's blessings" Though Laban knows about Jehovah he is involved with pagan mystics. **Leviticus 19:26; Deuteronomy 18:10**

that the LORD (Covenant God) has blessed me on your account."

These blessings were the result of the Lord, the Abrahamic covenant. Abraham **Genesis 21:22**, Isaac **Genesis 26:28**

There are people like Laban that are not interested in the God of Jacob, only the blessings that the Lord brings.

Genesis 30:28 He continued, "Name me your wages, and I will give it."

This sounds familiar, does it not? **Genesis 29:15**

Laban is going to rip off Jacob 10 times in wages: Genesis 31:7

Genesis 30:29 I have served you and how your cattle have fared with me. reminds Laban of how safe and well taken care of his cattle have been.

Ephesians 6:7-8

Genesis 30:30 "For you had little before I came and it has increased to a multitude, Jacob started working for Laban, Laban had little flocks and herds.

and the LORD has blessed you wherever I turned. Jacob acknowledged that it was the Lord that had brought all the blessings through him to Laban.

But now, when shall I provide for my household also?" Jacob says because of God's blessing through me to you, you are wealthy, but should I not provide for my own household? **1 Timothy 6:7-10**

Jacob Has Become A Dependent or at the mercy of Laban. After 14 years Jacob has a large family but no personal property or resources. **Proverbs 22:7**

2. Verses 31-34 Jacob's Wages:

Genesis 30:31 So he said, "What shall I give you?" And Jacob said, "You shall not give me anything. Laban gives him something, it will cost him many times over.

If you will do this one thing for me, I will again pasture and keep your flock: Jacob now takes the lead.

Genesis 30:32 every speckled and spotted sheep and every black one among the lambs and the spotted and speckled among the goats; Eastern sheep were mostly solid white and rarely brown, and eastern goats were predominantly black and rarely spotted and speckled.

Jacob would have to have faith! Jacob would hope they would be spotted. No one knows the color or what the animals will reproduce!

let me pass through your entire flock today, (and such shall be my wages.)

Genesis 30:33 It was easy to determine whose flocks were whose.

Genesis 30:34 Laban said, "Good, let it be according to your word." Just speckled and spotted and the **black** among the lambs.

3. Verses 35-43 Jacob's Prosperity:

Verses 35-36 Laban Separate's The Spotted, Speckled, Black Ones: **So he removed on that day the striped and spotted male goats and all the speckled and spotted female goats, every one** It was supposed to be Jacob that would separate the flocks **Genesis 30:32**

Genesis 30:36 There was no way that Jacob could have access to the spotted.

Genesis 30:37 Then Jacob took fresh rods of poplar and almond and plane trees, and peeled white stripes in them, exposing the white which was in the rods.

"poplar" and "white" are puns on the name "Laban" which means "white" "I'll give Laban some of his own medicine" Mr. White will meet my White!

Genesis 30:38-39

It was God who controlled the genetic structure of the animals and multiplied the spotted and striped sheep and goats, thus increasing Jacob's wealth very quickly. At Bethel, God promised (Genesis 28:13-15)

Verses 40-42 Selective Breeding: Genesis 30:40 he put his own herds apart, and did not put them with Laban's flock.

Genesis 30:41 This is a type of selective breeding. The strong would-be Jacob's.

Genesis 30:42 This is a type of selective breeding. The weak would-be Laban's.

God Gave Instructions To Jacob In A Dream (Striped, Speckled, and Mottled): Genesis 31:10-13

Verse 43 Divine Intervention: Genesis 30:43 God blessed Jacob, **exceedingly prosperous**, Over the top! This is over a 6-year period that God blesses Jacob.

God's Blessing Upon Jacob At Bethel: Genesis 28:13-15

and female and male servants Jacob's flocks got so large he had to purchase male and female servants; they began to multiply.

and camels The Bible records that over 100 years earlier Abraham had multiple camels.

and donkeys. Were prized for riding.

Jacob Acknowledged The Blessings and The Protection Was All Due To God: Genesis 31:6-9

God Judged Laban: Genesis 31:9; Job 5:13

Jacob, a man that had nothing, that has become prosperous all through the hand of God. Genesis 32:10; James 1:17

Application:

- 1.** Like Jacob, Believers Should Strive To Be Servants Of God. Doing Our Service As Unto The Lord. **Colossians 3:23 Whatever you do, do your work heartily, as for the Lord rather than for men,**
- 2.** Jacob Gave The Glory To God For The Increase That Came During His Fourteen Years Of Service To Laban. The Believer's Increase, Prosperity Is Due To God's Gracious Unearned Favor:
- 3.** Jacob Attempted Through His Own Schemes To Bring An Increase To His Flocks But The Increase Came Through The Lord: **Genesis 31:9 "Thus God has taken away your father's livestock and given them to me.**