

CC OLD BC TESTAMENT SURVEY

GENESIS PART 4 (chapters 28—35)

DR. BILL EGNER
OCTOBER 30, 2022

NOV 6 Genesis part 5 (ch. 36—50) NOV 13 Job part 1 (ch. 1—2) NOV 20 Job part 2 (ch. 3—37) NOV 27 NO CLASS (Thanksgiving) DEC 4 Job part 3 (ch. 38—42) (Cantata)

WHATEVER BECAME OF ...

- ... Abraham?
 - Great beginnings don't guarantee great endings
 - Comfort & ease can breed complacency & decline
- ... Isaac?
 - Chosen to receive Abraham's covenant promises
 - But a Frank Sinatra – "I did it my way!"
 - Resists, runs and wrestles with God for 30 years

LESSON THEME: Who's going to run your life?

A Man Grabbing Blessings

Jacob – "heel grabber;" "deceiver"

The birthright (25)

The hunter (Esau) becomes the hunted and is caught in the trap of his own appetite

The covenant inheritance (27)

Jacob believes the ends justify the means ... so he deceives his own father!

A perfect hypocrite: words & deeds don't match

God's promises (28)

Jacob lacks spiritual perception and sensitivity

God comes to him and gives him promises

Jacob gives God a contract instead of his heart

But he moves forward with some amount of faith anyway

A Man Struggling To Surrender

Israel – "struggles with God"

In Laban's house (29—31)

God disciplines Jacob through Laban and Leah

God blesses Jacob with a growing family

But his wives are jockeying for position and status

God blesses Jacob with growing wealth

But he partly attributes it to superstitious methods

Jacob seems to wait for God's direction ...

But leaves town secretly & Rachel takes the idols

Meeting Esau again (32—33)

Tries to take his brother's "temperature"

Plans to buy him off; to appease him with gifts

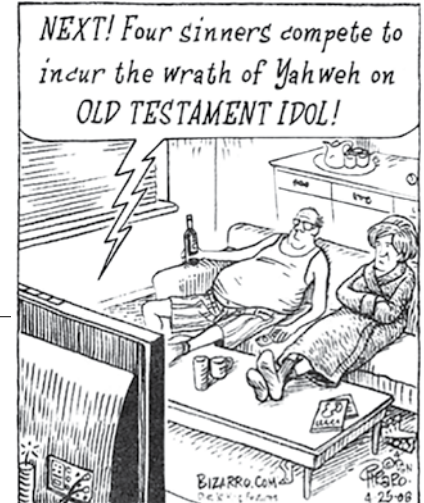
Plans first ... and prays second

Then lies to Esau and moves off in a different direction ... toward Bethel

Jacob Leaves Esau

(see "Jacob Returns to Canaan" map, p. 3)

BIZARRO by Dan Piraro



A Man Struggling To Surrender

In Laban's house (29—31)

Meeting Esau again (32—33)

In Shechem (34)

"This is far enough" ... but not all the way to Bethel

Seems to put what's good for business ahead of what's good for family

Dinah is kidnapped and defiled

Jacob foolishly puts his family in danger

Just outside of Bethel (35)

He's kept idols in his home for 10 years!

There are still some things in his life that Jacob hasn't discarded and buried

A Man Grabbing God

At Peniel (32)

Jacob wrestles with God

"Who will run your life, Jacob?"

Jacob defends himself, refusing to yield

God touches his hip joint, removes Jacob's leverage and conquers him

All Jacob can do is cling to God's feet and ask Him for His blessing

A Man Waiting On God

Jacob hears from God before he "crosses the line" for Egypt (46:1-4)

He worships while leaning on his staff (47:31)

He prophetically blesses his sons as God's people begin to multiply (49)

God has grown Jacob from a man who grabs blessings by his own schemes to a man who is content to wait on Him in utter dependence

A Summary

Regarding God in this *toledot* ...

A story of resisting, running, wrestling & faith

Jacob has spent 30 years wrestling with God and resisting His will

He's been slow to surrender

His heart, his will, his wants ... and his idols

The heart of Jacob's problem is a problem of his heart

APPLICATION: *Who's going to run YOUR life?*

Is Your Heart Slow To Surrender?

Are you **resisting** God?

You know what and how to obey ... you just don't want to

Are you **running** from God?

Away from Him or ahead of Him

Are you **wrestling** with God?

You're the shopping cart with the bent wheel

Some Diagnostic Questions

SIGNS OF RESISTANCE

Do you give Him your leftover time?

Offer God a contract, not your heart (if/then)

SIGNS OF SURRENDER

Do you give Him your best time?

Offer God your heart, holding nothing back

Do you plan first and pray second (even piously at that) but then carry out your plans?

You "rescue" yourself or avoid difficulties by running or scheming

Your heart says "I've obeyed far enough!"

Are you holding on to or hiding idols in your heart?

Are you holding on to a relationship your heart knows is wrong, but your emotions or your body won't let go of?

Are you more committed to living life on your terms than on God's?

Do you seek God first and wait on His answer or course of direction?

Look not for "How do I get out of this?" but "What can I get out of this?"

Giving God "all the way" obedience

Discarding and burying the idols God reveals to you through His power

Your relationships are aligned and in sync with biblical values and principles as far as it's possible with you

You've cried, "Uncle!"

Will you surrender yourself afresh tonight?

And So ...

God passes the covenant inheritance from **Abraham** to **Isaac** ... and on to **Jacob**

Jacob experiences God's blessings in his life, including 12 sons, the 12 tribes of Israel

God sovereignly turns Jacob's resistance into surrender ... only after Jacob pays a high price

God is preparing the way for this family to grow into His people – in Egypt!

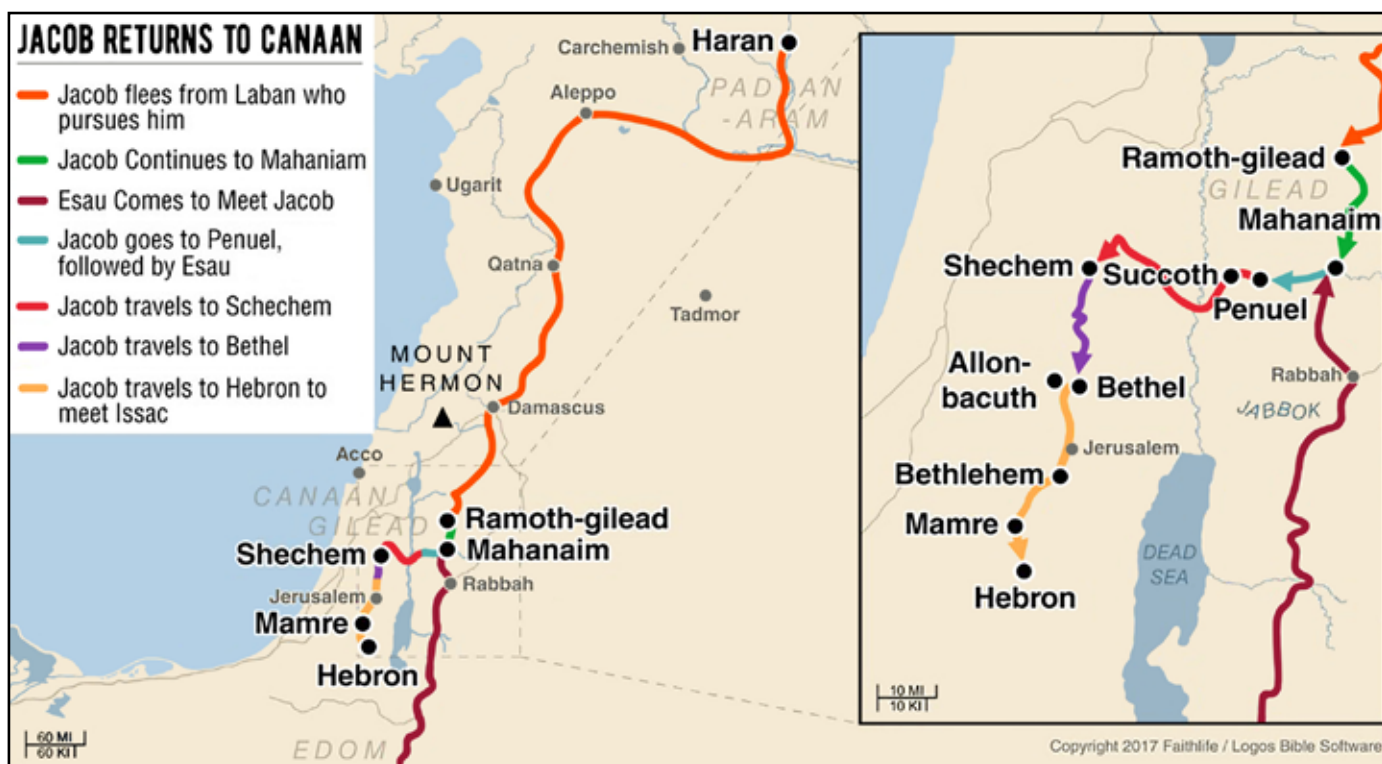
FOR NEXT TIME: _____

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VIDEO + HANDOUTS ON CCBC WEBSITE: ccbcfamily.org/sermon/old-testament-survey

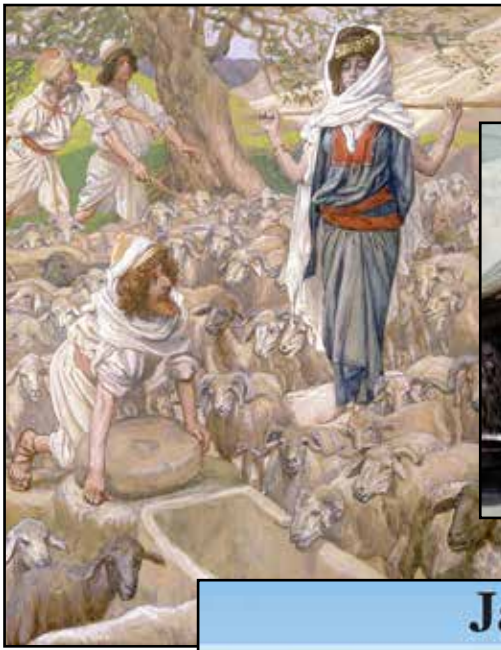
VIDEO (no handouts) **ON YOUTUBE** (private link; page is not searchable):

https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLGhFjAlhYpQc2XYXZJXiwut_8g7P3qhF





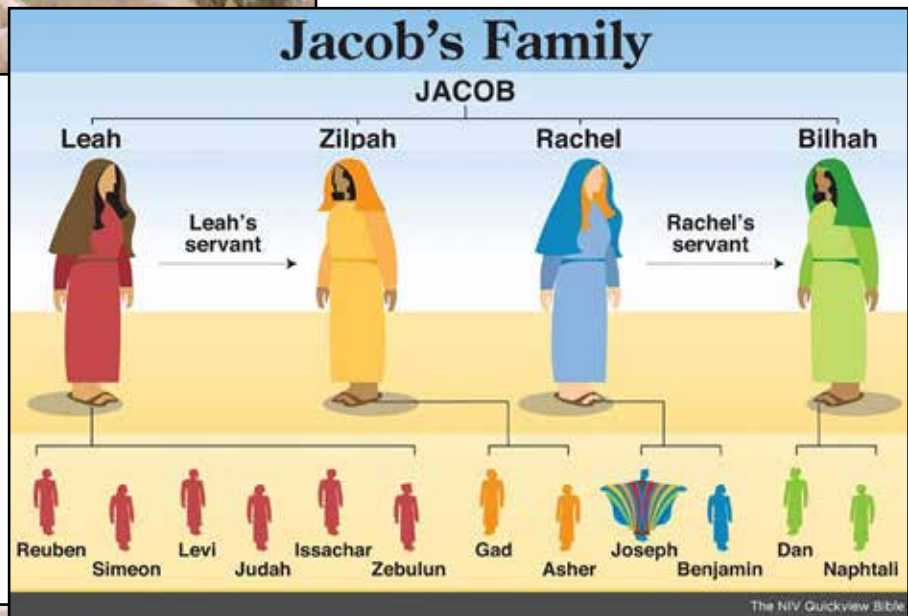
“Jacob” by James Tissot



“Jacob And Rachel At The Well” by James Tissot



“Rachel And Leah” by James Tissot



“Jacob” by Harold Copping



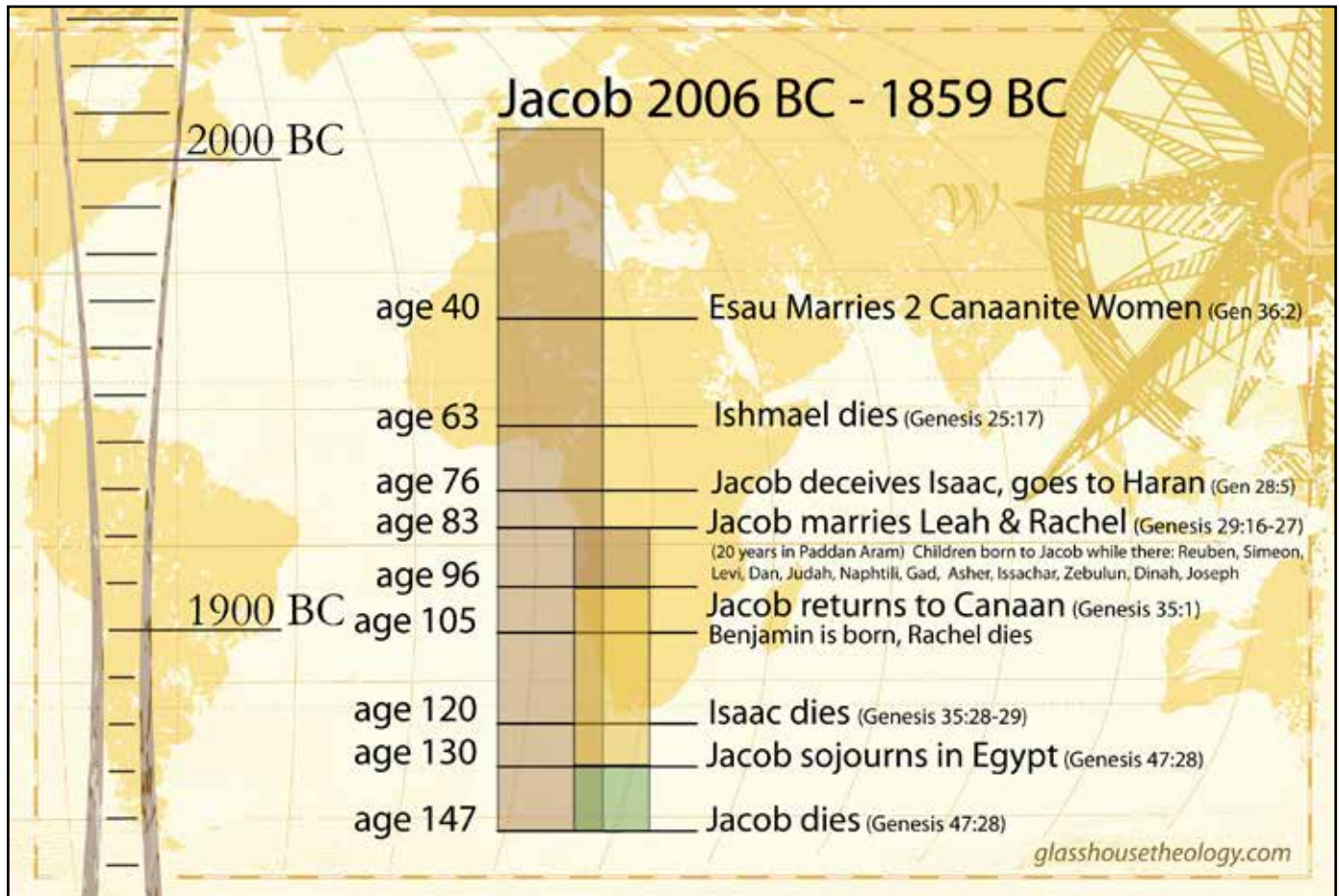
“Jacob Sees Esau Coming To Meet Him” by James Tissot



“The Abduction Of Dinah” by James Tissot



“The Meeting Of Esau And Jacob” by James Tissot



JACOB'S AGE WHEN HE RUNS FROM ESAU

Jacob's Age	Joseph's Age	Reference	Notes
130	39	Gen 47:9	Joseph presented Jacob to Pharaoh upon his arrival into Egypt. Jacob states his age as 130 years.
		Gen 41, 42, 43	Nine years elapse. Seven years of plenty and two years of famine. The brothers make two trips to Egypt in famine.
121	30	Gen 41:46	Joseph entered Pharaoh's service at the age of 30. Approximate time of Isaac's death at 180 years of age.
			Thirteen years elapse where Joseph is a servant in various capacities.
108	17	Gen 37:2	Joseph is 17 when his brothers sell him to the Ishmaelite caravan. (This also indicates that Jacob and his family spent approximately 11 years in Succoth and Shechem. So Dinah is approximately 17-18 at the time of her kidnapping.)
91	0	Gen 30:24	Joseph is born to Jacob and Rachel. Her first natural-born son.
			Jacob serves Laban 14 years for his two daughters, Leah and Rachel.
77		Gen 28	Jacob is approximately 77 years old when he runs from home to avoid Esau's anger and he meets God at Bethel. Isaac is now 137 years old (60+77).

SONS OF JACOB GENESIS 49

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"Reuben, you are my firstborn, my might, the first sign of my strength, ... turbulent as the waters" [3-4]



REUBEN

"Simeon and Levi are brothers—their swords are weapons of violence." [5]



SIMEON

"Simeon and Levi are brothers—their swords are weapons of violence." [5]



LEVI

"You are a lion's cub, Judah ... The scepter will not depart from Judah, nor the ruler's staff from between his feet" [9-10]



JUDAH

"Zebulun will live by the seashore and become a haven for ships." [13]



ZEBULUN

"Issachar is a rawboned donkey lying down among the sheep pens." [14]



ISSACHAR

"Dan will provide justice for his people ... a snake by the roadside, a viper along the path" [16-17]



DAN

"Gad will be attacked by a band of raiders, but he will attack them at their heels" [19]



GAD

"Asher's food will be rich; he will provide delicacies fit for a king" [20]



ASHER

"Naphtali is a doe set free that bears beautiful fawns" [21]



NAPHTALI

"Joseph is a fruitful vine ... archers attacked him ... But his bow remained steady." [22-24]



JOSEPH

"Benjamin is a ravenous wolf" [27]



BENJAMIN