

Tragedy in Jacob's Family
Lesson #19
Genesis 35:16-37:36

This was a critical point in the life of Jacob and his family. God never condoned the action of Simeon and Levi to wipe out a whole community and there would be consequences. (Genesis 49:7) Jacob had settled his family in a pagan society which was influencing the actions of Jacob's sons. God needed to get Jacob's full attention so told Jacob to "go to Bethel, settle there and build me an altar there". Jacob obeyed, returning to the place where God first met him. Next, Jacob was to get rid of all the false idols.

Death In Jacob's Family - Genesis 35:16-29

1. Deborah, Rebekah's nurse had died. (Genesis 35:8) She would have been responsible for caring for Jacob when he was growing up. What happened when Jacob's family moved on from Bethel? (Genesis 35:16)

2. Her midwife tried to encourage her with the news of another son. What did Rachel name him? (Genesis 35:18a)

3. What did Jacob change his name to? (Genesis 35:18b)

4. Rachel died in childbirth. Where was the family at that time? (Genesis 35:19)

5. How did Jacob memorialize his favorite wife? (Genesis 35:20)

6. Notice the name change in verse 21. Jacob is referred to as Israel as God's story moved forward. Unfortunately, the family was not following the ways of the LORD God. What did Jacob's oldest son do? (Genesis 35:22)

7. With the birth of Benjamin, the twelve sons of Jacob complete his family. Make a list of his sons. (Genesis 35:23-26)
 - Leah's sons:

 - Rachel's sons:

- Bilhah's sons:

 - Zilpah's sons:
8. The chapter closed out with the death of Jacob's father, Isaac. Using Genesis 35:27-29:
- Where was Isaac living?

 - How old was Isaac?

 - Who was with him when he died?

Esau's Descendants - Genesis 36

9. The ninth account in Genesis traced the lineage of Esau. What was his other name? (Genesis 36:1)
10. How many wives did Esau have and where were they from? (Genesis 36:2, 3)
11. Why did Esau settle in Seir? (Genesis 36:6-8)
12. Of all the descendants of Esau, the one that will be the most trouble for Jacob's descendants is Amalek. (Genesis 36:12) What other information was given in Genesis 36:31?
13. The descendants of Jacob will be the "Israelites." What were Esau's descendants called? (Genesis 36:43b)

Jacob's Son Joseph - Genesis 37:1-11

14. The tenth and last account in Genesis follows the story of Jacob's son Joseph. Where was Jacob living at this time? (Genesis 37:1)

15. What information was given regarding Jacob's son Joseph? (Genesis 37:2)
 - His age

 - His occupation

 - Who he was with

 - What he told Jacob?

16. The text also gave insight into the relationship between Israel (*Jacob*) and Joseph. Why did he love Joseph more than the others? (Genesis 37:3a)

17. How did Jacob show his favor? (Genesis 37:3b)

18. How did his other brothers feel about this? (Genesis 37:4)

19. Joseph had a dream that he shared with his brothers. What was the dream? (Genesis 37:6, 7)

20. How did his brothers react to his dream? (Genesis 37:5,8)

21. When Jacob had another dream, this time he told his brothers and also his father. What was this dream? (Genesis 37:9)

22. How did his father react? (Genesis 37:10)

23. What about his brothers? (Genesis 37:11)

Joseph Sold Into Slavery - Genesis 37:12-36

24. The story opened with Joseph's brothers out grazing the flocks near Shechem. Israel told Joseph to go check on them and then bring word back to him. Joseph agreed. What happened when Joseph arrived at Shechem? (Genesis 37:15-17)

25. When his brothers saw him coming, what did they decide among themselves? (Genesis 37:18-20)

26. Which brother tried to rescue him? (Genesis 37:21)

27. What was his plan? (Genesis 37:22)

28. When Joseph finally arrived, what did his brothers do? (Genesis 37:23, 24)

29. Their plan seemed to be working well. But what did they see passing by? (Genesis 37:25)

30. Which brother came up with a new plan? (Genesis 37:26)

31. What was his plan? (Genesis 37:27)

32. What did they do with Joseph? (Genesis 37:28)

33. Apparently the oldest, Reuben, had not been a part of this. How did he react when he found out what the other brothers had done? (Genesis 37:29, 30)

34. What new plan did they come up with? (Genesis 37:31)

35. How did they tell their father? (Genesis 37:32, 33)

36. How did Jacob take the news? (Genesis 37:34, 35)

37. What happened to Joseph when he arrived in Egypt? (Genesis 37:36)