



SERMON NOTES

October 20, 2013

Scripture: Genesis 29:31-35; 30:1-24 (NAS)

Topic: "Family Matters"

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Genesis 29:31-35

- 31 Now the LORD saw that Leah was unloved, and He opened her womb, but Rachel was barren.
- 32 Leah conceived and bore a son and named him Reuben, for she said, "Because the LORD has seen my affliction; surely now my husband will love me."
- 33 Then she conceived again and bore a son and said, "Because the LORD has heard that I am unloved, He has therefore given me this son also." So she named him Simeon.
- 34 She conceived again and bore a son and said, "Now this time my husband will become attached to me, because I have borne him three sons." Therefore he was named Levi.
- 35 And she conceived again and bore a son and said, "This time I will praise the LORD." Therefore she named him Judah. Then she stopped bearing.

Genesis 30:1-24

- 1 Now when Rachel saw that she bore Jacob no children, she became jealous of her sister; and she said to Jacob, "Give me children, or else I die."
- 2 Then Jacob's anger burned against Rachel, and he said, "Am I in the place of God, who has withheld from you the fruit of the womb?"
- 3 She said, "Here is my maid Bilhah, go in to her that she may bear on my knees, that through her I too may have children."
- 4 So she gave him her maid Bilhah as a wife, and Jacob went in to her.
- 5 Bilhah conceived and bore Jacob a son.
- 6 Then Rachel said, "God has vindicated me, and has indeed heard my voice and has given me a son." Therefore she named him Dan.
- 7 Rachel's maid Bilhah conceived again and bore Jacob a second son.
- 8 So Rachel said, "With mighty wrestlings I have wrestled with my sister, and I have indeed prevailed." And she named him Naphtali.
- 9 When Leah saw that she had stopped bearing, she took her maid Zilpah and gave her to Jacob as a wife.
- 10 Leah's maid Zilpah bore Jacob a son.
- 11 Then Leah said, "How fortunate!" So she named him Gad.
- 12 Leah's maid Zilpah bore Jacob a second son.
- 13 Then Leah said, "Happy am I! For women will call me happy." So she named him Asher.
- 14 Now in the days of wheat harvest Reuben went and found mandrakes in the field, and brought them to his mother Leah. Then Rachel said to Leah, "Please give me some of your son's mandrakes."
- 15 But she said to her, "Is it a small matter for you to take my husband? And would you take my son's mandrakes also?" So Rachel said, "Therefore he may lie with you tonight in return for your son's mandrakes."
- 16 When Jacob came in from the field in the evening, then Leah went out to meet him and said, "You must come in to me, for I have surely hired you with my son's mandrakes." So he lay with her that night.
- 17 God gave heed to Leah, and she conceived and bore Jacob a fifth son.
- 18 Then Leah said, "God has given me my wages because I gave my maid to my husband." So she named him Issachar.
- 19 Leah conceived again and bore a sixth son to Jacob.
- 20 Then Leah said, "God has endowed me with a good gift; now my husband will dwell with me, because I have borne him six sons." So she named him Zebulun.
- 21 Afterward she bore a daughter and named her Dinah.
- 22 Then God remembered Rachel, and God gave heed to her and opened her womb.
- 23 So she conceived and bore a son and said, "God has taken away my reproach."
- 24 She named him Joseph, saying, "May the LORD give me another son."

I. THE FAMILY

- A. It Is Important
- B. There Are Struggles

II. THE NATURE OF THE FAMILY MATTERS

- A. Things We Identify With
- B. Things We Should Not Replicate *John 17:20-21*

III. JACOB'S PROBLEMS

- A. Polygamy—Initiating Strife
- B. His Wives Were Always Quarrelling
- C. His Desire For Peace At A High Cost
- D. Rachel's Blaming Him For No Children
- E. Leah Knows She Is Not Loved *Ephesians 5:23-26*
- F. Jacob Neglecting His Responsibilities
- G. Blaming His Wives For The Problems
- H. Anger Issues *Proverbs 14:29; 15:1*
- I. Circumventing God's Plans For Family By Adding Wives
- J. Failure To Lead As A Peacemaker

IV. THE WIVES' PROBLEMS

- A. Point To Jacob's Failure To Listen
- B. Jacob Gets Angry
- C. Jacob Doesn't Manage Things Well
- D. His Wives Were Manipulative
- E. They Failed To Heed God's Call To Be Submissive *1 Peter 3:1-6*

CONCLUSION: The Short List Of The Problems

- A. Polygamy
- B. Anger
- C. Absence Of Love
- D. Passive Leader
- E. Manipulative Wives; Not Submissive