

***The Blessing: A Study in Genesis 12-36***  
**Lesson 9 – Jacob is Blessed**  
**Genesis 32-36**

**I. The Encounter (Genesis 32:1-2)**

Jacob was met by angels

Angels – messengers as servants of God

Genesis 28:10-16

Acts 12:6-19 – Peter delivered from prison by an angel

Hebrews 1:14 - ministering spirits

Matthew 18:10 – guardian angels

**II. The Plan (Genesis 32:3-8)**

A. Esau and 400 men; Jacob's fear

B. Dividing into two companies of people

**III. The Prayer (Genesis 32:9-12)**

A. Promise

B. Humility

C. Petition

D. Promise

**V. Gifts for Esau (Genesis 32:13-23)**

At least 550 animals.

**VI. The Struggle (Genesis 32:24-32)**

Jacob went from striving and struggling to clinging.

“Two birth scenes frame Jacob's life; the struggle with Esau in the darkness of the womb, when he is born ‘Jacob’ (Genesis 25:22-23), and the struggle with God in the darkness at the Jabbok River, when he is reborn ‘Israel’ (Genesis 32:25-33)” (*Dominion and Dynasty*, Stephen G. Dempster, p. 86).

Just as the sinew shrank and was not removed, so our flesh is not removed after we are saved. There will still be a battle between our flesh and spirit. It is so easy for us to resort to reacting in the flesh instead of responding in the Spirit. Our “natural” man walks in fear, scheming, and self-protection.

“Jacob had contended for the birthright and had succeeded. (25:29-34.) He had contended for the blessing and succeeded. (27.) He had contended with Laban and succeeded. (31.) He had contended with ‘men’ and succeeded. Now he contended with God (the Wrestler) and fails. Hence his new name was changed to Israel, God

commands, to teach him the greatly needed lesson of dependence upon God” (*Gleanings in Genesis*, Arthur Pink, p. 292).

“That which hinders us in our growth in grace is not so much our spiritual weakness as it is confidence in our natural strength!” (*Gleanings in Genesis*, Arthur Pink, p. 294).

#### **VII. The Blessing (Genesis 32:29b)**

Jacob walked differently after encountering the Lord.  
He had a new name and a confirmed blessing.

#### **VIII. The Reconciliation (Genesis 33:1-17)**

Jacob is changed – no longer haughty, he is humble and grateful

But he still reverts to his own reasoning (v. 14). He indicates that he will meet Esau in Seir after traveling at his own pace.

#### **IX. The Compromise at Shechem (Genesis 34:1-31)**

Genesis 28:18-22 – Jacob’s Vow

So Jacob rose early in the morning, and took the stone that he had put under his head and set it up as a pillar and poured oil on its top. He called the name of that place Bethel; however, previously the name of the city had been Luz. Then Jacob made a vow, saying, “If God will be with me and will keep me on this journey that I take, and will give me food to eat and garments to wear, and I return to my father’s house in safety, then the Lord will be my God. This stone, which I have set up as a pillar, will be God’s house, and of all that You give me I will surely give a tenth to You.”

Stopping short of full obedience, is disobedience.

#### **X. The Consecration (Genesis 35:1-15)**

Put away your idols.

As believers we are responsible for our homes and families. We are not to have any idols that would be allowed to turn the hearts of our family away from the Lord.

Jacob spiritually cleansed his family before moving on to Bethel – “the house of God.” Just as you physically clean your home, you must spiritually clean it as well.

#### **XI. Tragedy (Genesis 35:16-29)**

- A. Rachel’s Death – Genesis 35:16-21
- B. Reuben’s Disgrace – Genesis 35:22
- C. Isaac’s Death – 180 years old, Genesis 35:29

#### **XII. Esau’s Genealogy (Genesis 36)**

Two nations are in your womb (Genesis 25:23)