

Genesis 34-36 Bible Devotions

☐ Monday - Different Dictionary.

Genesis 34:1-3

“Now Dinah the daughter of Leah, whom she had borne to Jacob, went out to visit the daughters of the land. And when Shechem the son of Hamor the Hivite, the prince of the land, saw her, he took her and lay with her by force. And he was deeply attracted to Dinah the daughter of Jacob, and he *loved* the girl and spoke *tenderly* to her” (Gen. 34:1-3). Real “love” and “tenderness” are not qualities of a rapist, nor were they part of Shechem’s character. Dinah found herself in harm’s way, as do we, when we look for fellowship outside of God’s people, among those who may use the same terminology, but a different dictionary. Read 2 Cor. 6:14-18

☐ Tuesday - Vengeance is Mine

Genesis 34:26-27

“And [Levi and Simeon] killed Hamor and his son Shechem with the edge of the sword, and took Dinah from Shechem’s house, and went forth. Jacob’s sons came upon the slain and looted the city, because they had defiled their sister” (Gen. 34:26-27). Anger twists our judgment, so that our sense of justice grossly exceeds the offense. For that reason, Scripture declares, “Never take your own revenge, beloved, but leave room for the wrath of God, for it is written, ‘Vengeance is Mine, I will repay,’ says the Lord.” (Rom. 12:19). Read Matthew 5:38-48

☐ Wednesday - Return to the House of God!

Genesis 35:1

[1] God first spoke to Jacob at Bethel, which means “house of God” (Gen. 28:10-22). [2] Twenty years later, in Haran, the Lord spoke again to Jacob, “I am El Bethel (the God of Bethel) ... arise and return” (Gen. 31:13). [3] Jacob left Haran, but settled in Shechem, less than thirty miles (one day walk) from Bethel (Gen. 33:18-20), and results were disastrous (Gen. 34). To every wandering Christian, God’s call to you is the same as His call to Jacob: “Arise, go to Bethel” (Gen. 35:1); that is, return to the “house of God” which today is the church. Read 2 Chron. 7:14, Acts 3:19

☐ Thursday - Sophisticated Idol Worshipers.

Genesis 35:2-3

“Jacob said to his household and to all who were with him, ‘Put away the foreign gods which are among you, and purify yourselves, and change your garments; and let us arise and go up to Bethel!’” (Gen. 35:2-3). But today, we are not primitive idol worshippers, right? Well, we may have discarded the statues, but we still worship the same things they did: sex, money, property, power, pleasure, etc. “No one can serve two masters; he will hate the one and love the other” (Matt. 6:24). Read 2 Cor. 6:14-18 again

☐ Friday - Genesis is Literal History!

Genesis 36:31

This is a great time in redemptive history to live, because of the overwhelming amount of data that is pouring in from every branch of science that points to the historicity of the Book of Genesis. True, there is still evidence yet to be uncovered, but God’s Word is trustworthy! A lack of evidence is not necessarily evidence of absence. Read Psalm 119:160