

## Genesis Part II (Chapters 25-50)

### Lesson 3: Family of Jacob

**Reading:** Genesis 29:1-30:43

In Chapter 27, Jacob, with the help of Rebekah, demonstrates his character as the “supplanter” by deceiving Isaac of his identity and stealing the blessing intended for Esau. As a result, Esau vows to kill Jacob upon Isaac’s death. Rebekah proposes to send Jacob to Padan Aram, the land of her family, under the premise that he must not take a wife from the Canaanites as Esau had done. In Chapter 28, Isaac sends Jacob away with the same Abrahamic blessings that had been given to him, and Esau takes a third wife from the family of Ishmael. As Jacob travels Padan Aram, he stops for the night to sleep using a stone for a pillow. He is given a dream of a ladder from heaven touching the earth with angels of God ascending and descending on it. In the dream God identifies Himself as the God of Abraham and Isaac and gives Jacob the 3 Abrahamic promises (land, nation, seed). In addition God promises Jacob that He will be with Jacob and bring him back to that same land. Jacob offers a sacrifice on the very stone he used for a pillow and names the place Bethel (House of God). He makes a vow that if God will be with him such that he has food to eat, clothing to wear, and he comes back to his father’s house in peace, then God will be his God.

#### **Jacob meets Rachel (29:1-14)**

1. What was the significance of the well where Jacob arrives upon entering Haran (29:1-8; 24:11; Exodus 2:15-17)?
2. What was Jacob’s reaction when he saw Rachel (29:9-12)?

#### **Jacob marries Leah and Rachel (29:15-30)**

3. How strong was Jacob’s love for Rachel (29:20)?
4. How does Jacob learn of Laban’s deception, and what is his response (29:25)?

