

JOSEPH

#6, from here to Hebron – Gen 35

Last lesson we saw that Jacob bought a parcel of land at Shechem. However, there was trouble there regarding Dinah, Jacob's daughter, and Shechem, a son of Hamar (Gen 34). The Lord again appeared to Jacob!

Genesis chapter 35

Gen 35:1, Then God said to Jacob, "Arise, go up to Bethel and live there, and make an altar there to God, who appeared to you when you fled from your brother Esau."

2 So 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; 3 and let us arise and go up to Bethel, and I will make an altar there to God, who answered me in the day of my distress and has been with me wherever I have gone." 4 So they gave to Jacob all the foreign gods which they had and the rings which were in their ears, and Jacob hid them under the oak which was near Shechem.

5 As they journeyed, there was a great terror upon the cities which were around them, and they did not pursue the sons of Jacob. 6 So Jacob came to Luz (that is, Bethel), which is in the land of Canaan, he and all the people who were with him (see map next page).

[1.], v:1, God said to Jacob, **When God spoke to Jacob this time, what was His command?**

[2.], v:2-4, Put away, **What instructions did Jacob give to his household:**

[3.], question [2.], **How do you think Jacob responded if Rachel brought out the god she stole from Laban?**

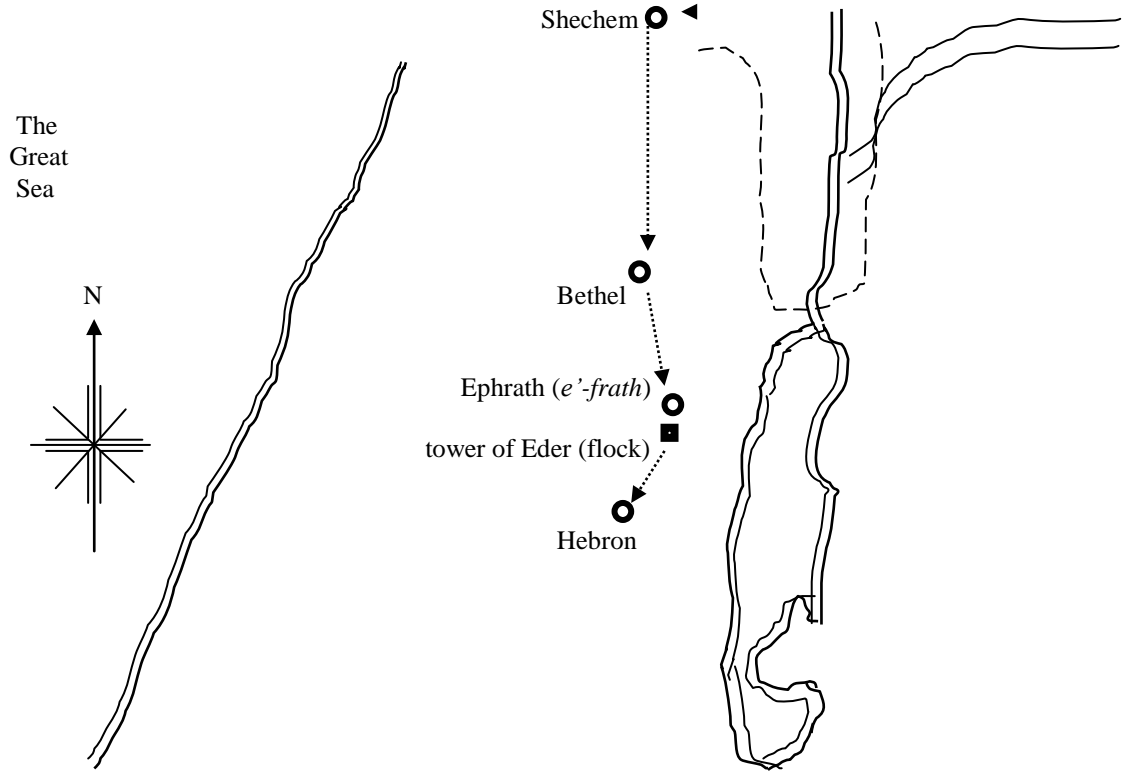
[4.] **What might be other gods that a twice born Christian is in the habit of keeping (I Jn 5:21)?**

[5.], v:5-6, great terror, **What might be the causes of this reaction?**

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v:9-15, name again changed to Israel



16 Then they journeyed from Bethel; and when there was still some distance to go to Ephrath, Rachel began to give birth and she suffered severe labor. 17 When she was in severe labor the midwife said to her, "Do not fear, for now you have another son." 18 It came about as her soul was departing (for she died), that she named him Ben-oni; but his father called him Benjamin. 19 So Rachel died and was buried on the way to Ephrath (that is, Bethlehem).

[6.] v:16-18, Ben-oni vs. Benjamin. Joseph now has a younger brother but, what do you think he would have preferred . . . and why?

[7.], v:19, Bethlehem, Who else was born here?

Mama's dead!

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20 Jacob set up a pillar over her grave; that is the pillar of Rachel's grave to this day. 21 Then Israel journeyed on and pitched his tent beyond the tower of Eder.

22 It came about while Israel was dwelling in that land, that Reuben went and lay with Bilhah his father's concubine, and Israel heard of it.



27 Jacob came to his father Isaac at Mamre of Kiriath-arba (that is, Hebron), where Abraham and Isaac had sojourned.

28 Now the days of Isaac were one hundred and eighty years. 29 Isaac breathed his last and died and was gathered to his people, an old man of ripe age; and his sons Esau and Jacob buried him.

[8.] v:20-22, Reuben, If anything, what might Israel have done to Reuben and the woman?

[9.], question [8.], Why or why isn't it possible that Jacob then gave Bilhah to Reuben for his wife?

[10.] v:27-29, This account is the first time Esau and Jacob met after Jacob never followed up on the deal to go to Sier. Jot down what they might have said to each other.

I watched daddy and uncle Esau bury their father! I saw how unhappy they were? I wish grandpa Laban was here! I wonder if he will ever know about mama!

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It's not mentioned in Scripture but it's something one wonders about. The question is, after Rachel's death, who raised Joseph and Benjamin? We learned that Rachel's nurse previously had died (Gen 35:8).

[11.], Gen 35:22-26, Of the remaining three wives, who had the least amount of children?

[12.], Gen 37:2, In this verse, who was Joseph laboring with?

[13.], Considering Gen 35:22, would Jacob consider Bilhah (Rachel's hand maid) a good candidate to mother Rachel's sons?

[14.], How about the idea that Jacob himself, assigned a couple of new nurses, and raised the boys in his own tent?

[15.], Write Joseph and Benjamin under the tent where they might have been raised.

