

JOSEPH

#5, when Joseph saw Esau – Gen 32-33:1-20

In obedience to God's command Jacob, with all of his family and possessions, started the journey that would take him back to his home. In this family a small boy watched and listened as each step took him to the land of his father's birth, . . . and further away from the land of his own birth.

Genesis chapter 33

Gen 32:1, Now as Jacob went on his way, the angels of God met him. 2 Jacob said when he saw them, "This is God's camp." So he named that place Mahanaim (*ma-ha-na'-im*).

3 Then Jacob sent messengers before him to his brother Esau in the land of Seir, the country of Edom.

4 He also commanded them saying, "Thus you shall say to my lord Esau: 'Thus says your servant Jacob, "I have sojourned with Laban, and stayed until now;

5 I have oxen and donkeys and flocks and male and female servants; and I have sent to tell my lord, that I may find favor in your sight.'"

[1.], v:1-2, Mahanaim, What is the meaning of this word?

[2.], v:3, Then Jacob, After naming Mahanaim, what was Jacob's first order of business?

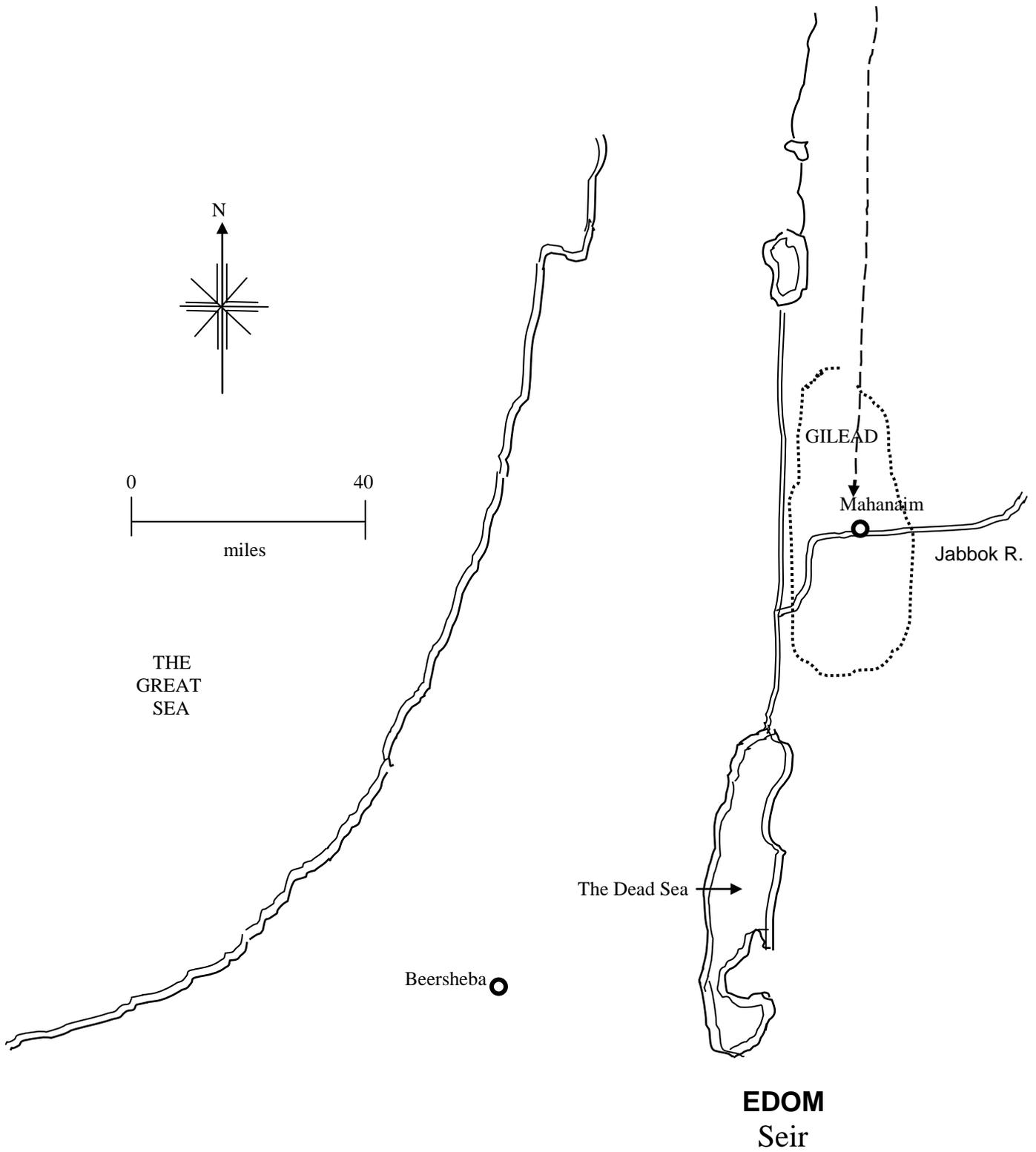
[3.], v:3 again, land of Seir, Looking at your map on pg#2, about how far away Esau?

[4.] v:4, to my lord Esau, I mean these guys are brothers! What might be Jacob's motive regarding the ordered salutation he told the messengers to give?

[5.] v:5, favor in your sight, We know that Jacob & Esau are at odds. If fellowship is broken between you and your brother in Christ, what should you do?

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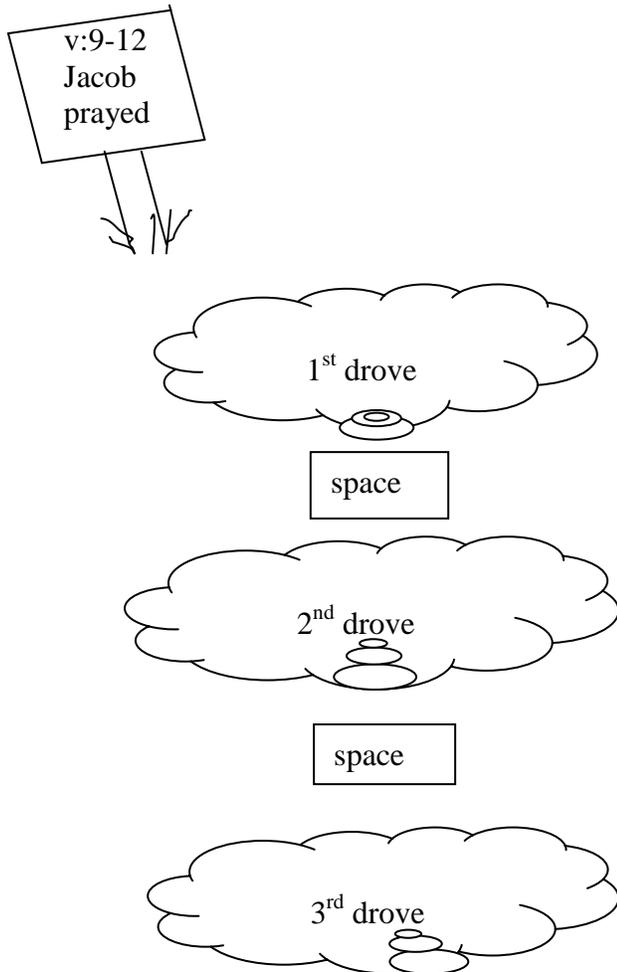
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6 The messengers returned to Jacob, saying, "We came to your brother Esau, and furthermore he is coming to meet you, and four hundred men are with him." 7 Then Jacob was greatly afraid and distressed; and he divided the people who were with him, and the flocks and the herds and the camels, into two companies; 8 for he said, "If Esau comes to the one company and attacks it, then the company which is left will escape."



[6.], v:6, The messengers returned, What did the messengers say that gave Jacob a bad day?

[7.], v:7-8, divided the people, What was Jacob's motive for splitting his possessions?

[8.] v:13-19, When I visit my brother, I don't do this. Never the less, study this portion and describe the "drove" thing.

[9.] v:20-21, Then afterward, From these verses jot down what did Jacob wanted to accomplish with all this?

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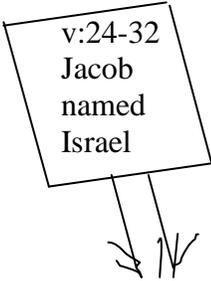
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22 Now he arose that same night and took his two wives and his two maids and his eleven children, and crossed the ford of the Jabbok. 23 He took them and sent them across the stream. And he sent across whatever he had.

eleven children: *OT:3206 (*yeh'-led*); from OT:3205; something born, i.e. a lad or offspring: -boy, child, fruit, son, young man (one).

Strong's Numbers and Concordance

v:24-32
Jacob
named
Israel



Genesis chapter 33

1 Then Jacob lifted his eyes and looked, and behold, Esau was coming, and four hundred men with him. So he divided the children among Leah and Rachel and the two maids. 2 He put the maids and their children in front, and Leah and her children next, and Rachel and Joseph last. 3 But he himself passed on ahead of them and bowed down to the ground seven times, until he came near to his brother.

[10.], v:1-3, divided the children, **List the four groups, first to last, in the order of their encounter with Esau.**

[11], v:1-3 again, He put the, **If there is a message here, what is it?**

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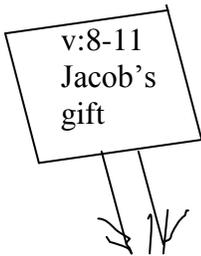
4 Then Esau ran to meet him and embraced him, and fell on his neck and kissed him, and they wept. 5 He lifted his eyes and saw the women and the children, and said, "Who are these with you?" So he said, "The children whom God has graciously given your servant."

6 Then the maids came near with their children, and they bowed down. 7 Leah likewise came near with her children, and they bowed down; and afterward Joseph came near with Rachel, and they bowed down.

[12.], v:4-5, (Esau) lifted his eyes and saw, After greeting Jacob, what was Esau's first question?

[13.], v:6-7, maids came near, The order of greeting could only mean that the maids were more highly esteemed than Rachel or vice versa. If you were one of the maid's children how would you feel about that?

Uncle Esau looked at me as I bowed and then stared at him. Daddy said Esau was his brother but he don't look like daddy!



12 Then Esau said, "Let us take our journey and go, and I will go before you." 13 But he said to him, "My lord knows that the children are frail and that the flocks and herds which are nursing are a care to me. And if they are driven hard one day, all the flocks will die.

14 "Please let my lord pass on before his servant, and I will proceed at my leisure, according to the pace of the cattle that are before me and according to the pace of the children, until I come to my lord at Seir.

[14.], v:12-14, Let us take our journey and go, When Esau made the suggestion about the journey, what was Jacobs's compromise?

[15.], v:14, come to my lord, Where did Jacob promise to meet Esau?

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"15 Esau said, "Please let me leave with you some of the people who are with me." But he said, "What need is there? Let me find favor in the sight of my lord." 16 So Esau returned that day on his way to Seir. 17 Jacob journeyed to Succoth, and built for himself a house and made booths for his livestock; therefore the place is named Succoth. 18 Now Jacob came safely to the city of Shechem, which is in the land of Canaan, when he came from Paddan-aram, and camped before the city. 19 He bought the piece of land where he had pitched his tent from the hand of the sons of Hamor, Shechem's father, for one hundred pieces of money. 20 Then he erected there an altar and called it El-Elohe-Israel (God, the God of Israel).

[16.], v:15-18, safely to the city of Shechem, Esau went to Seir but Jacob to Succoth and then to Shechem. What might Esau think?

[17.], v:19-20, What was Jacob's plan at Shechem?

