

LIBERTY BAPTIST CHURCH

Wednesday Night (January 20th, 2010) – Study Notes

for SERIES: Seeing Jesus Typified In Old Testament Characters

Tonight's Message: Seeing Jesus In The TRANSFORMATION of JACOB

TEXT: Genesis 27:5-24

- I. Jacob's life typified Christ in a much different way than Abraham and Isaac did for he demonstrated 1) the natural man's need for Christ; 2) the law of sowing and reaping; and 3) Christ's faithful persistance in changing lives FROM "death traps" INTO life.
- II. The fact that Jacob was the second born of his siblings becomes significant in the typology. It impresses upon our hearts the need for a second birth. (John 3:5-7; 1:13; I Corinthians 15:45-50). Other Biblical examples include Abel, Isaac and Ephraim (Genesis 4:4; 17:21; 48:18, 19)
- III. Jacob's "Natural man" status is best seen by Selfishness and his focus on Personal gain. But he is also a picture of the two natures - both old and new!
- IV. SOWING AND REAPING: We see this law play out very dramatically in Jacob's life:
 1. He SOWED selfishness and deceit in acts such as his bargaining for the birthright from Esau AND in his joining with his mother in deceiving his father out of his MAJOR blessing (see the result of this deceit in Genesis 27:41)
 2. He REAPED the same - and more - in the following ways:

plain = mild,
quiet,
peaceful

- He was exiled from the Promised Land for 20 years and lived in a land filled with idols;
- He was deceived by his boss, Laban, who changed Jacob's wages "10 times";
- He endured marital and family conflicts;
- He was deceived by all of his sons when they claimed that Joseph had been killed – producing "proof" with his blood-stained coat;
- He lost favor with Lavin and as a result attempted to sneak away in the night BUT after 7 days of hot pursuit, Jacob and his family were caught up with. Because of a dream that he had received from God (Gen 31), Laban decided only to attempt to retrieve some Idols that had been stolen. While Jacob TRULY did not know anything about it, his lack of credibility made convincing Laban difficult. As it turned out, Jacob's WIFE, Rachel, had out-deceived both of those men for she was sitting on the very furniture in which she had hidden them. She died Young because of a curse attached to her action that day (Genesis 35:16-19);
- After he made a covenant with Laban, he decided to try and reconcile with his brother, Esau, after 20 years of estrangement but when his brother responded by gathering 400 of his strongest soldiers and coming to meet with him, Jacob began to fear for his life. That night was Jacob's "Gethsamane"

V. **TRANSFORMING JACOB:**

1. The "man" who wrestled with Jacob was **NO DOUBT** Christ Himself (Genesis 32:24-32; compare to Hosea 12:3-6)
2. He could have rendered Jacob an invalid – but His focus was on the spiritual (the will) - not on the physical.
3. At daybreak, seeing Jacob's will remained unconquered, the "man" touched the hollow of his thigh leaving Jacob with a limp – the very "blessing" Jacob so craved!
4. Additionally, it was after his will was broken that Jacob's name was changed to "Israel".
5. Jesus would reveal in a future day that HE was the "ladder" in Jacob's famous dream. Jacob did not realize it but Christ had actually watched over him his entire life!
6. Jacob's experience at Pentecost was a foreshadowing of the new birth.
7. Christ's work in Jacob's life was very evident in his meeting - and reconciliation - with Esau. (See Genesis 33:1-17a)
8. After this, the name "Jacob" appears in the Old Testament 237 times while the name "Israel" appears 2491 - illustrating the ever diminishing existence of the "old man" - but it's existence nonetheless.
9. To this day, God continues to wrestle the nation of Israel (Romans 11:26b- 33) - and not until they find their national "hip" out of joint (seeing Him who they have pierced) will they collectively acknowledge Him as Lord and Master. (see Zechariah 12:10)

