

The account of
Jacob (2)
and his children
Genesis 35-38

Journey Through the Bible (17)
The Patriarchs (6)

Previously

- We identified who Jacob is.
- We also noted his youth and deceitfulness.
- He had to flee to Haran where relatives were.

Previously

- We also discussed key moments in his life - as he fled at Bethel, he had a dream (Jacob's ladder) where the LORD promised to be with him.
- Jacob made a vow to God if he was returned safely.
- In Haran, he started his family that would become the 12 tribes of Israel. He is there for 20 years.

Previously

- He begins his journey home, wrestles with an angel of God and eventually meets Esau, who has made peace with the circumstances.
- This is where we begin this lesson

Jacob's Life

- **He arrives at Shechem**

Genesis 33:18-20

Here he buys a piece of land and settles awhile (likely there about a decade).

2nd piece of land purchased by the patriarchs.

Joshua 24:32 - Shechem is where the bones of Joseph will be finally interred

Jacob's Life

- **He arrives at Shechem**

Genesis 33:18-20

He builds an altar to God and calls it, *El Elohe Israel* (God, the God of Israel).

NOTE: God is HIS God!

Cf. **Genesis 31:42, 32:9** - prior, he would refer to the God of Abraham and Isaac.

Also recall **Genesis 28:20-22**

Jacob's Children

- **Dinah is defiled**

Genesis 34

While living in Shechem, Dinah went to see the daughters of the land.

Shechem (son of Hamor) took her and violated her (violent or seduced?)

He loves her and desires to marry her.

Hamor goes to Jacob seeking a covenant for this.

Jacob's Children

- **Dinah is defiled**

Genesis 34

Jacob holds his peace but tells his sons.

- His sons, esp. Simeon and Levi, devise a plot that destroys the city where Shechem lived
- Jacob rebukes them for their hasty and extreme actions
- They “justified” their vigilanteism

Jacob's Life

- **Jacob returns to Bethel**
Genesis 35:1-26
God tells him to go to Bethel and make an altar
- Jacob tells his household to put away their foreign gods and they bury them in Shechem
- As they journey, nations leave them alone because “the terror of God” was with Israel.

Jacob's Life

- **Jacob returns to Bethel**

Genesis 35:1-26

They arrive at Bethel, and Jacob builds an altar to God.

- **35:9-13** - God appears to Jacob and repeats His promise - land & nation. Again, declares his new name - Israel. Notes that nations and kings would come from his seed.
- Jacob memorializes the place!

Jacob's Life

- **Jacob returns to Bethel**

Genesis 35:1-26

35:16-20 - Rachel dies giving birth to Benjamin and is buried on the way to Bethlehem.

22 - Reuben commits adultery with Bilhah. Israel hears about it!

- **23-26** - The 12 sons of Jacob are again named (genealogy)

Jacob's Life

- **Isaac dies**

Genesis 35:27-29

At 180 years of age.

Jacob and Esau bury him - in the cave of Machpelah (**49:31**)

Esau

- **Esau's lineage**

Genesis 36 records the lineage of Esau.

- 36:6-8 - because of prosperity, they part ways. Esau moves to Mt. Seir (Edom).
- From him, nations & kings would come. In later years, they will interact with Israel negatively.

Jacob's children

- **Joseph's dreams**

Genesis 37, focus not changes to Joseph

- Vs. 2 - Joseph, now 17 years old, brings a bad report to Israel about some of his children.
- Vs. 3-4 - Israel shows favoritism to Joseph and gives him a tunic of many colors. This causes jealousy

Jacob's children

- **Joseph's dreams**

Genesis 37:5-11, Joseph has dreams

- Sheaves of grain bow down to him. His brothers hated him even more
- Stars, sun and moon bow down to him. Israel dismisses it, but his brothers envied him.

Jacob's children

- **Joseph sold**
Genesis 37:12-36
- Joseph is sent to check on his brothers with their flocks.
- They conspire to kill him, but Reuben stops them. Instead, they cast him into a pit.
- Later (Reuben not there) they sell him to Ishmaelite traders for 20 shekels of silver.
- Joseph is sold into slavery in Egypt to Potiphar.

Lessons from Jacob's Life

- **Is God your God?**
- While God is the ONE true God, I need to make him my personal God.
- **John 14:23**
- **1 John 2:24**, ...*you will also abide in the Son and in the Father*

Lessons from Jacob's Life

- **Do we act in haste when we are wronged?**
- Consider Dinah, Simeon and Levi
- They acted with malice and a mob mentality. Israel (rightly) upset!
- We need to consider how we will be perceived by our actions!
- **Romans 13:10, 1 Corinthians 13:4, cf. Romans 2:24, 1 Corinthians 6:6-7**
Romans 12:17-19 - leave it in God's hands

Lessons from Jacob's Life

- **Parents, watch out for your children**
- Dinah went into a dangerous circumstance. Could Israel have prevented it?
- Parents have great responsibility to protect their children - physically AND spiritually - **Proverbs 22:6, Ephesians 6:4**

Lessons from Jacob's Life

- **Will you put your idols away?**
- There were idols in Jacob's household. To be able to approach God they needed to be removed.
- Do we have "idols" that hinder us from approaching God?

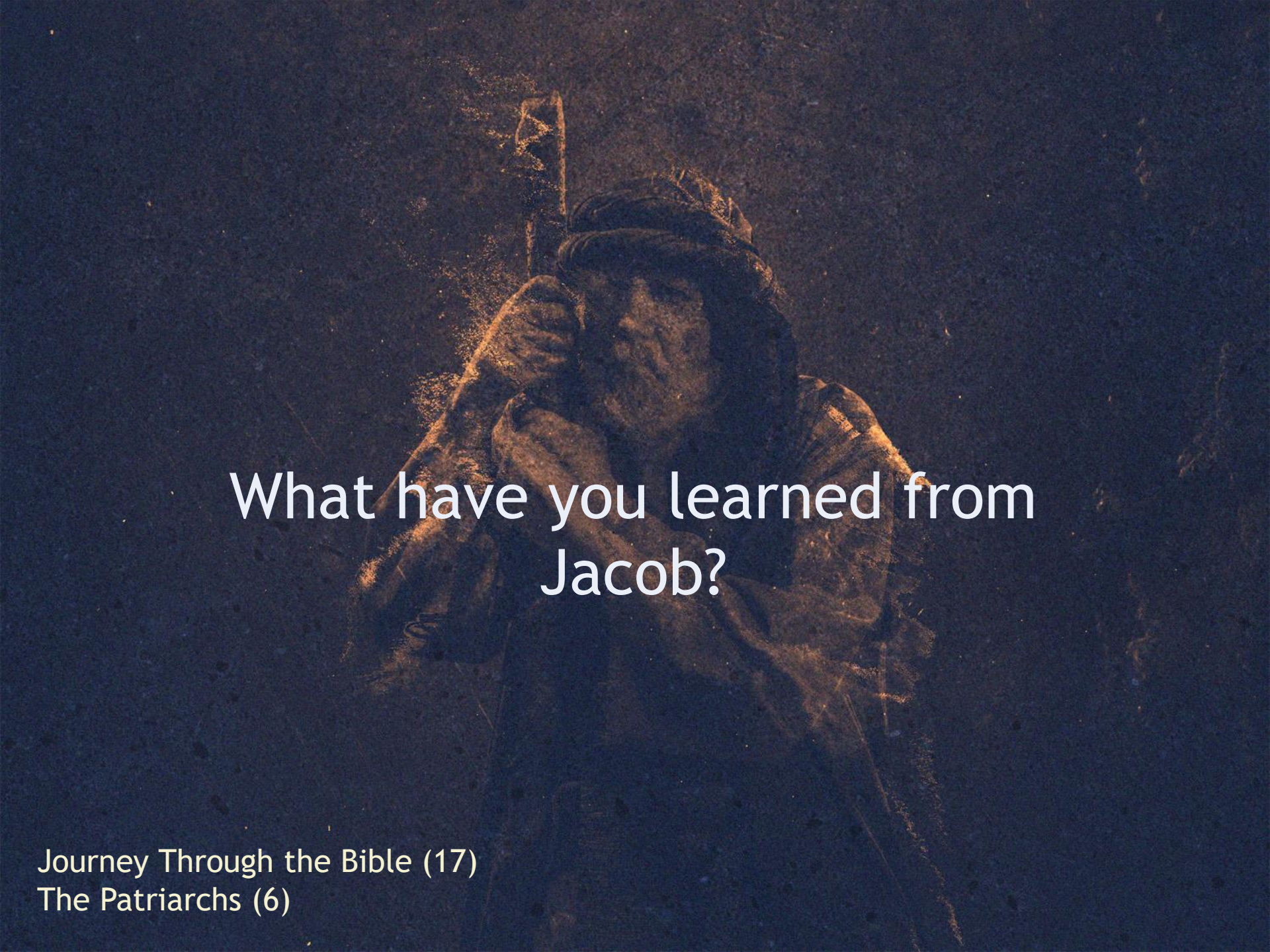
Cf. Colossians 3:5

Lessons from Jacob's Life

- **Deceit is a terrible thing**
- Deceit causes multitudes of issues
 - It hurts people, including relationships
 - If tolerated it will erode relationships and societies
 - Do not believe everything you hear!
Investigate - **1 John 4:1, Colossians 2:8**
 - God despises the deceiver -
Revelation 21:8
- **Ephesians 4:25**

Lessons from Jacob's Life

- **Favoritism, etc. also affects others**
- When we choose negative behaviors and dispositions, it WILL affect others
 - It could become a “family trait”
 - There are “victims”
 - Whether they say it or not, people KNOW you are behaving badly!Scripture addresses attitudes -
cf. Philippians 2:3-4



What have you learned from
Jacob?

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The Patriarchs (6)

Let us pray!