

GENESIS 31

tape: wn-106

THEME:

The Household of Faith

TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

The Long Way Home

INTRODUCTION;

The 20-year relationship between Jacob & Laban, now nears its end.

Jacob now greatly blessed & prosperous is about to experience a revival in his life

_____ *Knowing the will of God* _____
is revealed to us in several, united efforts by God

Genesis 31:3

Then the LORD said to Jacob, "Return to the land of your fathers and to your family, and I will be with you."

The Revelation of Gods will

Verses 1-16 Jacob's Conference

We shall see...

4 *factors come into play as Jacob contemplates going home*

#1 His desire to have his own life back home;

Chapter 30: 25-26

a definite, internal conviction of heart

Verses 1-2

#2 Laban's attitude changes;

The path taken, confirmed by outward circumstances

Verse 3

#3 God having directly spoken to him;

*waiting upon the Lord, seeking his word, God will confirm all,
by His word revealed personally.*

_____ " Return to the land of your fathers " _____

Not having the indwelling of the Holy Spirit, God spoke to them in various ways,
often coming upon them only to depart again,

Psalm 51:11

Do not cast me away from Your presence,
and do not *take Your Holy Spirit from me.*

Here God says; *Return, and I will be with"*

Jacob, this mission continues back in the land of your fathers
Back in the land of faith, *The Household of Faith*
God is never in a hurry

Verse 4&5a

Out & away from Laban's presence;

He consults with Rachel & Leah,

Seek the consultation of your wife.
God's help mate.

No Longer as Christians should there be that;

"I man, you Jane"

Galatians 3:28

There is no longer Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus.

Verses 5-12

Verse 13

I am the God of Bethel (house of God, or *God's house*)

Remember in **Chapter 28:10-22 Jacob's conversion**

I am the God of;

- This house,
- Your house,

You made a vow to me and it shall be honored.

There was a place & time when you vowed unto me;

Vowed **HEB;** *neder (neh'-der)*
To make a promise, to give your word, to dedicate your heart

The gist is;

I have been with you all along, preparing you , training you in the way you should go...

Tonight, where do you find yourself? In what condition? in what position, No matter our place, No matter our timing, we are under His watchful eye...

Verses 14-16

1 Samuel 22:2 KJV

And every one that was in distress, and every one that was in debt, and every one that was discontented, gathered themselves unto him; and he became a captain over them: and there were with him about four hundred men.

Verses 17-35 Jacob Exodus

Verse 19

Tarephim were *pagan female fertility gods*, idols

They would be placed in front of the two (a form of pornography)

Proverbs 7:16

I have decked my bed with *coverings of tapestry,*
with "carved works", with fine linen of Egypt.

Verse 20-21

#4 Obey the will of God

Confirmed by Gods provision & blessing along the way.

Ezra 7:10

For Ezra had prepared his heart to
seek the law of the LORD, *and to do it,*

The Comic Hour

Verse 30-35

Laban reveals his real motive for pursuit

(his gods are missing)

Hey, Why did you steal my gods...

The gods that I bow down too

I consult in

I lean upon for protection (Rachel sits on for protection)

- if your god needs your support, boy are you trouble.

Your god is what occupies your thought-time

- Intellect
- Power
- Cars
- Bud wiser
- Lust

In Crisis you will cry out to god.... which one

- *Bud wiser Help Me... After all This Buds for you*

Isaiah 44:10

Who would form a god or mold an
image that profits him nothing?

Psalm 115:4-8

Their gods are silver and gold, the work of men's hands. ⁵ They have mouths, but they do not speak; eyes they have, but they do not see; ⁶ They have ears, but they do not hear; Noses they have, but they do not smell; ⁷ They have hands, but they do not handle; feet they have, but they do not walk; nor do they mutter through their throat. ⁸ Those who make them are like them;.... so is everyone who trusts in them.

Verses 36-42 Jacob's Conflict

Being backslidden and in poor company
(*Laban, an idol worshipping pagan*)

The 20 years of bottled up is about to explode

Verses 43-55 Jacob's Covenant

Verse 49

Mizpah;

The Tower of watching, the Lord smite you quickly

*"I do not trust you, you do not trust me,
may God smack both of us if we try to rip each other off again*

Romans 12:18

If it is possible, as much as depends on you, live peaceably with all men.

Our Mizpah

A covenant with the past, (Past, Stay out of my way!)

Make a monorail, not to remember.

whenever your new walk with Christ comes across the path of the past,... put it away!!! " I will not pass beyond this heap to you, and you don't pass this heap and come to me"

Have you noticed that rarely does our past agree with

Our present

As a Christian, what is the number one deterrent to growth?

Our past,

the fear of former sins, the previous events, the Jacob-ness in us.

Amos 3:3

Can two walk together, except they be agreed?

Walk

HEB

yalak (yaw-lak')

to carry load, to march, or to journey

Agreed

HEB

ya`ad (yaw-ad')

to go the same direction,

to be married, to assemble, to be as one.

Philippians 3:14

I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.

Philippians 3:16

Nevertheless, to the degree that we have already attained, let us walk by the same rule, let us be of the same mind.

Yet God has established His covenant with us, His convenient is prophetic, *i.e.*:

He looks at us as completed, in faith