

THE WHOLE COUNSEL OF GOD

**A Journey Through the
Old Testament**

Romans 15:4 For everything that was written in the past was written for our instruction, so that through endurance and the encouragement of the Scriptures, we might have hope.

Lessons on Sanctification from Jacob's Life

1. **Jacob Submits to God's Discipline**
2. **Jacob Responds to the people of this world**
3. **Jacob Believes the Promises of God**

2 Peter 1

3 His divine power has given us everything we need for life and godliness through the knowledge of Him who called us by His own glory and excellence.

4 Through these He has given us His precious and magnificent promises, so that through them you may become partakers of the divine nature, now that you have escaped the corruption in the world caused by evil desires.

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Jacob's faith grows as he understands that:

God has chosen him

God is with him

God hears him

God blesses those who persevere in Him

Genesis 31

38 I have been with you for twenty years now.

Your sheep and goats have not miscarried, nor have I eaten the rams of your flock.

39 I did not bring you anything torn by wild beasts; I bore the loss myself.

And you demanded payment from me for what was stolen by day or night.

40 As it was, the heat consumed me by day and the frost by night, and sleep fled from my eyes.

Genesis 31

42 If the God of my father, the God of Abraham and the Fear of Isaac, had not been with me, surely by now you would have sent me away empty-handed.

But God has seen my affliction and the toil of my hands, and last night He rendered judgment.”

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Genesis 31

44 Come now, let us make a covenant, you and I, and let it serve as a witness between you and me.”

45 So Jacob picked out a stone and set it up as a pillar, 46 and he said to his relatives, “Gather some stones.”

So they took stones and made a mound, and there by the mound they ate.

47 Laban named it Jegar-sahadutha, but Jacob called it Galeed.

48 Then Laban declared, “This mound is a witness between you and me this day.”

Genesis 31

51 Laban also said to Jacob, “Here is the mound, and here is the pillar I have set up between you and me.

52 This mound is a witness, and this pillar is a witness, that I will not go past this mound to harm you, and you will not go past this mound and pillar to harm me.

53 May the God of Abraham and the God of Nahor, the God of their father, judge between us.”

So Jacob swore by the Fear of his father Isaac.

Genesis 31

54 Then Jacob offered a sacrifice on the mountain and invited his kinsmen to eat a meal.

And after they had eaten, they spent the night on the mountain.

55 Early the next morning, Laban got up and kissed his grandchildren and daughters and blessed them. Then he left to return home.

Lessons on Sanctification from Jacob's Life

Jacob understands that God has chosen him
and called him to separate from Laban

Lessons on Sanctification from Jacob's Life

God has chosen, called out and separated a people for
His own good pleasure

Ephesians 1

3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly realms.

4 For He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless in His presence.

In love 5 He predestined us for adoption as His sons through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of His will,

6 to the praise of His glorious grace, which He has freely given us in the Beloved One.

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Lessons on Sanctification from Jacob's Life

God has chosen, called out and separated a people for
His own good pleasure

We are to be holy as God is holy

1 Peter 1

14 As obedient children, do not conform to the passions of your former ignorance.

15 But just as He who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do,

16 for it is written: “Be holy, because I am holy.”

[Lev. 11:44]

Deuteronomy 7

5 Instead, this is what you are to do to them: tear down their altars, smash their sacred pillars, cut down their Asherah poles, and burn their idols in the fire.

6 For you are a people holy to the LORD your God. The LORD your God has chosen you to be a people for His prized possession, above all peoples on the face of the earth.

Deuteronomy 7

7 The LORD did not set His affection on you and choose you because you were more numerous than the other peoples, for you were the fewest of all peoples.

8 But because the LORD loved you and kept the oath He swore to your fathers, He brought you out with a mighty hand and redeemed you from the house of slavery, from the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt.

Lessons on Sanctification from Jacob's Life

God has chosen, called out and separated a people for
His own good pleasure

We are to be holy as God is holy

We are to receive adoption, blessing, inheritance,

According to the good pleasure of His will

The reason is for the praise of His glorious grace

1 Corinthians 1

26 Brothers, consider the time of your calling: Not many of you were wise by human standards; not many were powerful; not many were of noble birth.

27 But God chose the foolish things of the world to shame the wise; God chose the weak things of the world to shame the strong.

1 Corinthians 1

28 He chose the lowly and despised things of the world, and the things that are not, to nullify the things that are, 29 so that no one may boast in His presence.

30 It is because of Him that you are in Christ Jesus, who has become for us wisdom from God: our righteousness, holiness, and redemption.

31 Therefore, as it is written: “Let him who boasts boast in the Lord.” [Jer. 9:24]

Lessons on Sanctification from Jacob's Life

Jacob learns that God is with him

Genesis 32

1 Jacob also went on his way, and the angels of God met him.

2 When Jacob saw them, he said, “This is the camp of God.”

So he named that place Mahanaim.

[two camps]

Lessons on Sanctification from Jacob's Life

God is always with His people

Galatians 2:20 I have been crucified with Christ, and I no longer live, **but Christ lives in me.**

1 John 4:4 You, little children, are from God and have overcome them, because **greater is He who is in you** than he who is in the world.

1 Corinthians 3:16 Do you not know that you yourselves are God's temple, and that **God's Spirit dwells in you?**

Romans 15

4 For everything that was written in the past was written for our instruction, so that through endurance and the encouragement of the Scriptures, we might have hope.

Lessons on Sanctification from Jacob's Life

Jacob understands that God hears him

Genesis 32

6 When the messengers returned to Jacob, they said, “We went to your brother Esau; he is coming to meet you—he and four hundred men with him.”

7 In great fear and distress, Jacob divided his people into two camps, as well as the flocks and herds and camels.

8 He thought, “If Esau comes and attacks one camp, then the other camp can escape.”

Genesis 32

9 Then Jacob declared, “O God of my father Abraham, God of my father Isaac, the LORD who told me, ‘Go back to your country and to your kindred, and I will make you prosper,’

10 I am unworthy of all the kindness and faithfulness You have shown Your servant.

Indeed, with only my staff I came across the Jordan, but now I have become two camps.

Genesis 32

11 Please deliver me from the hand of my brother Esau, for I am afraid that he may come and attack me, and also the mothers and their children with me.

12 But You have said, ‘I will surely make you prosper, and I will make your offspring like the sand of the sea, too numerous to count.’”

Lessons on Sanctification from Jacob's Life

God hears the prayers of His people

God answers us according to His goodness and not according to our worthiness

Matthew 7: 9 Which of you, if his son asks for bread, will give him a stone?

10 Or if he asks for a fish, will give him a snake?

11 So if you who are evil know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give good things to those who ask Him!

Lessons on Sanctification from Jacob's Life

God hears the prayers of His people

God answers us according to His will

1 John 5

14 And this is the confidence that we have before Him: If we ask anything according to His will, He hears us.

15 And if we know that He hears us in whatever we ask, we know that we already possess what we have asked of Him.

Lessons on Sanctification from Jacob's Life

God blesses those who persevere in their struggle with
Him

Genesis 32

24 So Jacob was left all alone, and there a man wrestled with him until daybreak.

25 When the man saw that He could not overpower Jacob, He struck the socket of Jacob's hip and dislocated it as they wrestled.

26 Then the man said, "Let Me go, for it is daybreak."

But Jacob replied, "I will not let You go unless You bless me."

27 "What is your name?" the man asked.

"Jacob," he replied.

Genesis 32

28 Then the man said, “Your name will no longer be Jacob, but Israel, because you have struggled with God and with men, and you have prevailed.”

29 Then Jacob asked him, “Please tell me Your name.”
“Why do you ask My name?” he replied. And He blessed Jacob there.

30 So Jacob named the place Peniel, [face of God] saying, “Indeed, I have seen God face to face, and yet my life was spared.”

Lessons on Sanctification from Jacob's Life

God blesses those who persevere in their struggle with Him

Jacob wanted God's blessing (will) more than he wanted to be released from the struggle

Jacob wanted God's blessing (will) more than he cared about any permanent earthly scar

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