

JACOB'S PROSPERITY
(Genesis 29:31 – 30:43)

- I. Jacob's FAMILY (Genesis 29:31-30:24)
 - A. LEAH'S first FOUR sons (29:31-35)
 - 1. REUBEN—"Behold, a SON"
 - 2. SIMEON—"HEARING"
 - 3. LEVI—"ATTACHMENT"
 - 4. JUDAH—"PRAISE"
 - B. BILHAH'S two sons, for RACHEL (Gen. 30:1-8)
 - 1. DAN—"JUSTICE"
 - 2. NAPHTALI—"CONFLICT"
 - C. ZILPAH'S two sons, for LEAH (Gen. 30:9-13)
 - 1. GAD—"FORTUNATE"
 - 2. ASHER—"HAPPY"
 - D. Rachel's DESPERATION (Gen. 30:14-16)
 - 1. SOLD Jacob's ATTENTION to Leah
 - 2. PURCHASED an aphrodisiac
 - E. LEAH'S last two SONS and a DAUGHTER (Gen. 30:17-21)
 - 1. ISSACHAR—"REWARD"
 - 2. ZEBULUN—"DWELLING"
 - 3. A daughter, DINAH

- F. RACHEL'S sons (Gen. 30:17-21)
 - 1. JOSEPH, formed from a compound word
 - a. "TAKEN AWAY"
 - b. "MAY He ADD"
 - [2. BENJAMIN—"son of my RIGHT HAND" (Gen. 35:16-18)]

- II. Jacob's FLOCKS (Gen. 30:25-43)
 - A. Jacob's DESIRE to LEAVE (Gen. 30:25-28)
 - 1. He had FULFILLED his OBLIGATION
 - 2. Laban wanted him to STAY
 - B. Jacob's TERMS for STAYING (Gen. 30:29-34)
 - 1. Would take NOTHING that then EXISTED
 - 2. He would keep only DISCOLORED offspring
 - C. Laban's SECURITY measures (Gen. 30:35-36)
 - 1. Removed the discolored livestock HIMSELF
 - 2. Pastured the MARRED flock at a THREE DAYS' journey from the PURE flock
under Jacob's care
 - D. God's BLESSING of JACOB (Gen. 30:37-43)
 - 1. He enhanced the flocks' breeding FREQUENCY
 - 2. He kept the discolored lambs SEPARATE
 - 3. GOD enriched JACOB

- III. Lessons
 - A. "Spiritual" COMPETITION is DESTRUCTIVE
 - B. We must learn to be CONTENT with God's WORK in us and God's PROVISION for us