

JACOB'S JOURNEY HOME
(Genesis 35:1-29)

- I. CALLED Back to Bethel (Gen. 35:1-4)
 - A. Communication from GOD (35:1)
 - 1. MOVE to Bethel, and build an ALTAR there
 - 2. Remember your FEAR of ESAU
 - B. OBEDIENCE of Jacob (35:2-4)
 - 1. Remove elements of FALSE WORSHIP
 - 2. Be CLEAN and change CLOTHES
 - C. DEVOTION of Jacob
 - 1. Credits God with GUIDANCE and PROTECTION
 - 2. BURIED the CULT objects under a tree in Shechem
- II. RETURNING to Bethel (Gen. 35:5-8)
 - A. PROTECTION on the way (35:5-6)
 - B. CONSTRUCTION of the altar (35:7)
 - 1. Names it "The STRONG God of the HOUSE of God"
 - 2. Emphasizes the GOD of the place, not the PLACE ITSELF
 - C. BURIAL of Deborah, Rebekah's NURSE (35:8)
 - 1. Rebekah is probably DEAD
 - 2. Proves Jacob had CONTACT with ISAAC'S household
 - 3. Indicates Deborah was LOVED by the family

- III. CONFIRMATION of the Promise (Gen. 35:9-13)
 - A. God BLESSES Jacob (35:9)
 - B. God reminds Jacob of his NAME CHANGE (35:10-11a)
 - 1. He was STILL God’s REPRESENTATIVE
 - 2. God identifies Himself as “ALMIGHTY God”
 - C. God tells Jacob to “be FRUITFUL and MULTIPLY” (35:11b)
 - D. God restates His PROMISE (35:11c-13)
- IV. CONSECRATION to God (Gen. 35:14-15)
 - A. Erected a stone MONUMENT (35:14a)
 - B. Anointed it with OIL and a DRINK offering (35:14b)
- V. More HEARTACHE (Gen. 35:16-22a)
 - A. Benjamin’s BIRTH (35:16-18)
 - B. Rachel’s DEATH, and her burial at BETHLEHEM (35:19-20)
 - C. SHAME at Eder: Reuben’s INTERCOURSE with Bilhah
- VI. Finally HOME (Gen. 35:22b-29; 37:1-2a)
 - A. List of Jacob’s SONS (35:23-26)
 - B. Arrival in HEBRON (35:27)
 - C. The DEATH of Isaac at age 180 (35:28-29)
- VII. Lessons
 - A. An important example in WORSHIP
 - B. Encouragement to trust God’s LEADERSHIP and GOODNESS despite TRIALS