

Sermon Notes



Title: "Jacob Hits the Jackpot"

Text: Genesis 30:25-43

Theme: Jacob's real jackpot was not the sheep, the goats, the servants, or the camels and the donkeys. Jacob's real jackpot was the LORD his God. Likewise, your riches are Christ Jesus and because of Him - the body of Christ.

I. Jacob Bargains for His _____ (25-34)

A. Jacob's Request for _____ (25-26)

B. Laban's _____ (27-28)

C. Jacob's _____ (29-34)

II. Jacob's Flocks _____ than Laban's Flocks (35-43)

A. Laban's _____ (35-36)

B. Jacob's _____ (37-42)

C. Jacob's _____ (43)

III. Applications

A. God rules and _____ the schemes and plans that people in order to bring about a _____ for all of His people.

B. God _____ for His people and often more _____ than we ask or think, but our _____ cannot be in _____ things.

C. We now live in the _____ of the New Covenant in which the promise of God has been _____.

Questions to Discuss and Consider at Home or in Small Group:

1. After Rachel gave birth to Joseph, what did Jacob desire to do (v. 25)?
2. What did Jacob ask from Laban (v. 26)?
3. What was Laban's response (vv. 27-28)?
4. What was Jacob's major concern in this negotiation with Laban (v. 30b)?
5. What was Jacob's counteroffer (vv. 31b-33)?
6. Did Laban agree to Jacob's offer (v. 34)?
7. To ensure that Jacob did not have an easy time of collecting his profit, what did Laban do (vv. 35-36)?
8. What was Jacob's idea that he thought would help produce speckled and spotted offspring (vv. 37-39)?
9. What were the results of Jacob's experiment (vv. 40-42)?
10. What was the end result for Jacob (v. 43)?
11. Why do you think Laban agreed to Jacob's offer for wages?
12. Some people have suggested that this passage teaches a false and superstitious view of genetics. How would you answer the critic who asserts this?
13. Jacob wanted to return home after Joseph was born but his mercenary father-in-law prevailed upon him to stay. How did God use this change of plans to Jacob's advantage?
14. How have you experienced God's using a change of your plans or a detour in your schedule to bless you?
15. Assess Jacob's offer to be paid by commission rather than on salary. Was he being greedy? Did you think his motives were wrong? What attitude should we have toward money and riches?
16. How have you seen God provide for your needs? Why do you think the LORD has allowed you to be in need at times?
17. Why do you think God materially prospers some people and not others?
18. Where do you find your highest riches in life?
19. In what ways is the New Covenant richer than the older covenant? (See Hebrews 7:19, 22; 8:6; 9:23; 10:34; 11:40; 12:24; *Westminster Confession of Faith*, 7.6 and 20.1)
20. What is meant by the "Prosperity Gospel"? How is it a perversion of the gospel of Christ?