

Intro:

Main Point of Text: Jacob's joyful journey and arrival show that God's promises and providence always prevail.

Sermon Point: *Joy cometh after mourning.*

Move 1: Meditate on God's gracious promises to you in Jesus Christ.

Vs. 1: Hebrew: Jacob "Lifted on his feet". Sense of vigor in his step. Jumping up to get back on the road. Relieved and refreshed by vision of God: gracious promises of Abraham and Isaac are his too.

Move 2: Trust that God's providence is always being worked out for you.

Vss. 4-6. So similar to when sent for Isaac's wife: at a well watering flocks; servant/Jacob observing/asking questions; Rebekah/Rachel's service/reporting; Laban's pursuit both times. Jacob must be marveling at all the similar/striking "coincidences". Not chance!

First woman met is Rachel! Vss. 10, 12-13: emphasis on family connections. Divine connection.

Move 3: Rejoice when God provides after waiting on Him through your dark days.

Vss. 11-12. Overjoyed to meet family! Wife?! Took care of her sheep, then couldn't contain himself. Keil and Delitzsch: "carried away w/ feelings of relationship." Laban responds in kind: vss. 13-14.

Conclusion:

Joy cometh after mourning.