

# Let's Worship God

20th-25th February 2023  
Genesis



# Genesis

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### **Monday - Genesis 35:1-5 - God's Protection**

Jacob's family have put themselves in danger through their slaughter and plunder of the men and city of Shechem. It is probably with great relief that Jacob hears the command of God to move on away from this place where such terrible things have happened. In Genesis 28:20-22, Jacob makes a vow to God at Bethel when he sees the heavenly vision of a ladder with angels. He promises that if God brings him safely back to Canaan, he will return to Bethel and worship God there. God has done more than just keep Jacob safe, He has blessed him abundantly, and now God is reminding Jacob of his vow. God reminds those He loves, through their reading and hearing of His Word, how they should be obeying Him.

Jacob commands his family to prepare for the worship of God. We should always prepare ourselves before we come to worship God. Heads of households especially are responsible to see that their families are prepared to worship God. Sadly, Jacob's household must be told to put away strange gods. Perhaps these are the ones Rachel stole from Laban, or maybe they are ones that have been plundered from the Shechemites. Either way, they have to go, and we can only wonder why Jacob hasn't gotten rid of them earlier.

Even though the Canaanites are probably really annoyed with how the Israelites treated the Shechemites, God's hand is holding them back and keeping Jacob safe. When we are being obedient to God, doing His work, we are under His protection and nothing can harm us.

### **Questions**

1. Where was Jacob supposed to go?
2. What did he tell his family to do?
3. Why were they safe on their journey?

### **Prayer Points**

1. Pray that God would remind us constantly to obey Him.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

### **Memory Verse**

And God said to him, "Your name is Jacob; no longer shall your name be called Jacob, but Israel shall be your name." So he called his name Israel. Genesis 35:10

**Praise: Psalm 145 - See [www.rpglobalalliance.org](http://www.rpglobalalliance.org) for Psalm tune helps.**



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## **Tuesday - Genesis 35:6-15 - The Covenant Made to Jacob**

When Jacob and his family safely get to Bethel, he builds an altar probably thanking God for His mercies to him and asking for His continued blessing. God appears to Jacob here at Bethel a second time. He confirms that He has changed his name to Israel.

Then God renews the covenant with him. God is God Almighty, able to keep His promises in His time, and to support and take care of Jacob and his family in the mean time. Two things are promised to Jacob. First, Israel will be the father of a great nation - great in number and great in honour and power. Second, he will be the master of a good land, the land of Canaan, which will be the inheritance of his children. Both of these promises have a spiritual significance which Jacob may not have understood as clearly as we can for Christ is the greatest promised descendant, the one who will save His people from their sins and take them to heaven, the promised land.

Jacob set up a memorial of this vision by setting up a pillar and making offerings upon it. He confirms the name of the place as Bethel, the house of God.

### **Questions**

1. What does Jacob do when he gets to Bethel?
2. What does God promise Jacob?
3. What does the name 'Bethel' mean?
4. What does Jacob do after his vision?

### **Prayer Points**

1. Give thanks that God keeps His promises.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters

### **Memory Verse**

And God said to him, "Your name is Jacob; no longer shall your name be called Jacob, but Israel shall be your name." So he called his name Israel. Genesis 35:10

**Praise: Psalm 146 - See [www.rpglobalalliance.org](http://www.rpglobalalliance.org) for Psalm tune helps.**

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### **Wednesday - Genesis 35:16-20 - Death of a Beloved Wife**

Jacob has travelled to Bethel and worshiped God just as he promised he would do if God brought him safely back to Canaan. God has appeared to Jacob in a vision promising him many descendants and the land of Canaan as an inheritance. However, these promises are not going to be immediately fulfilled, and for now Jacob and his family are to be wandering herdsmen in Canaan, moving about from place to place.

As they are journeying towards Bethlehem, Rachel goes into labour. It is a very hard labour, and the midwife tries to encourage Rachel by telling her that she is going to have another son. But the cost of this long-awaited child is Rachel's life, and she names her son Ben-Oni, which means 'the son of my sorrow'. But Jacob does not want to remember his beloved wife's death every time he says the name of his son, so he renames him Benjamin which means 'the son of my right hand.' He sees Benjamin as being a very dear blessing to him and a support in his old age.

Jacob buries Rachel near the place where she dies, and we can be sure that he mourns greatly for the one to whom his seven years of work 'seemed like only a few days to him because of his great love for her.' Jacob sets up a pillar upon her grave, and years later this area will fall into the lot of Benjamin. Jacob has set up a pillar in Bethel in remembrance of his joys, and now he sets one up in remembrance of his sorrows.

### **Questions**

1. What happens to Rachel?
2. What does she name her son and what does it mean?
3. What does Jacob rename him and what does it mean?

### **Prayer Points**

1. Give thanks for the gift of children.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters

### **Memory Verse**

And God said to him, "Your name is Jacob; no longer shall your name be called Jacob, but Israel shall be your name." So he called his name Israel. Genesis 35:10

**Praise: Psalm 147 - See [www.rpglobalalliance.org](http://www.rpglobalalliance.org) for Psalm tune helps.**

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## Thursday - Genesis 35:21-29 - The Death of a Father

Jacob never stays long in one place, just like his father Isaac and his grandfather Abraham. They are just travellers in the promised land, but one day their descendants will settle where they wander. Immediately after Rachel's death, Jacob is here referred to as Israel, someone who has struggled with God and overcome, the covenant name God has given him.

Jacob's sinful children continue to be a source of worry, trouble, and grief. This time it is Reuben, the firstborn, who disrupts the family. Because of his sin, he will lose his birthright and blessing, and he has brought sadness to his father. Sin never pays.

Finally, Jacob comes to visit his father who lives to be 180 years old. He has lived about 40 years after he has made his will, but now at his death, his two sons, driven apart by his will, come together to bury him. It is amazing how God has worked in the mind and heart of Esau, who had vowed to kill his brother once Isaac was dead, and is now joining with him in the burial process.

### Questions

1. What is Jacob's covenant name?
2. Who in Jacob's family commits a great sin?
3. What are the long-term consequences of this sin?
4. How old is Isaac when he dies?

### Prayer Points

1. Pray that we would avoid sin.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

### Memory Verse

And God said to him, "Your name is Jacob; no longer shall your name be called Jacob, but Israel shall be your name." So he called his name Israel. Genesis 35:10

**Praise: Psalm 148 - See [www.rpglobalalliance.org](http://www.rpglobalalliance.org) for Psalm tune helps.**

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## Friday - Genesis 36:1-19 - Children of Esau

It's easy to get bogged down in genealogies and difficult names in this chapter, but we must remember that all of Scripture is important and worthwhile - even the lists of names.

Esau is called Edom (meaning red) here which reminds us of the foolish bargain he made to sell his birthright in exchange for some red stew. It also reminds us that Esau in despising God's covenant blessings, even though he may be rich and have many descendants, does not have the thing that really matters - a relationship with God.

Even though Esau sins by having three wives, these wives only bear him 5 sons. But God is still going to bless Esau with many descendants. God also gives to Esau the land of Mount Seir. Even the Israelites are not to take this land away from the Edomites (children of Edom). God's word is accomplished, and Esau is removed from Canaan leaving it for Jacob.

Only the names of Esau's sons and grandsons are recorded not their history, for it is the Church, God's people, that we are given the record of in the Bible, not those outside God's Kingdom. These descendants of Esau were called chiefs, possibly because they were men of war, with soldiers under them, while Jacob's descendants are still just humble shepherds. We should not put too much value in titles for it is a person's relationship with God that is the most important thing.

### Questions

1. What does Edom mean?
2. How many sons did Esau have?
3. What title did Esau's descendants have?

### Prayer Points

1. Pray that our children would value their covenant blessings.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

### Memory Verse

And God said to him, "Your name is Jacob; no longer shall your name be called Jacob, but Israel shall be your name." So he called his name Israel. Genesis 35:10

**Praise: Psalm 149 - See [www.rpglobalalliance.org](http://www.rpglobalalliance.org) for Psalm tune helps.**

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## **Saturday - Genesis 36:20-43 - Descendants of Esau**

In the middle of this genealogy of the Edomites there is inserted the genealogy of the Horites, those Canaanites that were natives of Mount Seir. The Edomites intermarried with them and went even farther away from obedience to God and picked up many idolatrous practices. Esau has sold his birthright, lost his blessing, married pagan women, and intermixed his family with the heathen Horites, so now he is seen as just another Canaanite tribe. And this is the grandson of Abraham and the son of Isaac. This should be a warning to us that no matter how godly our relatives are, we are each responsible for our own personal relationship with God.

By degrees, it seems, the Edomites wormed out the Horites, obtaining full possession of the country, and having a government of their own. They even set up kings to reign over them having already rejected the idea of having God as their king. They have the land of Mount Seir as their possession, while the children of Israel must wait for their land of promise. Often unbelievers seem to have many joys and blessings in this world, while believers must continue to wait for them. But it is far better to wait for the fulfilment of God's promises, than be satisfied with the riches of the world.

### **Questions**

1. What tribe did the Edomites mix with?
2. Who was Esau's grandfather?
3. Where did the Edomites live?

### **Prayer Points**

1. Pray for the preaching and hearing of God's Word tomorrow.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

### **Memory Verse**

And God said to him, "Your name is Jacob; no longer shall your name be called Jacob, but Israel shall be your name." So he called his name Israel. Genesis 35:10

**Praise: Psalm 150 - See [www.rppglobalalliance.org](http://www.rppglobalalliance.org) for Psalm tune helps.**

The goal of Let's Worship God is to encourage and help you in your worship of God each day.

**God tells us that  
Ezra read from  
the book of the Law  
day after day  
and that  
the people of God  
were filled with joy!**

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