

Introduction

The final section of Genesis explains four main points:

1. How God protected Jacob's 12 sons from intermarrying with unfaithful foreigners
2. How Jacob's family ended up living in Egypt
3. How Judah came to be chosen as the family of kings
4. How discord in Jacob's family was healed by grace and repentance

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This year we are memorizing Isaiah 40. This week's verse is Isaiah 40:6...
"A voice says, "Call out." Then he answered, "What shall I call out?"
All flesh is grass, and all its loveliness is like the flower of the field."

Day One

Note: Our study this year is an overview of the Old Testament, and this week's focus is looking at God's redemptive thread in Genesis 24-50 through the lives of Isaac, Jacob, and Judah.

*Read Genesis 25:1–27:46; **The Promise Passes to Jacob***

1. Remembering last week's lesson and lecture, what was God's purpose in making the Abrahamic covenant?
 - a. Despite the many times Abraham and Sarah put the promise in jeopardy, what can be learned about God's character and sovereignty through these events?
 - b. How does that have a practical impact on your walk with the Lord this past week?
2. According to Genesis 25:21–23, why did Isaac pray for Rebekah, what did Rebekah inquire of the Lord, and what was the Lord's response?
3. From Genesis 25:27–34, what did Esau's sale of his birthright reveal about his heart?
 - a. Read Genesis 28:6–9. What did Esau's choice of wives also reveal about his heart?
4. In Genesis 26:3–5, God reaffirms with Isaac the covenant He had made with Abraham. What three elements did God once again promise to His people?
5. In Genesis 27:5–29, what did Isaac's choice to bless Esau reveal about his heart?
 - a. How did Jacob and Rebekah respond to Isaac's intent to give Esau his blessing, and what did that reveal about *their* hearts?
 - b. What do you think they should they have done?

6. In these two chapters, how is God's sovereignty displayed despite the sinful choices of Isaac and his family?

Day Two

*Read Genesis 28:1–30:43; **Jacob Sojourns with Laban***

1. From Genesis 28:1–2, where did Isaac direct Jacob to go, and why?
 - a. Why was the choice of wives for Isaac and Jacob so important?
2. In verses 3–4, what were the elements of Isaac's blessing of Jacob? How does that connect with verses 13–14 and how is God's character shown through this?
 - a. In verses 18–22, how did Jacob respond?
3. From Genesis 29:21–30:24, write out a family tree for Jacob and his wives and concubines.
4. According to this account, Rachel experienced a time of barrenness, like Sarah and Rebekah before her. How do you think this might relate to the covenant promise?
5. From Genesis 30:25–43, how did God bless Jacob during his time with Laban?

Day Three

*Read Genesis 31–35 and 37; **Jacob Returns Home***

1. Briefly describe what took place in Genesis 32:24–30. What do you think is the significance of this episode?
2. From Genesis 34 and 35:22, how did Reuben disqualify himself from the privileges of Jacob's firstborn son?
 - a. According to 34:25, how did Simeon and Levi, Jacob's next oldest sons, also disqualify themselves?
3. In Genesis 35:11–12, what did God once again promise Jacob? Why is it significant that the promise was repeated so often throughout the history recorded in Genesis?
4. From Genesis 37:1–11, describe why Joseph's brothers hated him.
 - a. According to verses 25–27, what role did Judah play in this account?

Day Four

*Read Genesis 38 and 43–44, skim 39–42; **Judah and Tamar; Judah and Joseph***

1. From Genesis 38, describe the spiritual condition of Judah and his family.

- a. In Genesis 38:1–2, what did Judah do? Do you think his actions were right, based on the marriages of Isaac and Jacob?
2. From this text, why do you think Tamar's actions more righteous than Judah's?
3. From verses 27–30, who were the sons of Tamar and Judah? From Ruth 4:18–22, what is the significance of that firstborn son and what does that reveal about God?
4. From Genesis 43:1–9, do you see any evidence that Judah's heart had changed? Explain your answer.
5. Briefly describe what took place in Genesis 42–43, and what Joseph's test revealed about Judah and the other brothers.

Day Five

*Read Genesis 46 and 48–50; **Jacob's Blessing***

1. According to Genesis 46, what was God's purpose in bringing Jacob and his sons to Egypt? Remember Genesis 46:1–4 and 46:34.
2. From Genesis 49:8–12, list four aspects of Jacob's blessing and prophecy about Judah.
3. As the Old Testament revelation progresses, so does God's revelation of Himself. Summarize what you have learned about God in the book of Genesis, making particular note of Creation, the Flood, and God's relationship with the Patriarchs.
 - a. What implications does this have for you today?
4. In your own words, summarize the book of Genesis in 2–3 sentences.
5. What is the ultimate purpose of the Abrahamic covenant and how does it relate to believers today?