

JACOB “Flight from Laban”

Genesis 31:1-55

What did Jacob hear Laban’ sons saying? v.1

What does he notice about Laban? v.2

What did the Lord say to Jacob? v.3

In all that is told us about Jacob during the twenty years he spent at Padan-Aram there was not a word which intimates any dealings with God during that time. There is no mention of any “altar,” no reference to prayer. But Jehovah had not forgotten him.”

What does he tell Leah and Rachel? vv.4-13
About Laban _____

About God _____

“Very definitely God identifies Himself to Jacob as the one who formerly had appeared at Bethel and to whom Jacob had anointed a pillar and vowed a vow. This is another way of saying that what He had promised then to do for Jacob is now actually being done. For assuredly, but for divine interference Jacob would have suffered irreparable loss. . .The time for departure is at hand.”

“Exposition of Genesis” H.C. Leupold p.835

How do they respond? vv.14-16

What does Jacob do? vv.17-21

What does Rachel do? v.19

“Scholars tell us that word “teraphim” may be traced to a Syrian root which means “to enquire” This explains the reason why Rachel took with her these family gods when her husband stole away surreptitiously from her home – it was to prevent her father from ‘enquiring’ of these idol oracles and thus discovering the direction in which they had gone.” “Exposition of Genesis” H.C. Leupold p.839

“To have the teraphim may have meant the right to inheritance; it certainly meant Laban was without what he thought was his protection.” “The Bible Knowledge Commentary” Walvoord and Zuck p.78

When and what does Laban do? vv.22-23

The distance covered by Jacob: the total distance to the fringes of Mount Gilead were 275 miles.

What does God tell him in a dream? v.24

What does he accuse Jacob of? v.25-30

What is Jacob’s answer? vv.31-32

How does Rachel deceive her father? vv.33-35

How does Jacob defend himself? vv.36-42

What is he guilty of? _____

How long has he served Laban? _____

How well has he served Laban? _____

Why has he prospered? _____

What does Laban insist is his? v.43

What does he propose? v.44

What does Jacob and his men do? vv.45-47

What meaning does Laban give to this "heap"? vv.49-54

"In expressing the stipulations of the agreement, Laban used many words to cover up his untrustworthiness. The undependable man was trying to convey that Jacob was a slippery character who had to be bound by a whole series of stipulations. Laban tried to terrify Jacob as though he were ungodly and needed to be threatened. Both the boundary settlement and wives' rights show that Laban and Jacob wanted to confirm the status quo. But the treaty also marked a break with the East for the family of Israel. In their last confrontation God appeared to Jacob and to Laban in dreams for the purpose of separating them."

"The Bible Knowledge Commentary" Walvoord and Zuck p.79