

RIGHTEOUS PAYBACK ~ Genesis 30:25-43

➔ Scripture Reading - Genesis 30:25-30

TIME TO GO HOME! ~ Genesis 30:25-30

[25] After Rachel gave birth to Joseph, Jacob said to Laban, "Send me on my way so I can go back to my own homeland. [26] Give me my wives and children, for whom I have served you, and I will be on my way. [26] Give me my wives and children, for whom I have SERVED you, and I will be on my way. You know how much WORK I've done for you." [27] But Laban said to him, "If I have found favor in your eyes, please stay. I have learned by DIVINATION that the LORD has blessed me because of you." [28] He added, "Name your wages, and I will pay them." [29] Jacob said to him, "You know how I have worked for you and how your livestock has fared under my care. [30] The little you had before I came has increased greatly, and the LORD has blessed you wherever I have been. But now, when may I do something for my own household?"

NEGOTIATING WAGES ~ Genesis 30:31-36

[31] "What shall I give you?" he asked. "Don't give me anything," Jacob replied. "But if you will do this one thing for me, I will go on tending your flocks and watching over them: [32] Let me go through all your flocks TODAY and REMOVE from them every speckled or spotted sheep, every dark-colored lamb and every spotted or speckled goat. They WILL BE my wages.

MY WAGES WILL BE...

- ALL the Black or Dark SHEEP
- ALL the Speckled Spotted or Streaked GOATS

[33] And my honesty will testify for me in the future, whenever you check on the wages you have paid me. Any goat in my possession that is not speckled or spotted, OR any lamb that is not dark-colored, will be considered STOLEN." [34] "Agreed," said Laban. "Let it be as you have said." [35] That same day he removed all the male goats that were streaked or spotted, and all the speckled or spotted female goats (all that had white on them) and all the dark-colored lambs, and he placed them in the care of his sons. [36] Then he put a three-day journey between himself and Jacob, while Jacob continued to tend the rest of Laban's flocks.

It was an act of pure FAITH on his part. He had put himself entirely at God's mercy. It would be up to the Lord to indicate, by a very unlikely set of circumstances, whether Jacob should prosper personally or not. Holman OT Com

GOD'S ABUNDANT BLESSING ~ Genesis 30:37-43

[37] Jacob, however, took fresh-cut branches from poplar, almond and plane trees and made white stripes on them by peeling the bark and exposing the white inner wood of the branches. [38] Then he placed the peeled branches in all the watering troughs, so that they would be directly in front of the flocks when they came to drink. When the flocks were in heat and came to drink, [39] they mated in front of the branches. And they bore young that were streaked or speckled or spotted.

Genesis 31:10-12 (NIV) "In breeding season I once had a dream in which I looked up and saw that the male goats mating with the flock were streaked, speckled or spotted. [11] The angel of God said to me in the dream, 'Jacob.' I answered, 'Here I am.' [12] And he said, 'Look up and see that all the male goats mating with the flock are streaked, speckled or spotted, for I have seen all that Laban has been doing to you.

[40] Jacob set apart the young of the flock by themselves, but made the rest face the streaked and dark-colored animals that belonged to Laban. Thus he made separate flocks for himself and did not put them with Laban's animals. [41] Whenever the stronger females were in heat, Jacob would place the branches in the troughs in front of the animals so they would mate near the branches, [42] but if the animals were weak, he would not place them there. So the weak animals went to Laban and the strong ones to Jacob. [43] In this way the man grew exceedingly prosperous and came to own large flocks, and maidservants and menservants, and camels and donkeys.

Genesis 28:20-21 (NIV) ...If God will be with me and will watch over me on this journey I am taking and will give me food to eat and clothes to wear [21] so that I return safely to my father's house, then the LORD will be my God...

APPLICATION

Proverbs 3:5-6 (NLT) Trust in the LORD with all your heart; do not depend on your own understanding. [6] Seek his will in all you do, and he will show you which path to take.

APPLICATION

GOD BLESSES US BY...

➤ REVEALING HIMSELF to Us when we Focus on Him and Pursue Him

Jeremiah 29:13-14 (NET) When you SEEK ME in prayer and worship, you will FIND ME available to you. **If you SEEK ME with ALL your heart and soul**, [14] I will make myself available to you,' says the LORD. 'Then I will reverse your plight and will regather you from all the nations and all the places where I have exiled you,' says the LORD. 'I will bring you back to the place from which I exiled you.'

Hebrews 11:6 (NIV)... he rewards those who earnestly seek Him.

➤ REWARDING our Obedience, Diligence, and Hard work

1 Timothy 6:17-18 (HCS) Instruct those who are rich in the present age **NOT to be arrogant** or to set their **HOPE on the uncertainty of wealth**, BUT ON GOD, who richly **provides us with ALL things to enjoy**. [18] Instruct them to do what is good, to be RICH IN GOOD WORKS, to **BE GENEROUS, willing to share...**

➤ Fulfilling HIS PLAN for us in spite of a sin-filled world around us

1 Peter 4:19 (NIV) So then, those who suffer according to God's will should commit themselves to their faithful Creator and continue to do good.

TAKE AWAY ??

Romans 8:31 (NIV) ...If God is FOR US, who can be AGAINST us?

Psalms 46:1-2 (NIV) God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear...

Psalms 139:23-24 (NLT) Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts. Point out anything in me that offends you...