

SEEKING RECONCILIATION ~ Genesis 32:1-21

MESSENGRS SENT DIRECTLY TO ESAU ~ Genesis 32:1-8

[1] Jacob also went on his way, and the angels of God met him. [2] When Jacob saw them, he said, "This is the camp of God!" So he named that place Mahanaim.

Esau did not block his way, for he had settled far to the south at Mount Seir in Edom. Thus it was the spiritual necessity of making things right with his brother that drove Jacob. Hughes

[3] Jacob sent messengers ahead of him to his brother Esau in the land of Seir, the country of Edom. [4] He instructed them: "This is what you are to say to my master Esau: 'Your servant Jacob says, I have been staying with Laban and have remained there till now. [5] I have cattle and donkeys, sheep and goats, menservants and maidservants. Now I am sending this message to my lord, that I may find FAVOR in your eyes.'"

JACOB SENDS MESSENGERS TO ESAU IVP Bible Background

- I have been Uncle Laban 20 yrs.
- I have cattle, donkeys, sheep & goats, male & female servants
- I'm sending a message to

[6] When the messengers returned to Jacob, they said, "We went to your brother Esau, and now he is coming to meet you, and FOUR HUNDRED MEN ARE WITH HIM." [7] In GREAT FEAR and DISTRESS Jacob divided the people who were with him into two groups, and the flocks and herds and camels as well. [8] He thought, "If Esau comes and attacks one group, the group that is left may escape."

APPLICATION

Genesis 27:43-45 (NIV) Now then, my son, do what I say: Flee at once to my brother Laban in Haran. [44] Stay with him for a while until your brother's fury subsides. [45] **When your brother is no longer angry with you and forgets what you did to him, I'll send word for you to come back** from there...

God is saying - this is the thing to do - pursue with Esau

Psalms 34:4-8 (NIV) I sought the LORD, and he answered me; he delivered me from all my fears. [5] Those who look to him are radiant; their faces are never covered with shame. [6] This poor man called, and the LORD heard him; he saved him out of all his troubles. [7] The angel of the LORD encamps around those who fear him, and he delivers them. [8] Taste and see that the LORD is good; blessed is the man who takes refuge in him.

JACOB'S PRAYER ~ Genesis 32:9-12

[9] Then Jacob prayed, "O God of my father Abraham, God of my father Isaac, O LORD, who said to me, 'Go back to your country and your relatives, and I will make you prosper,' [10] I am unworthy of all the kindness and faithfulness you have shown your servant. I had only my staff when I crossed this Jordan, but now I have become two groups. [11] Save me, I pray, from the hand of my brother Esau, for I am afraid he will come and attack me, and also the mothers with their children. [12] But you have said, 'I will surely make you prosper and will make your descendants like the sand of the sea, which cannot be counted.'"

APPLICATION

Jacob's prayer is

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JACOB'S PRAYER

- remembers God is and He has done
- remembers God has Commanded
- admits he's of God's blessings
- for God's help
- admits his FEAR

➔ before God - is NOT praying with a clenched fist - but with a head

SENDING GIFTS AHEAD ~ Genesis 32:13-21

[13] He spent the night there, and from what he had with him he selected a gift for his brother Esau: [14] two hundred female goats and twenty male goats, two hundred ewes and twenty rams, [15] thirty female camels with their young, forty cows and ten bulls, and twenty female donkeys and ten male donkeys. [16] He put them in the care of his servants, each herd by itself, and said to his servants, "Go ahead of me, and keep some space between the herds." [17] He instructed the one in the lead: "When my brother Esau meets you and asks, 'To whom do you belong, and where are you going, and who owns all these animals in front of you?' [18] then you are to say, 'They belong to your servant Jacob. They are a gift sent to my lord Esau, and he is coming behind us.'" [19] He also instructed the second, the third and all the others who followed the herds: "You are to say the same thing to Esau when you meet him. [20] And be sure to say, 'Your servant Jacob is coming behind us.'" For he thought, "I will PACIFY him with these gifts I am sending on ahead; later, when I see him, perhaps he will receive me." [21] So Jacob's gifts went on ahead of him, but he himself spent the night in the camp.

JACOB'S TACTICS IVP Bible Background

- Five groups
- Each additional gift Esau and his men
- Esau now has a number of Jacob's with him

TAKE AWAY ??

WHAT DOES TRUE REPENTANCE LOOK LIKE?

- you are
- to be
- Make
- Ask for a Relationship

Romans 12:17-18 (ESV) Repay no one evil for evil, but give thought to do what is honorable in the sight of all. [18] If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all.