

## **Genesis 32:3-4 (HCS)**

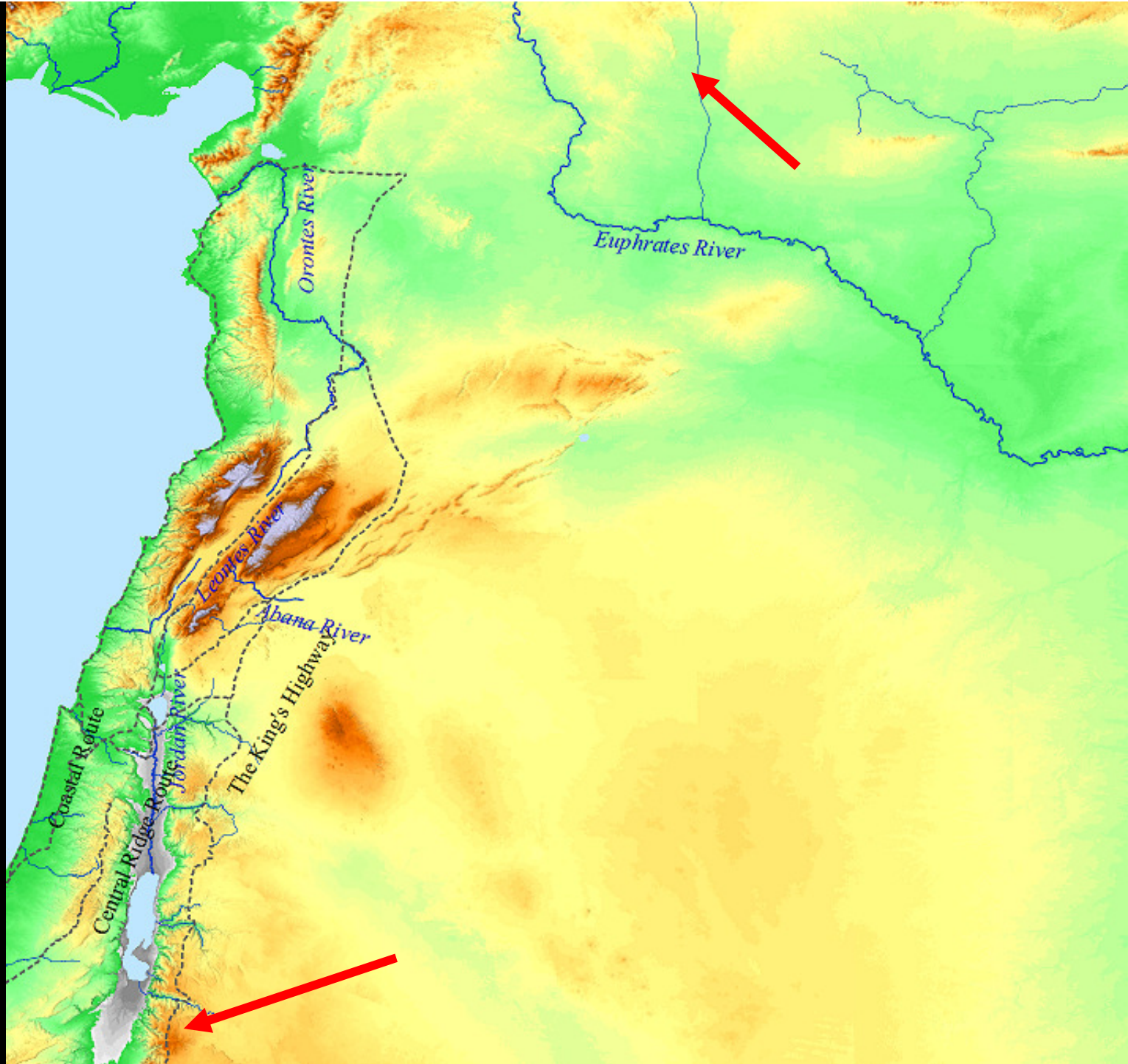
**[3] Jacob sent messengers ahead of him to his brother Esau in the land of Seir, the country of Edom. [4] He commanded them, “You are to say to my lord Esau, ‘This is what your servant Jacob says. I have been staying with Laban and have been delayed until now.**

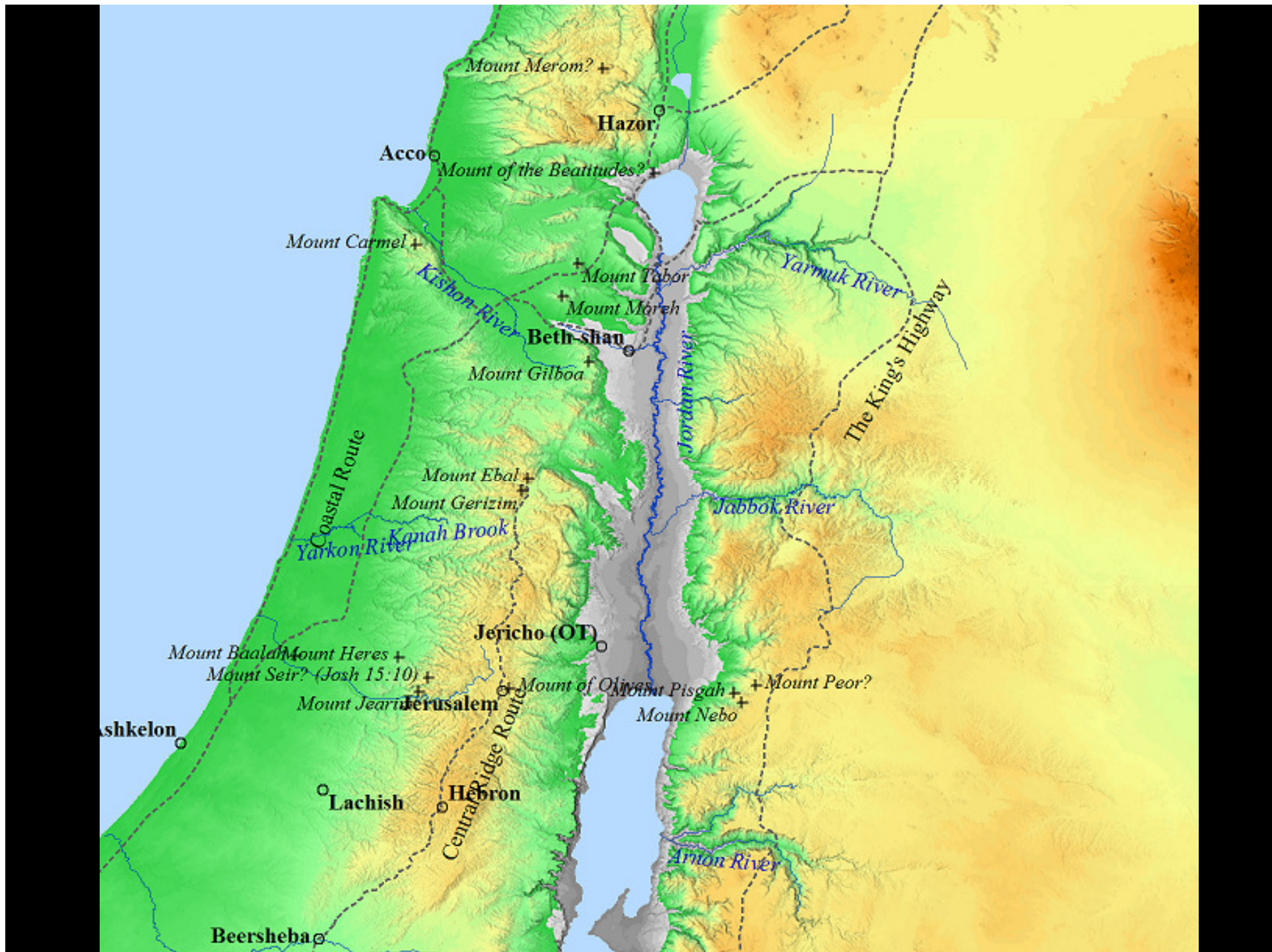
## **Genesis 32:5-6 (HCS)**

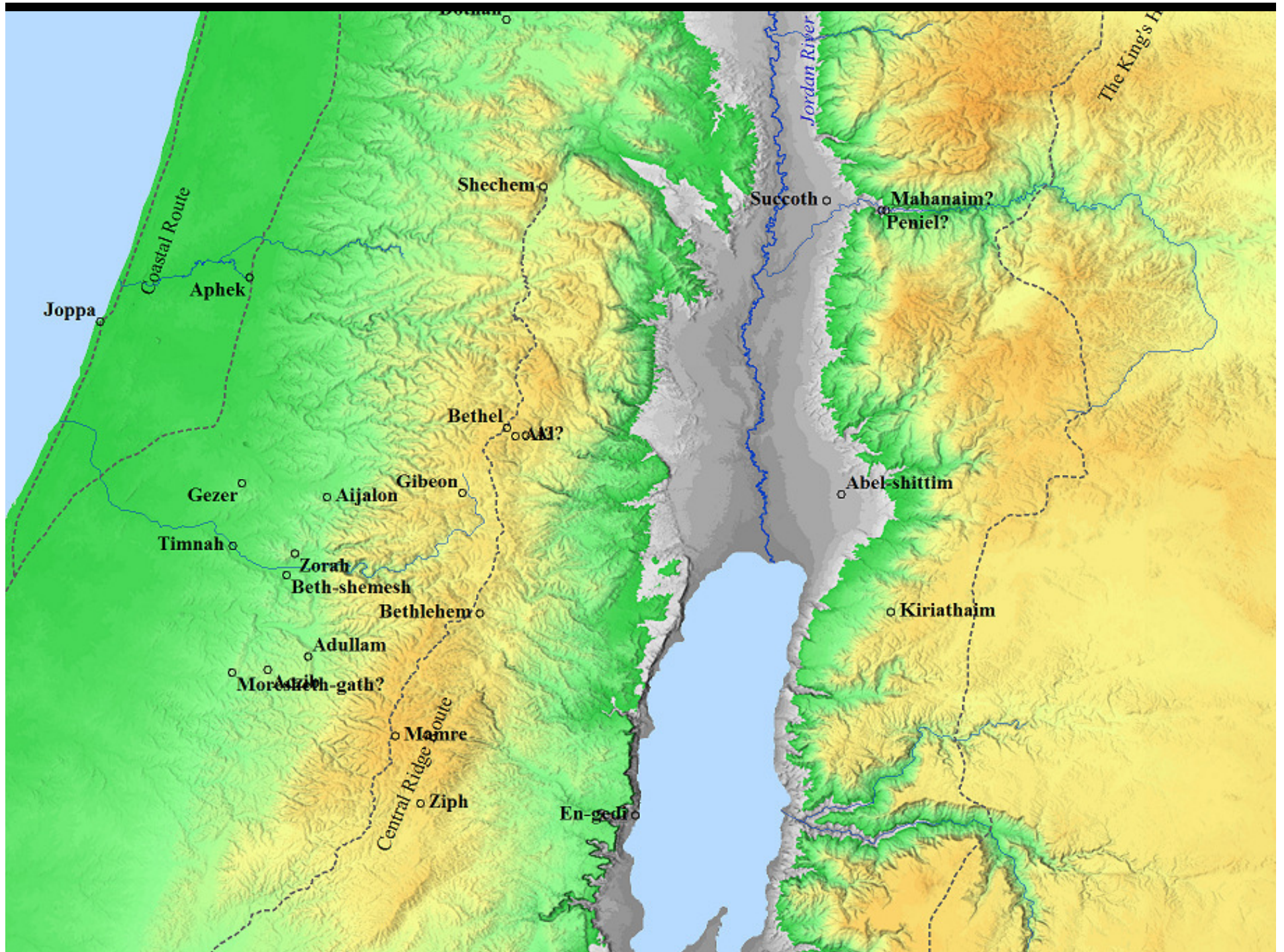
**[5] I have oxen, donkeys, flocks, male and female slaves. I have sent this message to inform my lord, in order to seek your favor.”” [6] When the messengers returned to Jacob, they said, “We went to your brother Esau; he is coming to meet you - and he has 400 men with him.”**

# **SEEKING RECONCILIATION**

**Genesis 32:1-21**







**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.

# Jacob Sends Messengers to Esau

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

## 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 **RIGHT** thing to do -  
pursue **RECONCILIATION** with Esau

Psalm 34:4-6 (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.

Psalm 34:7-8 (NIV)

**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 is **HUMBLE**

Jacob's prayer is **HONEST**

# Jacob's PRAYER

- remembers **WHO** God is and **WHAT** He has done
- remembers **WHAT** God has Commanded
- admits he's **NOT WORTHY** of God's blessings
- **ASKS** for God's help
- admits his **FEAR**

→ **HUMILITY** before God

- is NOT praying with a clenched fist -

but with a **BOWED** head

## Jacob's Tactics

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

# What does True Repentance Look like?

- **ADMIT** you are **WRONG**
- **ASK** to be **FORGIVEN**
- Make **RESTITUTION**
- Ask for a **RESTORED** 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.**

# Questions

1. What are our normal FEAR responses?
2. Why is seeking Reconciliation so hard for us?
3. What must be part of Reconciliation?