

Jacob יעקב

Jacob: Grandson of Abraham, third patriarch and father of the twelve tribes of Israel. The name Yaakov means supplanter which means “to take the place of (another) as through force, scheming, strategy, or the like. To replace (one thing) by something else He’s even mentioned in the Quran 16 times as a patriarch of Islam and an ancient and pious prophet. Here is a brief summary of some of the things that happened in his life:

- Striving with his brother at birth
- Obtaining the birthright from Esau over the bowl of soup and also taking the blessing which was rightfully (his now) from Esau
- Having to leave everything that he was used to in his father’s land and going to a foreign land to live with an uncle that he’s never met.
- All the trickery and deception he had to deal with Laban and constantly in the middle of his two fighting wives and children
- Leaving Laban’s kindred in fear, meeting Yahshua and wrestling with him all night, seeing his brother Esau, again fearing that he and his household would be killed and then eventually ending up in Shechem.
- Then his daughter getting raped, his sons killing all the men in shechem and destroying the city, and again having to leave and go to live in Bethel with fear that people from neighboring cities would come and destroy him
- His wife that he loved the most, died while giving birth to his twelfth son, Reuben sleeping with one of his concubines, and losing his favorite son with the thought of him dying.
- Famine coming in the land of caanan, sending his sons down to Egypt to get food, losing another son (Simeon), having to sacrifice Benjamin his last son from Rachel in faith to return to him, silver turning up in the sacks of grain.
- Then finally hearing news that Joseph was alive and making the journey down to Egypt to be reunited with him... I think it wasn’t until this moment that Jacob finally found peace in his life and died a satisfied man, especially after seeing his two grand children from Joseph.

So if we think about it, Jacob really had an eventful, stressful life full of deception, bewilderment and change, but at the end of all of it, he came out a better man because of it. But before Jacob got to this point we really see a fleshly, weak side of Jacob that all of us can relate to.

Start in... Read [Genesis 28:20-22](#)... Interesting word used there is “If” in Hebrew the word eem spelt with an aleph not an ayin (means with). Jacob says If Elohim is with me and keeps me in this way which I am going, and then goes into the physical things that everyone needs, which our father in heaven already knows that we need these things. Then Yahweh shall be his Elohim. We know that Jacob had to of already known Yahweh’s torah, and the promises that were made to his fathers Isaac and Abraham before him but to me right there

sounds like he's not 100% convinced that Yahweh will be his Elohim yet. This also makes me think what if Yahweh didn't fulfill all this for him because it wasn't according to his will, what would've happened then? We see that Jacob was still faithful to Yahweh because "Faith is dead apart from deeds" but we really see a physical side of Jacob here relying on the physical blessings to confirm his faith to Him.

When we look at the family life of Jacob between his wives and children, we can see right off the bat that this family was by far from perfect. Actually we see that it was very dysfunctional, filled with jealousies, favoritism, strife and competition within the family. Jacob blinded in his love towards Rachel, forgets about Leah and all the kindness she shows toward him, being the loyal wife that she was and continuously looking for the approval and love from him. He was the one responsible for creating this strife within the family and we see later that he created the same strife between his sons by loving Joseph more than the rest. So again we see a more human side of the family here and all the works of the flesh manifested. Another interesting thing about this story is Rachel was the one that stole the terafeen from her father and hid them from Jacob and all the rest. This raises the question of where was Jacob when this was happening? As we learned in our last message, was he not fulfilling his priesthood within the family, teaching them the ways and Torah of Yahweh?

After Jacob left Laban without telling him because of fear he met up with his brother Esau which again we see Jacob in a very fearful state. Afraid of his brother killing him and his family, he starts to turn to Yahweh with a whole heart, knowing that he can't do it on his own strength. It's pretty interesting to note that Jacob is next to the Yabbok or Jabbok river which in the Hebrew means to empty out. So it was like Jacob was pouring out his whole soul before Yahweh, cleaning out the flesh and letting the spirit fill him. This is why Yahweh gave Jacob the new name of Israel which means "the one who overcame with Elohim" who overcame his flesh and started to walk in the spirit. That's why we see in scriptures sometimes the name Jacob and Israel in the same verse!

So after this point we really see a different kind of Jacob, instead of the fleshly we see the spiritually. An Example of is when the famine was very severe in the land and Jacob and his family were running out of their food supplies that they bought the first time in Egypt. He knew that in order to save a nation, he had to send his sons once again to Egypt to get more food, but this time it would only happen if he sent Benjamin, his beloved son with them. We know the first time he didn't want to because he didn't want to lose him, but this time he was backed into a corner. I believe that Yahweh was testing him, like he tested Abraham with his son, to see if he had the faith to give up his son and relying on Yahweh to return him to him. Read [Genesis 42:38- 43:1-2; 43:13-14](#)

We really see a different kind of Jacob here, whereas before when he was afraid of his brother Esau he divided his camp into two and figured that if one was slain then he can count his loses and still have half his house left. But now if he didn't let Benjamin go into Egypt, his whole company would die including him and there would be nothing left. He probably would of never seen Joseph again if he didn't do this. It's pretty interesting to note that Benjamin, we know in Hebrew means "son of my strength, son of my right hand" and we can compare this to Yahshua because He was the right hand of Yahweh. The father out

of love for his people gave up his only beloved son on behalf of a nation in order to save it. Beautiful story of redemption if we think about it.

So after this point I believe Jacob lived 17 peaceful years in Egypt and could finally be at rest awaiting the resurrection and the same promises made to his fathers before him. That's why he wanted to be buried in the promise land and not in Egypt.