

BEHOLD, IT WAS LEAH!

How many people wake-up within the first year of their marriage, or maybe like Jacob the first morning of the honeymoon and think, “what have I gotten myself into for life?”

(Gen.29:25) “So, it came about in the morning that, BEHOLD, IT WAS LEAH! And he said to Laban, “what is this you have done to me? Was it not for Rachel that I served with you? Why then have you deceived me?”

<p>This lesson will study five aspects of Behold, It Was Leah!</p>

1. We will begin by examining our lesson text by three homiletical points.

The background to our lesson is found in (Gen.27-28) with Rebekah and Jacob’s deception of Isaac and Esau.

- Laban (Gen.29:13-15) the uncle deceiver
- Labor (Gen.29:16-20) the underhanded deception
- Leah (Gen.29:21-35) the unloved deceived

Paul gave us a doctrinal principle which we can apply to this lesson.

(Gal.6:7-8) “Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for **whatever a man sows, this he will also reap.** For the one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows from the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life.”

Sowing and reaping can be described as “choices made - with consequences” – “Sow to flesh and reap corruption or sow to the Spirit and reap life.”

2. This story became a big deal in the angelic conflict (AC) when Jacob became the official heir of messianic seed (Gen.3:15; Rev.20:2; 1 John 3:12).

What Rebekah and Jacob failed to acknowledge at the time was that God already had it planned and it could be received by grace through faith.

But, because of Old Man Cosmos Diabolicus (OMCD) [worldly thinking], they choose to get what they desired through cunning deceitfulness (2 Cor.2:11; Eph.6:11; 1 Tim.2:14) and disguise (2 Cor.11:14) which are traits of the devil (OMCD) and not Christ, i.e. Divine Viewpoint thinking. (Gen.27:11-13, 35; 27:36, 41).

(Eph.1:11) “Also we have obtained an inheritance, having been **predestined according to His purpose who works all things after the counsel of His will.**” (2 Tim.1:9; Rom.8:28)

Jacob was 40 years old, not some child, when this occurred (Gen.26:34; 27:46).

Principle: “Two wrongs do make a right.”

When it blew- up, Jacob responded by flight, not fight (Gen.27:41-45; 1 Tim.6:12).

3. **Cunning deception was a common trait in Rebekah's family (OMCD).**

They were believers who knew when it was wrong but did it anyway.

This OMCD trait was brought into the Patriarch family by Rebekah who was training her favorite child, Jacob, by it.

In the Mosaic Law, it was called the "Fourth Generation Curse"!

(Ex.20:5) "You shall not worship them (idols) or serve them; for I, the Lord your God, am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children, on the third and the fourth generations of those who hate Me."

It was associated with poor spiritual training of believing parents of their children (our next lesson). We know from our story that Jacob as well as Leah and Rachel were at least the third generation of such a curse (Gen.24:4, 10, 15). Nahor to Bethuel to Rebekah and brother Laban. (Gen.11:26-30; 22:20-24; 28:2).

4. **Because of poor spiritual training of their children neither Esau nor Jacob were prepared to personally walk by faith with the Lord consistently (2 Cor.5:7).**

They were making personal choices as adults against the will of God (birthrights, spiritual blessings, parental authority, and choice of wives).

Jacob put the messianic seed in jeopardy after his marriage to Leah. Because of poor spiritual leadership in marriage and parenting by Jacob, the messianic seed has been put in jeopardy in the Angelic Conflict (AC).

He had 12 sons from two wives and two surrogate mothers. How would Jacob know which son from which wife would be the seed of Christ? Especially since his first love was Rachel.

Once again God had to intervene in lives of the Patriarchs to fulfill His Perfect Plan.

5. **God chose Leah for Jacob and for the messianic seed, despite Jacob wanting Rachel.**

He took it out of Leah and, Jacob's control and gave them what they needed to fulfill His Plan. (Rom.8:28; Matt.1:2; Luke 3:33-34).

Now Jacob and Leah had a choice, accept what God had chosen for their lives or to rebel against it.

Leah and Jacob had **six sons** (Reuben, Simeon, Levi, Judah, Issachar, and Zebulun (Gen.35:23-26).

Reuben, Simeon, and Levi forfeited the firstborn right and it went to Judah (Gen.49:8-12) [the seed].

QUESTION: Does God care about your marriage? Does God care about how you are treated in your marriage?

(Gen.39:31-35) Pay attention to the naming of the first four children by Leah).

"This time I will praise the Lord." (Gen.29:35) [Judah] (Heb.11:6; Rom.11:6)

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