

GENESIS

Lesson 14

Israel shall be your name . . .

THE DEFLING OF DINAH

Genesis 34:1-31

Dinah the daughter of Leah went out to the pagan women in the land where they were living. She would have been a teenager at the time and this appears to be in open rebellion to her parents. While there Shechem the son of Hamor the Hivite raped Dinah. After this sinful act, he fell in love with her and spoke tenderly to her. He then asked his father to get her from his wife.

1. When Jacob heard what had happened to Dinah what did he do immediately? (Genesis 34:5)
2. How did Jacob's sons initially react to the rape of their sister? (Genesis 34:7)
3. What proposal did Hamar the father of Shechem make? (Genesis 34:8-12)
4. Describe how Jacob's sons deceived the house of Shechem and how they were able to retrieve their sister. (Genesis 34:13-29)
5. What was the concern of Jacob to the actions of his sons? (Genesis 34:30)
6. What was the response of Jacob's sons to his mild rebuke? (Genesis 34:31)

GOD BLESSES AND RENAMES JACOB

Genesis 35:1-15

God tells Jacob to arise and go to Bethel and to make an altar there. Before making this trip Jacob tells his household to get rid of their foreign gods, purify themselves, and change their clothes. Jacob speak to his household about the God who answers him in the day of his distress and who is with him wherever he goes. God protected Jacob and his family as they traveled by making a “terror” befall the cities around them.

God again appears to Jacob and reiterates that his name is to no longer be Jacob, but he is to be called Israel. God will bless him as a nation and company of nations come from his seed. Kings will arise from his descendants and he will be given a land.

THE DEATHS OF RACHEL AND ISAAC

Genesis 35:16-29

7. Describe what happens at the birth of Benjamin. (Genesis 35:16-18)

Rueben lay with his father’s concubine Bilhah and Israel heard of it. Because of this act he lost his rights as the firstborn and were given to the sons of Joseph (1 Chronicles 5:1). Isaac also died at the age of 180 and was buried by Esau and Jacob.

THE SONS OF JACOB

Mother	Son	*Meaning of Name	Reference of Birth (Genesis)	Order of Blessing	Symbol of Blessing	Reference of Blessing (Genesis)
Leah	Reuben	Behold, a son	29:32	1	Reckless	49:3–4
	Simeon	Hearing	29:33	2	Violence	49:5–7
	Levi	Attachment	29:34	3	Violence	49:5–7
	Judah	Praise	29:35	4	Lion	49:8–12
Bilhah	Dan	Judgment	30:6	7	Serpent	49:16–18
	Naphtali	Wrestle	30:8	10	Doe	49:21
Zilpah	Gad	Good fortune	30:11	8	Raider	49:19
	Asher	Happy	30:13	9	Rich food	49:20
Leah	Issachar	Reward	30:18	6	Donkey	49:14–15
	Zebulun	Abode	30:20	5	Ships	49:13
Rachel	Joseph	May he add	30:24	11	Fruitful	49:22–26
	Benjamin	Son of the right hand	35:18	12	Wolf	49:27

Chart left is from the NIV Achcheological Study Bible.¹

Chronological and Background Charts of the Old Testament, p. 18

¹<http://www.archaeologicalstudybible.com/oldtest.htm>

ESAU'S DESCENDANTS

Genesis 36:1-43

This detailed account of the lineage of Esau is given to show God's faithfulness in multiplying the seed of Abraham. We also see the development of nations that will become important in later in Israel's history.

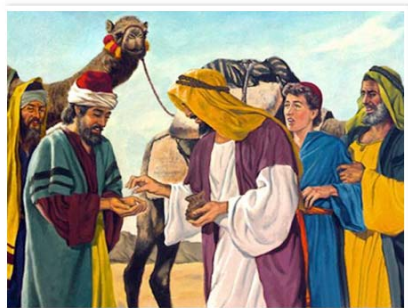
JOSEPH'S DREAMS

Genesis 37:1-11

Jacob was ninety-one years old when Joseph was born to his favourite wife, Rachel. His brothers hated him. He carried news of his brothers from Bilhah and Zilpah to his father. This must have created animosity. Then there was the coat of many colours. This demonstrated his preferential treatment in the family.



8. Describe the details of Joseph's two dreams in Genesis 37:5-10.



JOSEPH SOLD BY HIS BROTHERS

Genesis 37:12-36

9. Why did Joseph go out to the fields where his brothers were in Genesis 37:12-17?

10. Describe what Joseph's brothers do to him in Genesis 37:18-28.

The sale price of twenty shekels of silver seems to be a standard price for a slave. This amounts to about two and half years wages for a shepherd.²

² Constable, Thomas L. *Notes on Genesis 2009 Edition*.

11. How did Joseph's brothers deceive their father? (Genesis 37:31-33)

Jacob who had deceived others so many times has been deceived himself just as many times. Here he is deceived by his sons with the blood of a goat. He had deceived his own father with the skin of a goat in Genesis 27:16.

The Midianites sold Joseph to Potiphar an official of Pharaoh. This however, was an act of God's providence as the next chapters will show.

JUDAH AND TAMAR

Genesis 38:1-30

Genesis 38 shows a great contrast in the immorality of Judah and the godliness of Joseph. It also shows the corrupting influence of living in Canaan which is one of the reasons why God would remove his people to Egypt. In Egypt, the Israelites are generally "left alone" by the local population, who hated shepherds, so that they are able to grow without the influence idolatrous neighbours.

12. What happened to Er the husband of Tamar? (Genesis 38:7)

13. What happened to Onan, the brother of Er? (Genesis 38:8-10)

14. How did Tamar deceive Judah? (Genesis 38:12-19)

15. How did Tamar escape the death penalty? (Genesis 38:20-26)

16. Who were the two sons of Judah and Tamar and what was unusual about the birth? (Genesis 38:27-30)