

Resurrection Life of Jesus Church

PREDESTINATION

RLJ-1210

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PART 3: THE LAW OF SOWING & REAPING

WHAT A MAN SOWS HE SHALL ALSO REAP

As believers in Christ, we have learned that there will be a harvest corresponding to our actions on this earth. **Galatians 6:7-9**

The apostle Paul wrote that truth some 1,900 years ago and Esau and Jacob lived on this earth some 2,000 years before Jesus. Did they have knowledge of this doctrinal truth? I believe so. Job lived at the same time as Abraham, both were believers in the true God of creation, and most likely Job and Abraham had knowledge of what had transpired from the time of Adam and Eve up to their own time. **Job 34:10-12**

It is very clear that the people who walked with God at this time had understood this truth and it behooved them to walk in righteousness. King David, who lived some 1,000 years after Esau and Jacob, wrote about the result of living good or bad. **Psalms 62:10-12**

This very important doctrine was recorded again some 300 years after King David by the prophet Jeremiah. **Jeremiah 17:9-10**

Both Esau and Jacob disregarded the spiritual law of sowing and reaping and their actions reflect this disregard of God's Word. Both men suffered as a result of this during their lifetime on earth but Esau's suffering extends for eternity.

THE CURSE ON ESAU AND HIS DESCENDANTS

When Esau used his free will to reject God and do his own thing, he not only put a curse upon himself but upon his descendants until the end of the earth. Only by accepting Christ and being born again can the curse be broken. **Malachi 1:1-4**

Esau tried to repent when he realized what he had lost but it was too late. **Hebrews 12:15-17**

We must learn that when a person keeps on repeatedly sinning, there will be a cut off time where there is no more room for repentance but judgment. **Hebrews 10:26-31**

THE CURSE ON JACOB AND HIS DESCENDANTS

Jacob was put in the bloodline for the Messiah with his sons but the family suffered greatly during their time on earth and became a very dysfunctional family.



Jacob's life was in danger because he stole the blessing from Esau and his mother recognized this. **Genesis 27:41-45**

Rebekah told a different story to Isaac in order to get an additional blessing from him. **verse 46**

Isaac bought into the lie and blessed Jacob. **Genesis 28:1-5**

Jacob ended up living with Laban, Rebekah's brother and Jacob's uncle. Jacob had met his match because Laban was a greater swindler than he.

1. Jacob loved Rachel and worked seven years for her. He was deceived on the wedding day and given Leah as a wife. **Genesis 29:15-25**
2. Jacob then worked another seven years to get Rachel. **verses 26-29**
3. Having two wives became a curse because Jacob loved Rachel more than Leah and this created strife between the two sisters. **verses 30-35; 30:1**
4. Jacob became angry with Rachel when he started to reap what he had been sowing. Rachel followed in Sarah's footsteps when she gave Jacob her slave to produce a child. The result ended with a race between the two sisters to see who could produce the most children by themselves and their female slaves. Jacob ended up with two wives, two concubines, twelve sons and one daughter. **verses 2-24**

Jacob's children by wife in order of birth (D = Daughter)							
Leah	Reuben (1)	Simeon (2)	Levi (3)	Judah (4)	Issachar (9)	Zebulun (10)	Dinah (D)
Rachel	Joseph (11)	Benjamin (12)	Reuben (Gen. 29:32), Simeon (Gen. 29:33), Levi (Gen.29:34), Judah (Gen.29:35), Dan (Gen.30:5), Naphtali (Gen.30:7), Gad (Gen.30:10), Asher (Gen.30:12), Issachar (Gen.30:17), Zebulun (Gen.30:19), Dinah (Gen.30:21), Joseph (Gen.30:23), Benjamin (Gen.35:18)				
Bilhah (Rachel's servant)	Dan (5)	Naphtali (6)					
Zilpah (Leah's servant)	Gad (7)	Asher (8)					

5. Jacob wanted to return to the land of Canaan but Laban was not through with Jacob and wanted more free labor. Laban had learned that God had blessed him because of Jacob and wanted more whereas Jacob wanted to build his own wealth and the two swindlers made a deal. **verses 25-43**
6. Laban's sons became furious as they saw Jacob prospering while they and their father did not. **Genesis 31:1**
7. Jacob realized that he had to flee from Laban and spoke to his wives to convince them that they should line up with him and not with their father. **verses 2-13**

8. Rachel and Leah sided with Jacob and Rachel stole the house gods from Laban before they left. Jacob had been forced to flee from his father and mother and now he was forced to flee from his uncle. **verses 14-21**

It is noteworthy that the lineage of Jesus from Jacob went through Judah, the son of Leah. Rachel is not part of the blood lineage of Jesus because Leah was Jacob's first wife.

WHAT CAN WE LEARN SO FAR FROM THIS?

There is always hope as long as we are willing to repent and turn to God. Jacob was a liar, thief, and a deceiver, but he repented when he was given a chance.

- ❖ The Holy Spirit is working with you as long as you are convicted over your sins. God has not given up on you.
- ❖ If you can sin, feel no remorse and be comfortable in it, the Holy Spirit has abandoned you and all that is left for you is the Day of Judgment.

Romans 1:28-32

Jacob was a terrible person according to God's standard but he was looking to the Messiah, he was looking for forgiveness and it was given to him. Remember, all have sinned and come short of the glory of God. **Romans 3:23**

There will be plenty of mercy if you flee sin, run to God and cry out in the name of Jesus! **Psalms 103:1-18**

When we call out to God, the blood of Jesus is more powerful than any sin and will cleanse and present us to God the Father with the righteousness of Jesus!
1 John 1:4-10

Remember, it's not so important how you begin your life after salvation, but how you finish it!

DO YOU HAVE AN EAR TO HEAR WITH?